

THE OBSERVER

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1916.

A POLITICAL REVOLUTION.

The war has brought about a political revolution in England. David Lloyd George, a canny Welshman, brave, able, patriotic, radical, is now the uncrowned King of the British empire. No more powerful man in the world exists than the British premier. Not even the President of the United States wields greater power. David Lloyd George's elevation to this great position is a triumph of democracy, for he is known that David Lloyd George is no more popular among the lauded or financial interests in England today than William Jennings Bryan was among the same class in this country in 1896. Lloyd George is the friend of the working classes and the trades unionists. His great achievement up to date has been to reconcile the working classes of England to the war, to draft into the service of the government the labor power of the unions, to avert strikes in the coal mines, and to make effective and efficient in the manufacture of munitions of war certain elements of British labor that had become slothful and almost unproductive through being ground down for years by poverty and becoming sullen through drink. When the London Times exposed the inefficiency of the British aristocracy which was managing the army on the western front, when Lord Northcliffe was being denounced as a traitor because he created a national scandal by exposing the fact that the British army was being slaughtered because of lack of ammunition and shells with which to defend itself, Lloyd George was the man chosen to go to the rescue of Lord Kitchener. As minister of munitions he was given powers to take over and operate factories, to seize private industries, to take over coal mines, to employ labor at unheard-of wages, powers that he exercised so quickly and with such effectiveness,

that John Bull sat up and blinked his eyes. Before Great Britain gets through with Lloyd George she will be a reconstructed nation. Her people will be made effective and efficient workers to protect the national existence, and incidentally the vested interests will be made to bear a share of the burdens of the war that will prove staggering. It is doubtful if many swollen fortunes will be left in Great Britain if the war keeps up very much longer.

ELECTRICAL WEEK.

This is electrical week and one's thoughts naturally turn to the great development there has been in the electrical industry in the last twenty-five years. In that time street railways have been electrified, trains are now being run by electricity, power wires and telephone lines have been run to the farms, wireless telegraphy has been made a commercial success, electric power has been made economical for factories, electric lighting has come into general use. The names of Edison, Westinghouse, Tesla and Marconi have become household words. Electricity is being introduced in the homes to make household work easier. It seems as if electricity is the slave of the modern lamp of Alladin, the genius to do the work of man, to make his daily life easier, to do his work cheaply, economically and well.

THE OBSERVER'S CHRISTMAS EDITION.

The Observer will issue a Christmas edition on December 16. Besides containing articles and illustrated matter relating to the holiday and a beautiful Christmas cover, it will present the progress of this section in an interesting way and serve as a review of the many activities of the community during the past year and will be valuable as a work of reference and for sending away to friends and others who are interested in the growth and development of Union and Walla Walla counties.

A MUNICIPAL CHRISTMAS.

The Y. M. C. A. and the ministers of the city deserve the thanks of the people of La Grande for taking up the work of arranging a public Christmas celebration with a decorated Christmas tree on Christmas Eve. It is a project in which all can join and an interesting ceremony can be made of it, with music and singing, which will call attention to the holy nature of the day which we as a nation celebrate.

JOIN THE Y. M. C. A.

It is gratifying that the Y. M. C. A.'s membership campaign was a success and that the institution is receiving such strong support from the community. The new members will give the Y. M. C. A. an additional impetus and they will receive benefits in many ways from their memberships. Although the campaign is closed, it is not too late to join now.

NOT A QUESTION OF POLITICS.

When it comes to handling the state's flax experiment, the people will have confidence in Governor Withycome's knowledge and ability to handle it. It is not a question of politics and the attempt in some quarters to make political capital of it will not succeed.

THE FLAG RAISING.

The flag-raising on the City Hall yesterday by the school children was an inspiring sight. Such ceremonies make one's heart feel glad and realize that patriotism is not dead and that the younger generation is eager to be taught to honor the flag.

Birth Record.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reynolds at 10 a. m. Dec. 8, a 9 1-2 pound son.

Do Your Christmas Shopping at La Grande's Biggest, Busiest and Best Store Where You Will Find the Largest Selection of Goods, Useful, Sensible Gifts at as Low and Generally Lower Prices Than Elsewhere. Men's Shirts, desirable styles \$1.00 to \$7.50. Ladies' Silk Petticoats, special values \$2.25 to \$10.00. BUY EARLY - BUY NOW - BUY PRACTICAL GIFTS. The most complete showing of Furs, Underwear, Coats, Hats, Shoes, Indian Blankets, Silks, Linens, Towels, Collar Boxes, Umbrellas, Toilet Sets, Mirrors, Picture Frames, Hand Bags, Leather Bags, Suit Cases, Trunks, Wool Blankets, Silk Comforters. Expert foot specialist will be at our store December 9th to December 11th to demonstrate Dr. Scholl's foot specialties for the relief and correction of all foot ailments. Remember the date.

