

THE OBSERVER

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916.

THE CATTLE AND HORSE RAISERS' CONVENTION

La Grande is to entertain the Cattle and Horse Raisers' convention of the Northwest on April 24 and 25. This is the most important gathering in Oregon. It is a meeting of the men who raise livestock, who are the bone and sinew of the state.

La Grande will honor itself in entertaining this convention.

The following executive committee has undertaken the labor of making the arrangements of raising the money and planning the program:

- FRED J. HOLMES. T. J. SCROGGIN. G. L. LARSON. W. M. PIERCE. W. R. LEDBETTER. ALBERT HUNTER. FRED B. CURREY. J. E. STILLWELL. J. E. REYNOLDS. ANDREW BLOCKLAND. W. J. TOWNLEY. P. H. SPILLMAN. C. D. EMAHISER. GEORGE T. COCHRAN. J. G. SNODGRASS, Chairman.

We know that everyone in this community will aid these gentlemen in making the annual gathering the success that will redound to the credit of La Grande and Union and Wallowa counties.

The Observer will do its part.

THE MAGIC HAND

The distress signals which the steamer Maryland sent forth echoed up and down the coast and from as many directions came steamers bent on her rescue. But the silent waters had swallowed up all trace of the stricken steamer and their quest seems in vain.

How different but a few years ago. No answering signal responded to the frantic call for help. No one heard the cry of distress. Beneath the silent waters sank those who went down to the sea in ships and their mystery

the silent seas kept. Today man has conquered the terror of the deep. At least, his cry for help is heard and loved ones know how and where he perished, even if unable to help. But still the mastery of the deep is incomplete and wizards have yet much to do to conquer fully the realms of Neptune.

MEXICO OUR NEMESIS

Mexico! There is magic in the word. It is a term to conjure with. Not only in political times when it made and unmade mighty men, but even in these days of retrospection it rises to plague us. What have we done and what have we failed to do? The end is not yet. Conference will follow conference, notes will be written and punitive expeditions follow one another into oblivion and the Mexican problem will live on. Only when the American nation accepts its responsibility and grasps the nettle firmly will the Mexican problem down. Until a firm and unwavering policy is followed to the end, Villa and his followers, his successors and assigns, will rise, like Banquo's ghost, to plague us.

SLEDS AND AUTOMOBILES

A city ordinance prohibits young boys and girls from hitching their sleds on the rear of wagons, sleighs, automobiles and motorcycles.

The City Commission has ordered this ordinance enforced. They are to be commended for this action.

The practice is dangerous to life and limb.

It is better to cease the amusement of a few who escape accident than to have the whole city cast in mourning over the death of some unfortunate child.

RAILROADS PROSPEROUS

More than \$1,000,000,000 net income from operations was made by the railroads of the country during the year now closing. The huge total is the peak of prosperity in railroad operations, and stands more than one-third higher than the total of 1913, heretofore the banner year. It doesn't look as if the eight-hour law would bankrupt the railroads after all.

ED WRIGHT'S APPOINTMENT

It is with considerable pleasure that we read that Ed Wright, our retiring county clerk is to be made secretary of the State Public Service commission, although we regret that his duties will take him away from Union county. Mr. Wright is a man of high character and ability, an able and competent public official. It is such men as Mr. Wright who should be in public life and his appointment will reflect credit upon the commission.

CLERGY ON THE SIDE OF WAR

It seems strange to read the Christmas day sermons of the English clergy in favor of continuing the war.

Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, at Westminster Chapel, said:

"To consent now to any peace that falls short of the realization of those high ideals is to admit we were wrong at the first. The Christian church must not utter a word that suggests there can be such an admission today. Far better defeat and death for righteousness than ease and quiet by a compromise with false ideals."

Right Rev. Herbert Edward Ryle said:

"It is our resolve, God helping us, to overthrow military brigance in Europe, to rescue the liberties and homes of the desolated countries, to obtain for these people reparation for their wrongs and for humanity lasting security against a recurrence of aggressive violence and crime."

