

Pre-Inventory Sale

and JANUARY WHITE SALE

Many came today to take advantage of the Clearance Prices on Winter Merchandise—even though the weather man did his best to keep them away. Every broken line in our entire stock at a real sacrifice in prices for quick clearance.

Half Price Sale of All Ladies' Suits	Half Price Sale of All Ladies' and Misses' Coats	Half Price Sale of All Remnants	Half Price Sale of All Furs	One Lot Ladies' Dress Skirts One-Half Price
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Clearance Prices on all broken lines Underwear, White Goods, Men's Shirts, Boys' Clothing, Boys' and Men's Overcoats, Young Men's Suits, Mens' and Boys' Underwear, Piece Goods.—



THE GOLDEN RULE CO.

Quality the same—Prices less



SNOW

HERE ARE COLD WEATHER HELPS

Yes, this is the time of the year we can expect plenty of snow and cold weather, but don't fear. Keep yourself in shape. Get a

KANTEEK HOT WATER BOTTLE

Keeps out the cold. It's a mighty good investment and will give you lots of satisfaction in the way of comfort and freedom from annoying colds.

RED CROSS DRUG STORE

THE OBSERVER

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1917

OUR NEW OFFICIALS

The new officials of Union county are now installed and they deserve and are entitled to the support of all good citizens.

THE LEGISLATURE

Many of the state departments and boards, the governor excepted, are asking for greater and greater appropriations. These the public is not willing to grant. It is certain that the

legislature will have many and vexing problems to solve. The difficulty is to pick among many deserving projects, log-rolling propositions, pork barrel appropriations, worthy development projects, and the thousand and one freak bills that deluge and waterlog the legislature.

Truly one does not envy the lot of the average legislator. Consider what a sacrifice he makes to take the position.

In the first place it is a mistake to hold our primary election in May and to subject the nominee to the trouble, turmoil, nervous strain of a campaign lasting from May to November. This is cruelty to candidates, and should be forbidden. The old law when primary elections were held in May and the election in June was much better. The people should be able to make up their minds in one month whom they want for their officials.

In the second place a legislator is chosen in November for a legislative session in January. He has barely time enough to arrange his business affairs to go to Salem for forty days before the time has arrived for his departure. In the meantime he has been deluged with correspondence, besieged by lobbyists and importunate people, buried under a mass of bills that he has painfully and manfully struggled

to read, none of which will ever get to first base.

Then the newly elected legislator goes to Salem. He has a suitcase full of bills. He is introduced to hundreds of persons. Everybody is glad to meet "Representative Jones." He tries to figure out how he will "get by" on his "four dollars per," finally gets a stuffy room in a second rate boarding house and starts in wearing out Mazdaz at night reading bills and legislative reports—even tolling through the governor's message, and the secretary of state's budget, and the state treasurer's wonderfully illuminating exhibit of state finances. Meanwhile "the boys" who run things are down at the hotel playing poker and talking things over.

The fact is there is not much deliberation, not much carefully considered legislation at a session. How can there be? How can any group of men in forty days turn out a finished product that will stand the test?

Haste is what causes waste in the public money, waste in the time of the courts in testing and explaining loosely worded laws, friction in state management such as occurred in the foolish effort to put at the head of the highway department the state engineer and at the same time to clip his wings so that a deputy highway engineer would be the real head of authority.

We are not writing this in criticism of the legislature. We are simply pointing out that in the nature of things it is difficult for an official no matter how conscientious to make good, under the present system.

Legislators in the first place should be well paid, they should hold office more than two years, they should meet, introduce bills, appoint committees, and then adjourn to meet ninety days later. In that way at least some one could read over some of the bills and midnight resolutions and jokers and hastily considered legislation could be avoided.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Front quarter of beef 7 cents and we pay highest prices for hide and sheep pelts. Peoples' Meat Market, 1419 1-2 Adams Ave.—Adv. 12-5-tf.

Chapped hands and faces and Silverthorn's Almond Cream in 25c bottles. The cream that softens and protects the skin. 12-27-tf

Misses Jones and Rabone We carry a full line in Ladies Suits, Coats and Skirts in the S. & H. garment.

