

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

Entered in the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, single copy 5c
Daily, per week 35c
Daily, per month \$3.50
Daily, per six months in advance \$17.00
Daily, per year in advance \$32.00
Daily, by mail per year, in advance \$40.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year in advance \$1.50

Advertising rates on application. All copy for display advertising must reach the office the day before the ad appears.

Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

ADVANCING.

It has been the good fortune of the writer to attend two Commencements in the smaller towns of Eastern Oregon of late. One was at Ontario where our old friend, Prof. Bailey formerly of Elgin, has been working as superintendent for several years, and the other was at Union where Prof. Aubrey Smith has been guiding the educational ship for three years. In each town we were forced to the conclusion that advancement is being shown in the schools.

At Ontario there was a class of twenty-two fine young men and young women and at Union there was about the same number. One thing we especially enjoyed in each of these graduating classes was the spirit of gratitude displayed. When children take for granted that expensive schools are just furnished without feeling any debt of gratitude they need a jolt delivered in a tender place that will awaken them to what it means for a school district and a state to build, equip and maintain these educational plants. It is right that we should have the best in educational advantages, but it is also right that every child should appreciate what he is getting.

In Ontario a very bright young lady spoke a few words for the graduating class, and her first utterance was one of appreciation. We noticed old weather beaten taxpayers in the audience smile a warm smile at the girl's remarks. It was a case of appreciation all around. The taxpayer is anxious to do his part by education but he wants it appreciated and this young lady in choice words impressed upon every property owner the deep feeling of gratitude entertained by the class.

The same feeling was plain at Union although not expressed in a public address.

Another feature of Ontario's school system we noticed that deserved credit and mention was the military feature. Professor Bailey has a cadet class that has been working for three years and he has a fine bunch of boys uniformed and armed with old Springfield rifles furnished by the government at a nominal cost. When asked how this feature took with the boys Professor Bailey said:

"It is splendid. We would not be

without it. We have drilling periods and drill under strict military tactics. Our military discipline is unbreakable and every boy takes pride in making good, in coming up to the scratch. Twice a year we have inspection by some militia officer or man from the regulars and every cadet has his equipment shining. I consider the cadet feature essential to good, modern schools. We have a camp out several miles and march to that camp frequently. There we are taught emergency work and how to handle ourselves when out in the open; how to cook in camp; how to pitch a tent and a thousand other important things that the child raised in town will never know unless he has the benefit of the cadet work."

"We listened very attentively to Professor Bailey and while we did not say 'amen' when he had finished we surely felt like saying it. In our mind we could readily see what such a discipline would mean in La Grande. We know of good boys here who have gotten off the track; who have adopted the sluggish, wobbly path—not particularly bad, but useless and undependable. We would like to see those boys thrown in a cadet class with a drill master over them that would 'bay-foot' 'straw-foot' them about five hours a day for two weeks. It would take all that sluggishness out of their systems. It would work a lot of foolishness out of their minds and give them new, bright things to think about. It would add to their physical appearance—would raise their chin and put their shoulders back in place."

Let us follow Ontario's example by placing a military department in the schools, and then go one step further and uniform all school children.

AN EXCEPTIONAL HOME TRIBUTE.

While Ed Wright lost in the final returns and therefore will not become Commissioner of the Public Service Commission for the Eastern Oregon District, his vote at home was a most wonderful testimonial to his citizenship, his integrity, his ability as an official and his earnestness of purpose.

From every nook and corner of Union county came the voters on election day to express their approval and high regard for a man whom they had repeatedly elected to the office of county clerk and each time found him true to every promise.

He did not win in the entire district, although he received a splendid vote in every county where he was known. But he did win in Union county by such a tremendous vote that he will know he lives among his friends—friends who believe in him all the time.

And, after all, this is worth it all. No higher tribute can be paid a man than the tribute paid by Union county voters to Ed Wright at the late primary election.

FLAG DAY.

June 14th is Flag day and La Grande will take a holiday for the occasion. Through the Elks lodge, which order makes Flag day one of

the cardinal days for commemoration, the governor has been asked to proclaim a legal holiday for that occasion.

In La Grande the Elks lodge has arranged a Patriotic parade to take place at 7 o'clock in the evening and in that parade will be different orders and organizations. The Grand Army of the Republic, Women's Relief Corps, Boy Scouts, different trades unions and other lodges will participate being headed by the Elks' band of twenty-five pieces as the march is made throughout the principal parts of the city. Following this a program bristling with patriotism will be held in the Elks home to which everyone is invited. It is a public demonstration and should be made a gala day for La Grande and community.