It may be natural for the clergy to regard their nation's cause of just, to pray for their soldiers' safety, but it would not be too much to ask these learned gentlemen also to whisper a prayer for peace and that their nation might enjoy its blessings.

Down at Corvallis a gathering of farmers from all sections of the state next week will do a wonderful work for the advancement of Oregon with-

out making a great deal of noise about it.

How times have changed! On December 25, 1866, George Dewey was first lieutenant on the U. S. S. Colorado and he gave each blue jacket on the frigate a bottle of wine.

The selection of Spokane as Northwest Farm Loan headquarters recomposes the Inland Empire city in no small measure for the adverse rate decision.

While the Middle West shivers in the midst of the worst storms of years, Oregon continues to enjoy the mild temperature of the best climate on earth.

The leak in official circles may now be discovered. The stock market is ready for a new thrill. They wouldn't use the old route again.

An educational gathering of no small importance is the County Superintendent's convention in Portland this week.

The steamer Sankou Maru has gone aground off Chefoo. Ramm'd by a German submarine, no doubt.

At any rate we have got them all writing notes.

An article on roads in yesterday's Observer should have been credited to the Enterprise Record-Chiefstain.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Menace to Lumber Industry.

The greatest menace to the future of the lumber industry, however, is undoubtedly the rapid increase in the use of substitutes for wood. The use of wood substitutes received its first great impetus from a misguided conservation movement, and the substitute men were not slow to make use of the business weapon thus placed in their hands. They pointed out that it was a form of high patriotism to use something else than wood for buildings, because in this way the nation's lumber supply could be saved from exhaustion. People listened, were convinced, and turned from lumber to other materials with which they were less familiar and which were more costly. As a result, the per capita lumber consumption of the United States has decreased materially in recent years.

There is only one thing for the lumbermen to do if they are not to be seriously injured. They must check the use of substitutes and must convince people all over again that lumber is cheaper and better than other building materials. There is only one way to do this, and that is by national advertising on a large scale. Many other industries have turned to advertising in a similar crisis, and have not been disappointed with the results. The lumbermen need to put the case for their product before the public, and national advertising is the only way for them to do it.—Eugene Register.

Picked Up By The Stroller

An Albany church bought their pastor an automobile for Christmas. We hope that they won't forget the gasoline.

Picked Up By the Stroller.

The railroad boys are doing good work keeping the trains going through the snow.

The Stroller is smoking his second box of Christmas cigars, a box of Flor De Hackman, the product of a local cigar manufacturer given him by Eddie and Jane Ford. The cigars are fine and well flavored. The Stroller gave one to Mr. Leiter and one to Mr. Meyers and they both liked them. The Stroller is well pleased not only that Jane and Ed Ford remembered him for Christmas but also that when they did they patronized a local manufacturer. It's such thoughtful things as this that helps us all in La Grande.

News and Personals From City of Joseph

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Morelock Give Dinner Party—Other Parties Given at Holiday Season—Many People on Visits.

Joseph, Dec. 29.—(Special)—A dinner party was held Wednesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Morelock. The party was given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Rumble, of Portland. After a delightful dinner, bridge and music helped to make the party one of the most enjoyable affairs of the season. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mount, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Schuapp, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Rumble and Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Morelock.

The many friends of Mrs. E. K. Luna will be glad to know that she has so far recovered as to be able to return to her home from the Joseph hospital, where she underwent a serious operation, recently.

A dinner party was given Thursday

evening by Guy Morelock and Serguis Gaulkie, at the latter's home. Cards and music occupied the guests (after a delicious dinner) to a late hour. Those present were: Misses Ruth Cheneworth, Rita Hamblon, Jean Patten, Gladys Sprague, Nellie Graves, Clara Castelman, Hazel Bleavens, and Messrs. Guy Morelock, Serguis Gaulkie, Marvin Shannafelt, Maurice Eben, Glenn Sprague, Samuel Cole and Flody Allen.