We make Suits, Coats, Skirts and Dresses. A perfect fit guaranteed. Remodeling done. West's New Bldg.

Suits! Suits! Suits! 1-2 price.-- Jones-Rabone.—Adv. 12-7-tf.

Sewing Machines. Singer Sewing Machines Agency now in Foley Hotel Bldg. Sewing machines sold, rented and repaired. Phone Red 451. 12-5 1-15-pd

Dr. Ralston, physician, surgeon and osteopath is now located in rooms 12 and 13 over Silverthorn's Drug store. Main 21; Night phone Main 81.—Adv. 10-16-tf.

EXTRA SPECIAL VALUES One lot of 40 boys' overcoats, age 4 to 16 years, values to \$10 at \$2.60. HILL'S DEPT. STORE.

Money to Loan. On improved real property in Union county, no delays, current rates. La Grande Investment Co.—Adv. 12-5-tf.

Our Want Ads bring results.

We pay best prices for second hand furniture. DYAL'S FURNITURE CO., 404 Fir St., Phone Black 3351.—Adv. 12-4-tf.

Wood Sawing. Wood sawing promptly done, city or country.

J. J. Murchison. Phone Red 3672.—Adv. 12-8-tf. Room and board for two. 1008 Third street, near high school.—Adv. 12-8-tf.

Sherry's, Thursday and Friday, William Fox version of "Romeo and Juliet," with Theda Bara as Juliet. 1-2-2t

We pay better prices for used furniture. Phone B 1241. Cor. Fir and Jefferson. E. J. Donohue. 12-20-tf

Bring your picture work to the Modern Dark Room at The Silverthorn Family Drug Store. Expert printing and developing—and if you have a good negative let us enlarge it for you. Silverthorn's Family Drug Store. 12-27-tf

E. Rosenbaum, 1402 Sixth street. Phone Black 1472. Expert masseur. Vibratory and massage treatments, Swedish movements and medical gymnastics. My motto, "Permanent health through perfect circulation of blood and nerve forces."—Adv. 12-7-1m.

Delicious waffles, syrup, butter and best coffee, 15 cents. Miller's Lunch Counter. 12-21-tf

BUTTER LABELS—For sale at The Observer office.

Sherry's, Thursday and Friday, William Fox version of "Romeo and Juliet," with Theda Bara as Juliet. 1-2-2t

Announcements

Do not forget the O. A. C. Cadet band dance to be held in Rex hall from 10 till 1, immediately following the concert in the high school Wednesday, January 3.

Hose Company to Meet. Annual election of officers of Rescue Hose company No. 1 tonight, 7:30 C. P. TAYLOR, Secretary.

The Ideal Depilatory and the Lotion Cream are just the things to use before the Jance. The depilatory removes the hair without irritation to the most sensitive skin and the Lotion Cream softens and bleaches and supplies a beautiful base for powder. At Silverthorn's Family Drug Store. 12-27-tf

Closing Out Sale. W. A. Hudelson of North Powder has bought the B. B. Nutter stock and he will close it out at greatly reduced prices—two days only, January 5th and 6th.

Now is the time to get your paints, wall papers, paint brushes, oils, etc., at a great sacrifice. 1-2-tf

NEW OFFICIALS TAKE OFFICE (Continued From Page One.)

Rees in Automobile Business. Hal C. Rees, retiring deputy, will remain at La Grande where he has made many friends by his accommodating and courteous treatment of the patrons of the office. Mr. Rees is one of the firm of Galloway Rees Co., agents of the Overland automobile, to which business Mr. Rees will devote his entire time in the future.

S. A. Weigel, retiring deputy, will remain at La Grande, his future plans not having been decided upon. In the county treasurer's office the patrons will find the pleasant person-

ality of John Frawley on the job. Mr. Frawley's popularity with the voters is demonstrated by the fact that he has held this office for ten terms. As some one remarked: "Men may come and men may go but John goes on forever."

In the assessor's office, U. G. Couch will be found ready to accommodate those who call on matters of business at all times. He has appointed A. Alexander as deputy and Irma Alkine, retiring deputy recorder, as special deputy assessor.

