

THE OBSERVER

An Independent Newspaper.

Published Daily and Weekly at La Grande, Oregon, by the
LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER
PUBLISHING CO.

J. D. MEYERS, President, H. B. LEYER, Vice President, CLARKE MEYER, Editor and Publisher.

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

On Sale in Other Cities: Oregon Hotel News Stand, Portland; Imperial Hotel News Stand, Portland.

Advertising rates on application.

Telephone Main 37

Official Paper. Member United Press Associations.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By Carrier.

Daily, single copy 5c
Daily, per week 15c
Daily, per month 65c
Daily, per six months in advance \$3.50
Daily, per year in advance ... \$7.00
By Mail
Daily, by mail per year, in advance \$4.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year in advance \$1.50

The Observer carrier boys are instructed to put the papers on the porch. If the carrier does not do this, misses you, or neglects getting the paper to you on time, kindly phone the Observer, as this is the only way we can determine whether or not the carriers are following instruction. Phone Main 37 before 7:30 o'clock and a paper will be sent you by special messenger if the carrier has missed you.

Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1916.

LA GRANDE'S BIGGEST YEAR

Let us make 1917 La Grande's biggest year.

Let us adopt as our slogan a bigger, better, busier La Grande.

Let us all get in and hustle.

If we do well, others do well.

The capitalist—let him study and see if he can't find local investments instead of sending money away and investing in foreign securities.

The employer—let him see if he can't enlarge his business just a little so as to employ one or two more men or women.

The worker—let him see if he can't make more money by increasing his earning power and by preparing himself for a bigger job.

The consumer—let him see if he can't buy his goods from La Grande merchants instead of patronizing mail order houses.

The city commission—let them be big and broad and progressive and drive the city ahead, keep it clean, restore its financial standing by wise management, at the same time keeping the city well lighted and in the front rank of progressive western cities.

Everything that benefits the city and its businessmen will benefit yourself.

Let's make 1917 La Grande's "Biggest, Best and Busiest Year."

If reports of British sentiment at the front are as much distorted as some of the censored war reports that come from that source, Lloyd George may have peace forced upon him before he has played his bluff out.

With Villa at Tampico, Carranza may find it easier to sign the protocol. Or, perhaps he may not then be so anxious for the American troops to withdraw.

A tax on gasoline to aid the road fund is proposed. But the automobilist would pay it just the same, and the tax would probably be declared illegal.

FORMER LA GRANDE MERCHANT

Ira F. Powers, who is head of the Powers Furniture Co. in Portland, was once in the furniture business in La Grande. Sunday the firm celebrated its 50th anniversary by publishing an eight page newspaper. Mr. Powers is a live wire, a good business man and a worthy successor to his father, who would be pleased to see the strides his son is making if he were alive today.

Here is a sketch showing how this young man made good by training himself in his chosen business:

Ira F. Powers, president of the furniture company which bears his name and that of his father, was born in Portland January 30, 1872. He attended Central school, which stood on the block now occupied by the Portland hotel. Upon being graduated from the high school, he attended and was graduated from Bishop Scott academy.

From the beginning it appeared certain that the younger Powers would follow in his father's footsteps as a business man. He was employed in the Powers store for a year, and then, becoming ambitious, entered the furniture business for himself at La Grande, Oregon, but another year saw Ira F. Powers Jr. again in the employ of Ira F. Powers Sr.

After about 10 months in his father's employ, Mr. Powers Jr. went to work for Haywood Bros. & Wakefield, to learn more about the furniture business. In those days the hours were long and the work was hard, Mr. Powers' daily work starting at 6 in the morning and ending anywhere from 10 o'clock to midnight.

In his capacity as an understudy with Haywood Bros. & Wakefield Mr. Powers was passed through each department and he became thoroughly familiar with the furniture industry from the wholesale and jobbing end, as well as from the retail side of the business. Mr. Powers has many interesting stories concerning the pioneers in the wholesale and retail furniture business in the northwest.

Having been graduated from the inside school of business, Mr. Powers Jr. was put on the road for Haywood Bros. & Wakefield. He called on their trade throughout the Pacific Northwest. In those days selling furniture on the road was anything but a pleasant undertaking. Railroads were not as numerous as they are today, nor was traveling comfortable or convenient. The great majority of his trips into the eastern sections of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana were made in buggies, river boats and stages. Mr. Powers Jr., was, however, a most successful representative and his training on the road has been valuable to him in his own business.

Several times he was by himself persuaded to resign, but was persuaded not to by W. H. Beharrel, manager of the firm.

Ira F. Powers Jr., rejoined his father in 1902, and has remained with the concern since, becoming president on the passing of the founder of the firm in 1902.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

We love to talk of the good old days. Some of the things we knew in those days are gone forever. For instance read the following:

"The day of the 'little red schoolhouse' is past. It was never red anyway, but usually a dirty white or not painted at all. There are still among us those who love to talk about the 'good old days' which deep down in our hearts we know are not half so good as the days that are now. We may tell the younger generation what hardships we endured; how we walked five miles to school; how we sat on home-made benches and never thought about such foolishness as sanitary drinking and ventilation.