Thos. Adams expects to leave for Snake River, where he will work in his pink marble quarry.

Olaf Carlson left Sunday for Portland on a business trip.

Mrs. E. T. Echleur left Sunday for Wallowa where she is spending her Christmas vacation with relatives.

Miss Rose Pfeiffer, of Wallowa, is spending the holidays with Miss Rose and Lucile Parent of Joseph.

Roy Spencer was married Sunday to Miss Lottie Needham. Mr. Spencer is our popular young electrician and his wife was one of Union counties popular young ladies.

Dr. Kuesenberry, one of our dentists, is spending his vacation in Portland.

E. H. Brunka has just finished remodeling the old Stevenson building into a fire-proof garage and is now ready for business.

John Desler, son of our former garage man, will leave soon for Los Angeles, California, where he will be married.

The ladies of our local W. C. T. U., Home Missionary Society and Ladies Aid, gave an informal surprise party in honor of Mrs. Aug. White, wife of our city recorder and judge, on her sixty-sixth birthday, on Friday afternoon. Mrs. White has for a long time been a member of these societies and all of her sister members hold a warm place in their heart for her.

The reception which was given in honor of Miss Jessie A. Butterfield Tuesday evening was a very enjoyable affair. The party, which was made up of boys and girls who had in past years been her pupils, gathered at her one time sister teacher's home and went for a sleigh ride. When this was over the youngsters were given an oyster supper which was followed by an hour of games, then some songs were sung, some cheers given and everyone went home happy.

Clinton Stumbaugh, of Indian Village (a town in the north end of the county), came to Joseph Tuesday and proved up on his homestead before Attorney A. M. Runells.

A. R. Bodmer, manager of the McCully Mercantile Company, made a hurried business trip to Boise last week.

Peter O'Sullivan of La Grande came Sunday, on the train, to spend the winter with his daughter, Mrs. Frank Bowman.

Jack Isen, popular young stockman of the Divide, who recently married Miss Nancy Pratt, came to town Tuesday for a short visit.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Sheets left Tuesday for Gooding, Idaho, after this they expect to go to Ontario, Ore. They will visit their son and daughter.

L. Spencer, of La Grande, arrived in Joseph Friday for a short visit. He will leave Tuesday.

Harvey Fisher made a short business trip to La Grande last week.

Thomas Green came from North Powder, Sunday, to spend Christmas with his brother, Fred Green.

Corra Watson, of La Grande, spent Christmas with friends in Joseph.

Miss Rose Parent and sister, Lucile, spent Christmas with friends in Wallowa.

On Christmas day, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Danley of O. K. Gulch district.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Reynolds of La Grande, who were married recently, are spending their honeymoon in Joseph.

Two of our local young men were married in Wallowa at a double wedding. J. J. Ostrander was married to Gladys Moore and J. N. Shuey was married to her sister, Miss Opal Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Jameson (Mrs. Jameson was formerly Miss Goldie Endicott), visited with Mrs. Jameson's mother, Mrs. John Endicott of Joseph this week. They are living in Enterprise at present.

PEACE WILL BE THEME

FOR THE YEAR 1917 (Continued From Page One)

firms with German interests.

English embargoes affecting America.

Germany's submarine warfare came to a head insofar as the United States is concerned when this government last March gained a statement that Germany had affected a change in her submarine methods and pledged to continue on a milder course.

The Lusitania case hung fire, though Germany's terms of settlement were virtually satisfactory, inasmuch as this government did not desire to finally close the matter while other submarine matters were pending.