This is a year when the fires of patriotism need kindling; when the valor of our nation's defenders should be brought once more to the foreground, and when responsibility for American citizenship should be most firmly impressed upon every mind. The Flag day services will do everyone good, so be sure and arrange to attend.

A very fine chicken yard has been erected on the lot adjoining the Y. M. C. A. building, according to the statement of one old timer who sees nothing but the practical side of life. And this old timer wonders what particular kind of fowl will be kept therein. Perhaps the O. A. C. barred Plymouths, maybe a few White Leghorns, but it is a safe guess that quality will mark the brand and breed.

Just because the Neighborhood club waited until 11:30 o'clock to serve that annual breakfast do not think such is the custom among the Neighborhood club ladies. Not at all, not at all.

IMMODESTY AND VICE

(John B. Stoll in The Editorial)
Thoughtful men and women in all parts of the country view with unforgotten alarm accumulating evidence of steadily increasing immodesty. In whatever direction one's attention may be drawn, modesty seems to be deplorably on the decline. Departure from that virtue's limitations and restrictions seems to be regarded as being in keeping with so-called "advanced thought" and in harmony with the progressive spirit of the times. Fortunately some brave men and courageous women do not look with complacency on these revelations of perverted tastes, this deterioration of moral fiber. With laudable disregard of the prospect of giving offense to those who countenance exhibitions suggestive of vulgarity and vice these brave men and courageous women speak out with unswerving vigor. Among those who have pursued this course with dauntless courage and admirable fearlessness the Rev. G. C. Stearns, of Indianapolis, is deserving of special mention and commendation. In a recent sermon delivered at the Centenary church of that city he dwelt with much earnestness on "Social and Personal Purity." This was the fourth sermon in a series of six on "Themes Vital to Our Christian Civilization." His contention was: "Over our thoughts we must establish a rigid censorship. The physical sense must not be employed to countermand its orders. The sensual, the base and the vile must be excluded, but the pure, the beautiful and the good constantly sought."

"Have you ever looked into the eyes of your mother as she has searched you through and through to discover whether you have done wrong?" Pastor Stearns asked, "or your wife as she has examined you if you had been unfaithful, or of your sweet heart, who wondered if you had been untrue? If you haven't, it is because you were guilty. The eyes of our loved ones furnish the mirror of our own soul. Man can't get away from his thoughts nor flee from a guilty conscience. Intuitively there is recalled the wrong, the deceit, the unfaithfulness, the life that is imperfect, that is unworthy and untrue."

"When we think of social impurity, it is hard to know where to begin," continued Rev. Mr. Stearns. "The most dangerous forms are those publicly licensed and sanctioned by the leaders of society—the cultured folks. Art lends herself graciously to this blight. In painting and statuary, upon us by the questionable morals of the artist. We yield, however, and hang such works in our homes and decorate our public buildings with them until we are compelled to drop our heads in shame whenever we pass them. Is there no modesty today that we should permit such shameless exhibits in the name of art? We need a modern Asa to destroy these Ashrams in our homes and in our public buildings," declared the speaker.

"The stage provides just what the people demand and caters largely to the perverted tastes of those who are looking for something sensual. Vaudeville performers and ballet dancers do not know the meaning of modesty, and nearly every company has its Sapphoes and its Salomes, who, if they are not living immoral lives are leading hundreds of others in that direction."

"Carl Laemmle, president of the Universal Film Manufacturing company, in reply to the question, 'What kind of pictures do you want?' sent to all the picture houses using the Universal films received from sixty-five per cent the answer that they did not want pictures that were 'clean and wholesome,' but pictures that were 'off-

color,' 'smutty,' or 'risque,' asserted the Rev. Mr. Stearns.

"Our thoughts determine our character. How vile a picture a person can paint on the canvas of his own imagination! How evil the thoughts may become if he gives them a free rein! How dangerous to harbor them! It is the natural use of things that is legitimate. Our bodies are the temples of God; they have natural uses to perform—not as men and women; our tongues should be clean of word; our eyes trained to see only the good and the pure; our thoughts centered upon things elevating, uplifting and ennobling."

These brave utterances will meet with hearty approval wherever they may be heard or read. The Indianapolis clergyman who formulated them expresses the sentiments of thousands upon thousands of high-minded men and women who feel precisely as he does on this all-important subject. Impartial history teaches that laxity of morals is destructive to tendency and leads inevitably to social degradation and decay. Persons who speak lightly and flippantly of the immodest and immoral performances that are everywhere bringing the stage in disrepute may in time see the error of their attitude, but it may then be too late to avert the calamity that invariably follows even the subdued countenance of immorality. First endured, then pitied, and finally embraced, is a matter of only few steps and usually they follow in quick succession.