"We may deceive ourselves for the moment into thinking that the progress that has been made consists mainly of fads and expensive innovations.

"The real test under which this attitude of mind breaks down completely comes when we consider the needs of our own boys and girls. No matter what our school experience has been, we do not want them to have to

walk five miles to a school; we are likely to complain if they have to walk a mile and a half. No matter how much we may glory in our own discomfort in the 'good old days,' we are by no means anxious—indeed we are not even willing—to have their spines deformed by ill-fitting desks, or their eyes ruined by poor lighting arrangements. We realize in this day of civilization and progress that typhoid fever is a germ disease and that it behooves us to be careful of our sanitary arrangements.

"In fact, when we think of our children, we are always ready to subscribe definitely to the statement that the 'little red schoolhouse' is out of date just as soon as a community can find something better to take its place."

The foregoing quotation is from the introduction to a lecture sent out by the extension division of the state university.

No doubt it is true. But at the same time the affections will still linger and cluster around the little schoolhouse where we first sat at teacher's knee.

Europe is sated with war. The seeds of peace have been sown.

Picked Up By The Stroller

The Stroller is pleased to report that there was a fine lot of cake and chicken and coffee at the Eastern Star-Masonic banquet Wednesday night. He wonders what they did with all the cake that was left over.

The battle as to who shall get up and light the fire is settled in our house. The Stroller gets up and lights it and then goes back to the warm bed until the coffee has boiled and the eggs cooked.

Some one asked me if the Stroller column was supposed to be funny and I said, "No. It isn't, is it?" It's just a few thoughts at random written by a busy man at odd moments.

The Stroller met City Attorney Slater early one morning on his way to the city hall to see how many prisoners were waiting trial.

Mr. Leiter is very much pleased with the work of The Observer's Joseph correspondent, Arthur S. Rudd.

We envy the people who can "get up and git" around the country whenever they want to. Don't you?

It's a long time until next Christmas.

One thing we haven't picked up: A \$5 gold piece in a snow drift.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Democrats Approve.

George W. Perkins is going to make a strenuous fight to save Republican Chairman Wilcox from being ousted; the Democrats may well give cordial support to the move.—Portland East Oregonian.

Prosperity on the Way.

Railroads are referred to as enjoying the "peak of prosperity," and the natural inquiry of the Pacific Northwest is, "When shall we share in this prosperity?" The answer is: As soon as rail and ocean transportation are restored to a normal basis. How soon that will be no one now may say. After peace is declared, Europe will have larger need for our principal products than it ever had in the ante-bellum days. Shipping which was diverted from the Pacific to the highly profitable Atlantic trade will be restored to us. We can have no fear of a slump among factories which have been extraordinarily busy on war supplies.

As a matter of common knowledge conditions in the Pacific Northwest, including Portland, are very much better than they were a year ago. We shall have better times next year, and it does not need the gift of prophecy to declare that we shall reach the "peak of prosperity" soon after peace shall be on its way. Meanwhile we are speedily edging toward it.—Portland Telegram.

BILLY SUNDAY TO FIGHT BOOZE WHILE DEVIL LEADS MERRYMAKERS

Boston, Dec. 30.—(United Press)—Billy Sunday will vie with the Hub's merry-makers in welcoming the New Year tomorrow night. The bon vivants will be out to raise the devil, and Billy will be out to down him.

At a nightwatch service, the first of its kind ever conducted by a revivalist, thousands will hear his famous "Booze" sermon, while other thousands are reveling in crowded hotels and confettied cabarets.

Boston hotel men decided upon tonight as the official date for "New Year's Eve" and its accompanying celebrations. Shortly after midnight, 1917 will be recognized with many tipplings of the flowing bowl and much syncopeated entertainments.

Somebody suggested to Billy Sunday the idea of holding a revival at the hour of the merriment's height.

"It's a bully hunch," he cried. "Let me think it over. I never tried it before—it never occurred to me." Once Billy got hold of the idea, the thing was accomplished.

Church Announcements.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.
(Seventh and Pennsylvania Ave.)
Bible School at 9:45, Mrs. E. W. Eastman, superintendent; Anneta Johnson, organist.
Morning worship at 11 a. m.
Morning subject, "A Farewell Message."
Christian Endeavor at 6:30 p. m.
Evening subject, "Old Patti."
Prayer Meeting, Thursday 8 p. m.
Leader, H. L. Ford.
H. L. FORD, Pastor.