For a time, Germany seemed to be scrupulously following her promises. In the last four months, however, there has been a feeling that she was going as far as she could without provoking new troubles with the United States. In these circumstances, the state department investigated during the closing days of the year a series of sinkings, notably the Marina, Arabia, Chemung, and a dozen others. Evidence indicated Germany was

For Your New Years' Dinner

If you did not have a Fig or Plum Pudding for Christmas try one for New Year's—they are fine.

We have Mince Meat in the Package or Bulk.

Green and Ripe Olives and all kinds of Pickles in the bulk or bottle—a new shipment just in.

Sweet Oranges at 25c, 40c and 60c a dozen.

Pop Corn that Pops at 3 pounds for 25c.

We will be closed all day Monday, January 1st

The City Grocery & Bakery

over-stepping at least the spirit of her pledges, and the United States proceeded to plan for her next step.

Crisis Are Numerous.

"Crisis" have been numerous. The state department, however, in accordance with administration principles has sought to settle matters through diplomacy, rather than through a break in relations. Indeed, this government did threaten to break after the Sussex torpedoing, if Germany broke her pledges, but since then the spirit has been to bring Germany up short, gain a sharp, air tight definition of her pledges and then insist on adherence to them.

Prospects of peace though still undoubtedly some months distant will probably affect future dealings with Germany, and even more strongly influence the administration's idea of avoiding a break with Germany.

Germany's deportation of Belgians provoked a protest from this government, but her answer gave but little satisfaction. The administration plans to watch this situation closely.

German transgressions have involved American lives. In these circumstances, the general view has been that the cases required quick, strong protest.

England Hurts Our Commerce.

On the other hand, England's offenses have involved American commercial rights, not lives. These have

been the subject of objections and negotiations, but differences are still extant over England's treatment of American mails, her blacklist and her embargoes. The state department will continue negotiating and protesting against infringements of U. S. rights by England, though none of these cases, the department holds, involves such seriousness as to call for a threat of a breach in relations.

Mexico has been a sore spot in diplomacy the past year.

Conditions became such that American troops were sent into Mexico, and militia to the border, following Villa's raid on Columbus. The state department found many intricate problems with Carranza. Finally it brought him up short with a recital of outrages against Americans and their property, and a definite demand to know what he was going to do hereafter.

The Americans aim in Mexico in rehabilitation and peace without arms. But the problem before the Mexican-American Commission is still grave and enormous. Villa again is making trouble, though Carranza in recent months has shown a disposition and some ability to alter dreadful conditions.

But with all the problems that have split trouble, the idea of peace the world over has been a paramount hope—and more lately, a pregnant possibility.

ALL READY PREPARED Mince Meat and Fig Puddings for Your New Year's Dinner

Everybody knows the standard quality of Heinz products. You can imagine the result when holiday dinners are in mind.

Heinz Rich Steamed Fig Pudding contains Chopped Figs in generous proportions, light wholesome and delicious in flavor. 40c each.

The best pudding sauce recipe comes with each can. Their Mince Meat makes Pies of which you smack your lips in memory—the kind of Pies that come up to holiday expectations. 25c a pound.

Smart Women—prefer Franco-American Soups. Extra Fancy Blue Ribbon Celery—Fresh Saturday. Don't prepare your salad dressing—Mrs. Porter's is good.

New Jersey Cranberries, always jell. Fill your Cut Glass Bowl with Sun Made Cluster Raisins and Nuts.

For your Fruit Salad—Bartlett Pears, Royal Ann Cherries, Pineapple and Nuts.

You will need Salted Almonds, Pecans or Pinenuts. An occasion of this kind—buy Barrington Hall Coffee.

If we have not what you want we shall be pleased to get it for you.

PHONE MAIN 80

PATTISON BROTHERS GROCERY

Happy New Year

To you and your's, we wish you a happy New Year's Day—a day whose joys may abide with you through many, many days to come. We wish that it finds you a better and richer man or woman, than last year. If not, why not? Now, today, open an account with us. Make a resolution that the close of the new year will see you better off than you now are.

What is Your Decision?

La Grande National Bank