

La Grande Evening Observer

CHAUTAUQUA AND PIONEERS' SECTION.

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER -- PRINTS THE NEWS THE DAY IT HAPPENS

PAGES 1 TO 8

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LA GRANDE, OREGON.

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Chautauqua, Out of Debt, Introduces '16 Program

Superior Numbers for Each of 10 Day Assembly

DIRECTORS OF THE 1916 CHAUTAUQUA ASSOCIATION

**JUNE 25TH TO
JULY 2 DATES
TALENT COMING**

REMARKABLE SUCCESS ATTEND-
ED BOOKINGS OF COUNTRY'S
FOREMOST ATTRACTIONS

**DIRECTORS ENTHUSED AT
OUTLOOK THIS SEASON**

Chautauqua Gates to Swing Open at
Riverside Park on Program June
25 That Is Superior to Anything
Yet Offered From Chautauqua
Platform in This Vicinity.

With a program Grande Ronde
Chautauqua association officials and
committees deem superior to any of-
ferings yet put before the public the
1916 assembly will convene June 25
and continue until July 2d, followed
the next day by the Pioneer association
picnic at Riverside park, and that in
turn by an informal Natal day pic-
nic likewise at the park. As hereto-
fore, the assembly will be held at
Riverside park, and after all is said
and done, the fact remains the fame
of the Grande Ronde Chautauqua has
spread to the borders of the state and
with favorable weather promised by
the weather gods, all look forward
with one accord to the biggest, great-
est, best and most elaborate chautau-
qua assembly of any of the many
great ones already scrolled upon his-
tory's pages.

A glance at the program of the
1916 Chautauqua will convince the
most discriminating patron that it
would be more than impossible to ob-
tain such a galaxy of talent under the
former method of contract.

To those who hold to the idea of the
Independent Chautauqua it comes
with more or less of a shock that
those days are behind us forever, and
that the Circuit Chautauqua is here
until another and possibly a better
system will be devised.

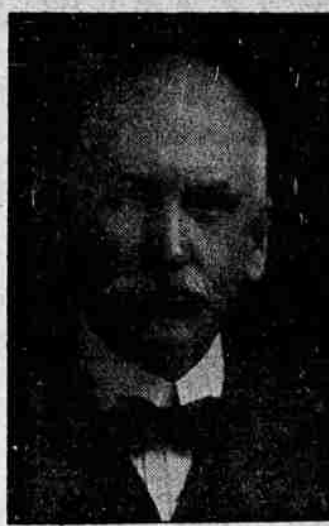
Grande Ronde Chautauqua however
is not and never will be a System Cir-
cuit Chautauqua. Ashland and Glad-
stone, the pioneer Chautauquas of the
west have also determined to retain
their independent status and the pa-
trons of these Chautauquas will be
given the best features of the Circuits
and the delights and benefits of an
independent.

The Chautauqua in many places
has degenerated into simply a street
carnival bazaar of its obnoxious fea-
tures. The Circuit comes to a city,
erects a large tent at a convenient
location, fills it two or three times a
day for periods ranging from three
days to a week or more, lets a local
committee wrestle with the financing
of the proposition and decamps with
a substantial profit. The aim of a
successful independent Chautauqua is
to simply purchase the talent, dis-
pense with the usual paraphernalia of
a tent Chautauqua, house it in a pa-
villion located in some beautiful park
and keep the profits at home. Usual-
ly however Chautauquas do not
have a profit to contend with. Mostly
it is a deficit and La Grande is thus
far not an exception to the rule.
However the day will come when
Grande Ronde Chautauqua will have a
war chest and in that chest a splendid
fund to be held in reserve for the
development of worthy local projects,
not the least of which will be the erec-
tion of additional buildings in beauti-
ful Riverside park.

L. D. S. Ladies At Lodge
A bit of news that will be greeted
with keen satisfaction on the part of
those who propose to camp at River-
side during the Chautauqua, is the
information that the L. D. S. ladies
are again to officiate at the lodge.
Profiting by their experience for-
merly, the ladies have drafted plans
to have more efficient service than
ever. Hot sandwiches will be avail-
able at all hours with good coffee on
draft. Early morning breakfasts, for
those who must away to town and of-
fice at 7 o'clock or earlier, will be
ready for quick handouts, the ladies
announce. They are going to keep
constant service, and it is positive
that the service will be first-class, for
last year these women demonstrated
their desire to give well in return for
the nominal charges asked—and
coupled with that, is the news of a
wider range of service at the park
lodge. Long live the L. D. S. women!
They do understand service in its full
intent.