FIRST M. E. CHURCH
(Fourth and Spring Streets.)
Sabbath School, 9:45 a. m., W. C. Wattenberg, superintendent. Morning worship at 11 o'clock, subject, "The Spirit of Methodism."
Epworth League, 6:30, Rose Sherman president.
Evening subject, "The Church and the World."
There will be a watch night service at 11:00 of all the churches.
REV. CHAS. E. EDWARDS, Pastor.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH.
(In I. O. O. F. Hall.)
Sunday service at 11:00, Sunday School at 10:00, Wednesday evening testimonials at 8:00 p. m.
December 31, Christian Science Bible lesson, subject, "Christian Science"; golden text: Revelation 22:2, The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

LATTER-DAY SAINTS.
(Tabernacle Fourth and O Sts.)
Sunday School at 10:30 a. m.
Sacrament Services at 2:00 p. m.
M. I. A. meet Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p. m. Social hour after class work.
Primary every Tuesday at 4:00 p. m.
Religion class every Thursday at 4:00 p. m.
Relief Society every Thursday at 2:00 p. m.
Choir practice Sunday night at 7:00.
All meetings held in the L. D. S. Tabernacle, corner Fourth and O.
CHARLES J. BLACK, Bishop.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.
Holy Communion except first Sunday in the month, 8 a. m. Sunday School 9:45 a. m. Morning Service 11 a. m. Evening worship at 7:30, sub:
UPTON H. GIBBS, Rector.
Residence 1502 Fifth street.

M. E. CHURCH SOUTH.
(2103 N. Fir.)
Sabbath School 9:45 a. m., G. E. Walker, superintendent. Mrs. Mabel Walker, organist.
Morning Worship 11 a. m. Subject: "Why I Am a Methodist."
Epworth League, 6:30.
Evening worship at 7:30, subject, "The Spirit of Methodism."
REV. S. M. ROBERTS, Pastor.
Telephone Red 591.

SAINT MARY'S R. C. CHURCH.
(M and Fourth)
Fall and winter schedule of services: Low mass (Sunday 8 a. m. High mass 10:30 a. m., Evening services 7:30 p. m., Low mass (week days) 8 a. m., Confessions hear before low mass and on Saturday afternoon and evening. Holy hour Sunday evening at 7:30.
Services on New Year's day will be the same as those on Sunday.

SUNDAY

ANOTHER BIG LINE-UP

De Wolf Hopper and Bessie Love in "STRANDED"

A comedy-drama of stage life, and "Fatty" Arbuckle in "The Other Man"

A KEYSTONE ARCADE

Rev. J. J. Laherty, S. J., of Gonzaga university of Spokane, will assist Father Driscoll Sunday and Monday.
P. J. DRISCOLL, Rector.
Residence, Sixth and K avenue, phone Main 9.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.
(Sixth and Spring)
Sabbath School 9:45, Jesse Wiseman, superintendent. Dr. Starba, church organist.
Morning service at 11. Subject: Sermon by Reverend J. E. Crymes. Evening service at 7:30 o'clock. Sermon by Reverend E. Otto of Cove.

REV. J. J. TICKNER, Pastor.
Residence 1407 Sixth St., phone Red 1811.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
(Sixth and Washington avenue.)
Sabbath School, 9:45 a. m., W. F. Landrum superintendent, Mrs. W. W. Berry, organist.
Morning worship at 11.

Subject: "The Old and the New." Jr. C. E. 3:00 p. m.
Young Peoples' meeting at 6:30. Leader, O. L. McDowell.
Subject: "Lessons from the Past." Evening worship at 7:30.
Subject: "Comradeship for the Coming Year." G. L. CLARK, Pastor.

THE SALVATION ARMY.
Special Services led by Rev. Smith of Portland. Preaching at 11 a. m. and at 8 p. m.
Sunday School at 2 p. m.
Young Peoples' League 6:15 p. m.
Morning service 11 a. m.
Y. P. L., 6:15 p. m.
Evening service, 8 p. m.
Watch service Sunday night.
OLIVE CHILDERS, Ensign.
JENNIE CONRAD, Lieut.

W. H. Spence, cashier of the Lostine bank, returned to his home this morning after transacting business in the city.

A NEW MUSIC STORE IN LA GRANDE WITH THE OLD ESTABLISHED WILEY B. ALLEN CO. LINE OF PIANOS.

The Reason

The reason for the success of this company is not far to find. Absolutely fair dealing with everyone. The utmost satisfaction guaranteed on every piano we sell. The minimum price and the maximum value. In other words a dollar's worth for every dollar expended.

Our Line of Pianos

Which includes the world's best makes:

MASON & HAMLIN, HARDMAN, CONOVER, PACKARD, CABLE, LUDWIG, KINGSBURY, HARRINGTON, MILTON, WELLINGTON.

Most of these pianos have been sold by our house for more than a quarter of a century and we can refer to hundreds of satisfied customers in this vicinity.

The Wiley B. Allen Company

Foley Hotel Building

Phone Red 451

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