N.W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

Winsome Marguerite



Marguerite Clark, Famous Player Star in Paramount Pictures.

A hundred and one offers swarmed upon Marguerite Clark, asking her to leave motion pictures and return to the stage. She has spurned them and set them aside, maintaining "I am bringing you so many more millions of hearts through Paramount Pictures than I could ever do otherwise. Why shouldn't I be happy when I make so many more people happy? That's my secret of happiness."

Announcements

Cooked Food Sale Saturday

The ladies of the Parent-Teachers' associations of Riveria and Central schools have combined to give a cooked food and candy sale Saturday in the store-room formerly occupied by a restaurant in the Levy-Vogel building, the use of which has been kindly donated by Levy-Vogel. The ladies are trying to raise \$20 to pay their pledge to the Oregon Mothers' congress, the \$20 being La Grande's part of a five hundred dollar donation of the State Mothers' congress to the Women's building to be erected at the University of Oregon. Any surplus will be divided between the two Parent-Teachers' associations and spent for the benefit of the children. Girls of the two schools are making candies for the sale. Do-

nations of cooked food and the patronage of the public will be thankfully received.

Shop Early

THE FORUM

"LET US HAVE LIGHT." La Grande, Ore., Dec. 8.—(To the Editor)—Thanking you in advance for a little space in your valuable paper. I noticed in yesterday's issue that the venerable city fathers had so far recovered from the nervous shock they received through the audacity of a taxpayer demanding some visible sign of value for his money that they were in a measure able to set up and find him guilty on three counts:

First, ignorance, a proof of which is the fact that he did not know how to secure a handsome salary from the city just for sitting up and trying to look wise.

Second, he is found guilty of Oliver Twist's crime, asking for more, not more broth, but more light.

Third, he is accused of old age and infirmities. That reminds us of a story about a pot kettle, etc. However the remainder of this note of defense savors too much of the settlement of a back yard discussion to deserve anything but silent contempt; but proves beyond question the truth of our assertion, that young blood is needed in the city government; it is no place for senility. The writer asks what need is there for an explanation about the city lamps; it is not an explanation we demand, it is more lamps, more lamps, and we are within our rights in demanding light enough to secure a little protection for life and property of the taxpayers and to enable them to find their way home at night without the risk of falling into a ditch or mud hole. Safety first, economy afterwards.

We are told that the city's ornamental lamps were not relegated to the junk pile but to the back alleys, a mere matter of taste. But no matter where they were assigned to, their removal was the first step backwards that La Grande has taken in twenty years and proves that a thing of beauty is a joy forever, only to the virile; to senility it is an eyesore.

Somebody has said that La Grande is lighted as well as Baker or North-Powder and surely that is enough? No, that is not enough. La Grande always has been a leader not a follower; always a live town and always entitled to wider advertising, and light is the best advertisement. Darkness

Prefers Pictures to Opera



MYRTLE STEDMAN, MOROSCO-PALLAS STAR IN PARAMOUNT PICTURES.

"It was a long time before I could really decide in my own mind whether I would continue in motion pictures instead of returning to grand opera," remarked Myrtle Stedman a few days ago. "But I realize that my fort and stronghold with the American people is in pictures, where, while in Paramount Pictures, I can be seen by over twenty million people each week, while in opera, but a few thousand."

doesn't help any business only burglars, robbers, murderers, adulterers, seducers, bootleggers, grafters, blind pigs, etc. Let us vote for light, for life and progress. No need to rush into darkness prematurely because we have it on the very highest authority that for all those who love it rather than light there is reserved a bountiful supply of unfathomable depth and of eternal duration. Respectfully, L. GARRICK.

The Wheel That Squeaks the Loudest is the One That Gets the Grease. The same assuredly applies to you and me, as well—in order to get anywhere in this world, we must attract the attention of the big men. Now listen, young man! Nothing helps a young man more in advancement in business than to be known as one who keeps his bills paid, meets his obligations, has a bank account, and pays his bills by check. You know that. You will receive the same courteous attention with a dollar deposit as you would with a hundred dollar one. La Grande National Bank