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PLAYGROUNDS BETTER

New Facilities and Improvements En-
hance Park

Extensive re-arrangements, addi-
tions and improvements mark the fa-
cilities accorded children and bathers
at Riverside park this year. Directors
of the Park association—an institu-
tion separate and apart from the
Chautauqua directors—entertain pre-
tentious plans to be fulfilled prior to
the opening of Chautauqua, if such a
thing is possible. Here are some of
them:

1. Construction of a big bath-
house 20x30 of two compartments un-
der one roof. It is not proposed that
these bath headquarters shall be other
than dressing facilities, with ample
bench and clothes equipment—one
for women and another for men. It
will be located on shore, conveniently
near the Grande Ronde and give se-
clusion for those changing to bath
costumes and back to street clothes.
In time, lockers will be installed and
an up-to-the-minute equipment sup-
plied.

2. Improvements to the swimming
hole, which will be scooped out, earth
banks thrown up, and facilities im-
proved. In this connection it is an-
nounced that bathers will not be al-
lowed to ramble about the park in
bathing togs anymore after the bath-
house is done as has been a custom.

3. A wading pool, filled with city
water, will be constructed on the
main playgrounds in the center of the
park. This is especially for little
tots, where the water will be so shal-
low that it would be impossible for
the tiniest mite to meet trouble.

4. New slides, merry-go-rounds
and other playground apparatus have
been added to the equipment, largely
through the generosity of Bob Mas-
tersen.

5. The sandpile and all other chil-
dren's features are to be grouped at
one place as near as possible, reduc-
ing the play territory and centralizing
the area covered by children at play.
In this way one attendant can over-

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CLUSTER LIGHTS ARE ADVOCATED

Two weeks ago the 23 leasing tents
owned by the Grande Ronde Chautau-
qua association had been spoken for—
as long ago as that 80 camp sites
had been staked out; all of which
presages the greatest population in
the annual white-tent city at River-
side park of any previous year. At
any rate the directors have taken nec-
essary precaution and have appropri-
ated extra funds to enhance and bet-
ter conditions for those who make
the camp ground their home this year.
In view of the fact the lifetime of
the "City of Tents" will be extended
over two weeks, it was deemed ex-
pedient that special provision be made
for the occasion.

With no more tents to be had from
the Chautauqua association unless a
special order is requisitioned—which
is a possibility—tents will be in de-
mand and at a premium this year. C.
J. Black, chairman of the grounds
committee is highly elated at the pros-
pects of a splendid attendance among
those who live for a fortnight on the
beautiful grounds. Care Taker "Tap"
Thomas was busy with stick and mal-
let as early as a month ago, and most
of the desirable locations have been
"squatted" long since—it is now safe-
st to stake out one's tent space with
the melting of snow—if one wants to
make dead sure of his old-time lo-
cation.

Cluster Lights

Annually the lighting question has
been a heavy drain on the expense
budget, and the Chautauqua directors
this year believe they will not only
effectively plug up this outlay, but
wonderfully beautify the park by in-
stalling a group of cluster lights, both
in a main circular group, and with
cross lines. The plan is to build a
series of three-cluster lights about the
shaded driveways and to criss-cross
the grounds proper with other main

feeders. From these clusters the di-
rectors propose running feed wires to
the various tents. Heretofore the
wires have been strung on branches of
the towering trees, but last year's
heavy snow did great damage to the
system and rather than practically re-
build the lines the directors hope to
have their cluster arrangement ready
in time for the chautauqua.

Reasonable Rates Prevail

For the nominal sum of \$5.00 the
directors will supply tents—which in-
cludes electricity for lighting. Ad-
hering to this policy it develops upon
them to construct an adequate light-
ing system of feed wires, and all agree
the cluster method is superior. The
wires will be constructed underground,
guaranteeing safety first as well as
permanency. Standpipes of conven-
ient heights will tap the main system
circuits.

All who have studied the plans
agree that the scheme is feasible and
the expense justified, for about two
years of temporary repair and over-
head construction would pay for the
outlay required to build the under-
ground system.

No Drays on Lawn

Ninety tents are staked out now at
Riverside Park. This is more than
have been up at any other chautau-
qua. No drays or heavy rigs of any
kind will be allowed to drive onto
the lawn, but must unload from the
road and carry their camping out-
fits. This is made necessary by the
fact that Mr. Thomas has kept the
ground damp to make the grass good
and it must not be cut up.

The wading pool for the little ones
is being built now.

Key to pictures: 1—Mrs. E. Pol-
ack, La Grande club woman, said to
be only woman president of Chautau-
qua association in the United States.
2—William Miller, ex-president, who
stayed with the ship until "she was
out of the red." 3—E. E. Bragg, La
Grande postmaster, who is vice-presi-
dent of the ass'n. 4—Dr. W. D. Mc-
Millan, secretary. 5—Geo. T. Coch-
ran treasurer. Directors include 12—F.
L. Meyers, La Grande banker. 6—
Mrs. C. H. Bidwell, Island City church
worker. 7—M. L. Carter, Lower Cove
rancher. 8—Ed. Jasper, La Grande
rancher. 9—Mrs. Vincent Palmer, La
Grande club woman. 10—Fred B.
Currey, La Grande printer. 11—
Dora Hutchinson, Union society and
club woman. C. J. Black, La Grande
merchant and realty dealer, and one
of the most faithful and loyal mem-
bers of the directorate through many
years of service, is not shown in the
group.