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS IN LA GRANDE.

BY J. DAVID HAINES.
(Lender Elks' Band.)

In reviewing the musical situation of the past few years in La Grande, it is well that we should stop and ponder over some of the good things that have been accomplished.

Each city or town looks upon its musical organizations, most always with pride, and in no wise with disdain and the higher the standard the greater is its praise, and a greater interest is shown in their welfare.

Just Unpacked Yesterday the Loveliest of Charming New

SUMMER NECKWEAR

as Always Priced at 25c and 50c

An express shipment right direct from New York, of smart, new styles for Women and Misses—as chic, dainty and fresh as you could wish for Summer wear.

New styles in round, square and V-shape, from the simple little turnovers to the large flat collars, lace trimmed and embroidered—all new, never shown before.

Among the selection are some very pretty Georgeanne Crepe collars, also a few new collar and cuff sets!

See these new collars now; there is just a limited number that came (5 dozen in the lot) and they are so pretty and new they won't last long.

We specialize on moderate prices—all separate collars and collar and cuff sets priced 25c and 50c

MORE NEW BLOUSES

Have Just Come in

Charming and pretty new styles of Jap Silks, Voiles, Batiste and other dainty waist materials—Many striking combinations in new styles and new colors.

\$1.25 and up

N. K. West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

HOME INSTITUTION

RICHEY PIANO HOUSE

HOME INSTITUTION

HIGH GRADE PIANOS

Knabe

Ivers & Pond

Sterling

Lester

Schulz



Knabe

Ivers & Pond

Sterling

Lester

Schulz

R. S. HOWARD, AND SEVERAL OTHER GOOD MAKES.

No culls shipped from other towns, as my goods are shipped direct from factories, which means right prices to customers.

Call and inspect our goods which will satisfy the most skeptical.

WASHINGTON AVENUE

OPPOSITE ELKS' NEW HOME



The Careful man tries to save a little of his earnings each pay day - and puts it in the Bank; he'll be rich some day

THIS PICTURE TELLS ITS STORY BETTER THAN WORDS.

ALL WE WISH TO SAY IS THAT WE HAVE A BANK WHERE YOU CAN PUT YOUR MONEY WHILE IT IS GROWING INTO A FORTUNE. OUR BANK IS A SAFE PLACE FOR YOUR MONEY. WE WILL WELCOME YOU HERE AND TREAT YOU WITH COURTESY. WE WILL GLADLY ADVISE YOU AND ASSIST YOU. COME IN.

BANK WITH US.

WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST

6 1/2 % Money for Improved Farm Loans

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON

Capital \$200,000.00, Surplus \$50,000.00, Resources \$1,000,000.00

Fred J. Holmes, President; C. C. Penington, Vice President; F. L. Meyers, Cashier; E. Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Assistant Cashiers.

DIRECTORS

Fred J. Holmes, J. G. Snodgrass, J. F. Conley, C. C. Penington, H. S. Brown, F. L. Meyers, A. Blokland, A. T. Hill, H. E. Coolidge.

along with others.

It is not generally known that for the past three months the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks have, in their inimitable manner, been quietly organizing a band, which they do not call theirs but yours, and at your service. This band is composed of the best talent the city affords, as well as a few musicians from out of the city whose places could not be filled here.

The band, while not being professional in every sense of the word, will be paid a monthly salary and will be required to perform the duties of a professional band.

Having several soloists, the band will be able to play the heavier overtures with more style and abandon than formerly, and among other things, there will be featured vocal solos with band accompaniment; also a double quartet composed of reeds, the oboe, clarinets and bassoon, brass, the cornets, mellophone and baritone. New features will be interspersed in the different concerts, such as bell solos, and tympani obligatos, making it on the whole a first class and up-to-date band.

The management is assured of several out of town engagements this season, wherein the whole band will participate and a few laurels will be brought to the city of La Grande by the efforts of these painstaking musicians.

It is hoped that in the near future the city will be able to set aside a public square where a band stand could be erected, where people could go to hear an evening's concert, and where the band would not be hampered by passing vehicles and other unnecessary noises.

With everything in its favor, such as the proper amount of enthusiasm among its members, the ability to perform, and the esprit de corps a certain amount of encouragement from the music loving people of the city, a great deal of their moral and financial support, the band bids fair to be a lasting benefit to us, and let us hope that in time to come people can say they have heard no better music than that played by the Elks band of La Grande.

We pay best prices for second hand furniture. DYAL'S FURNITURE CO., 404 Fir St. Phone Black 3351. 9-14, tf.