SPEAKING CONTESTS DUE

Featuring a gold medal contest in
which some six participants will be
heard, officials of the W. C. T. U.
have arranged the program to be car-
ried out each day of the chautau-
qua at the hour set aside for that
purpose, indicated on the synopsis
program. Mrs. Para Thornton, be-
fore leaving for Washington points
this week, was able to report that the
week will be exceptionally interesting
to all concerned and live topics will
be discussed at each occasion. The
chief events will be as follows:

Monday
The Cigarette Menace—Rev. Clark.
Tuesday
Needed Reforms in Our Jury Sys-
tem—Attorney Geo. T. Cochran.
Wednesday
Gold medal contest—Six young Peo-
ple of Elgin.
Thursday
Property Rights of Women—Attor-
ney C. H. Finn.
Friday
A Woman's Melting Pot—Mrs. Hel-
en Harford, Newberg, Ore.
Saturday
Excess Baggage—Mrs. Harford.

RED INK NOT NIGHT MARE TO DIRECTORS NOW

RAPID GROWTH TOWARD THE
STRONG BOX SURPLUS
MARKED THIS YEAR

SEASON TICKET SCHEME
NOW PERMANENT FEATURE

Large Sums of Money Spent Yearly
for Talent and Incidental Expenses
Required of Association to Stage
Annual Attractions at Riverside
Park—Details Shown.

The finances of the chautauqua are
in excellent shape. During the year
1914 there were 123 memberships
sold prior to the opening of chautau-
qua, and during the year 1915 prior
to chautauqua there were 127 mem-
berships sold. In 1914 the total re-
ceipts were \$2316.00, out of that
amount \$2216.00 paid the expenses of
the chautauqua and \$100.00 was paid
upon the indebtedness which then ex-
isted. During the year 1915 the total
receipts were \$2386.18. The receipts
from the chautauqua proper were
\$2350.18, while the receipts from the
subscription to make up a sufficient
amount of money to pay off the in-
debtedness of the chautauqua were
\$3600. This money was paid out as fol-
lows, records of Treas. Geo. T.
Cochran show:

Program	\$1286.85
Interest on building debt ..	105.00
Old indebtedness complete ..	661.54
Printing and advertising ..	94.76
Electricity	20.12
Labor, fixing grounds, ticket sellers and police	195.36
Supplies for Domestic Science classes, and fixing stage ..	21.05
Stamps	1.50
Total	\$2386.18

"For the coming year, 1916, the ex-
penses of our program will be about
\$1600.00. Our ground expenses will
be practically the same. Last year
that amount was \$332.79, so that our
obligations this year will run close
to \$2000.00," says Mr. Cochran, and
continues:

We begin this coming year with our
chautauqua out of debt. Our income
for the past four years has been
over \$2000.00; our program is the first
we have ever had. Surely we
should end up this year with a sub-
stantial surplus with which to put on
the grounds some needed improve-
ments.

Tickets, Tents and Management.
The plan of handling the chautau-
qua tickets this year will be similar
to the plan of last year. The mem-
bership fee is \$10.00 and that fee en-
titles the holder of the membership to
four adult season tickets. An adult
season ticket can be exchanged at any
time for two children's tickets. Those
who do not hold memberships can
buy adult season tickets for \$3.00 per
ticket, or children's tickets for \$1.50
per ticket. The day tickets at the
grounds will be sold at the rate of 50
cents per ticket; a ticket purchased
for one day is not good for any other
day. A number of persons may club
together and purchase a membership
for \$10.00 and receive the four season
tickets, and after they have purchased
the membership if they desire more
season tickets than the membership
is entitled to, they are entitled to pur-
chase the additional season tickets at
the rate of \$2.50 for each adult tick-
et and \$1.25 for each child's ticket.

The tickets will be taken up this
year in the same manner as they were
last year. Fences will be placed
around the chautauqua pavillion, and
on the north side there will be a place
for a few automobiles; reservations
for this place for the season may be
had for \$1.00. No automobile ad-
mitted into the space inside of the
fence around the pavillion will be al-
lowed to be moved under its own
power, until the entertainment which
is being given at that time is over.

Camping privileges for the grounds
are free. The chautauqua association
has 20 tents which it is renting for
the chautauqua season, to include the
4th of July if desired, for \$5.00. These
tents are placed by the chautauqua in
two lines bordering on the canal and
adjacent to the park booths and are
wired and electricity supplied. Any-
one desiring the chautauqua tent to
be placed in any other part of the
ground will have the same placed for
the same price, but will have to at-
tend to the wiring of the tent him-
self.

(Continued on Page Five)