One of the important changes at the courthouse is the elimination by law of the office of recorder. This becomes a part of the clerk's office. D. H. Procter, retiring recorder, becomes temporarily deputy county clerk under C. K. McCormick, the new clerk, whose experience as chief deputy under Mr. Wright has admirably fitted him for the responsible duties of his position.

County Clerk's Appointments. Mr. McCormick has made the following appointments:

Anna Alexander, of La Grande, retains position as first deputy.

D. H. Procter, ex-county recorder, remains for the time being charge of the recording department of the county clerk's office.

Hattie McMurry, of La Grande, formerly deputy recorder, is deputy clerk.

Mr. McCormick says: "I believe it possible to handle the business of the clerk's office with the added duties of the county recorder, with but three deputies, thus eliminating the salary of one person necessary under the old system of two separate offices, and to that end have selected deputies who have had former experience in the office."

District Attorney Hodgkin at Work. District Attorney Hodgkin really assumed the duties of his office yesterday, having previously filed his oath of office and having received some of the papers pertaining to his office from former District Attorney Eberhard. Mr. Hodgkin in response to a request from The Observer said:

Mr. Hodgkin's Statement. "In answer to your inquiry as what message I have for the public on assuming the office of district attorney, will say that I highly appreciate the confidence reposed in me by the magnificent vote cast for me, regardless of party, at the November election, and the personal vindication evidenced thereby; and shall try to perform the functions of the office as laid down in the statutes of Oregon, and under the oath which I took; as I deem the law and oath of office binding upon all officers. I have no friends to reward officially, or enemies to punish. I must be excused from announcing any course of policy, as I do not think good taste or official propriety will admit of this. It might be considered self advertising."

Mr. Eberhard Will Practice Law.

Retiring District Attorney Eberhard will retire to the practice of his profession with the firm of which he has been a member since 1913 of Cochran and Eberhard. Eberhard was appointed district attorney June 1, 1915, by Governor Withcombe. Before coming to La Grande he had practiced law in Joseph from 1904 to 1909, when he was appointed receiver of the La Grande land office. Mr. Eberhard was complimented this morning by the county judge when he retired for the faithful and efficient way in which he had co-operated with the county court in the conduct of its business.

Mr. Eberhard has served with credit through a trying year and a half, made so especially by the difficulties attached to the enforcement of the new prohibition law. Mr. Eberhard by his policies of law enforcement contributed materially to improving moral conditions in La Grande, by co-operating with city and county officials.

Mr. Eberhard takes pride that he has helped and succeeded in improving moral condition in La Grande. It is while he may not have pleased some radicals on either side has had the support and co-operation of the body of citizens.

Mr. Eberhard was not a candidate for election either in the primary or general election and will resume the practice of law with a feeling of relief that the trying and responsible duties of his position are at an end.

County Coroner J. P. Graham, County Surveyor Arthur Curtis have already assumed the duties of their offices.

County Commissioner W. J. Towley was already in the saddle.

Mrs. Ivanhoe Re-elected.

County School Superintendent Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe was not present this morning at the courthouse, being on duty at Salem on the state examining board, but she needs no introduction to the people of Union county having been unanimously elected to her position without opposition and being loyally supported by all of the schoolboys and schoolgirls whom she formerly taught.

In La Grande district Justice of the Peace Arthur C. Williams and Constable I. W. Faulk began their duties today.

NATION'S PROSPERITY (Continued From Page One.)

profitable, by —!" The prosperity of the farmer is to the business world what soil fertility is to the agricultural world, the fundamental basis of all permanent success. Many farmers in the past have made the mistake of thinking that they could get rich by skinning the soil, and many business men likewise have made the mistake of thinking that they could get rich by skinning the farmer. The only way that the farmer can make a permanent success of farming is to keep up the fertility of the soil, and the only way that the business world can be permanently successful is to insure the continued prosperity of the farmer.

The use of legume crops has been advocated ever since the days of the Roman Empire and probably, long before that, because they not only were paying crops, but had the added advantage of gathering from the air and depositing in the soil more nitrogen than they expected. The legume should be the model for every intelligent business man in his dealings with the farmer.

When a banker loans a farmer money, he should loan it to him at a rate of interest and for the kind of investment that will enable the farmer not only to pay back his loan, but to gain for himself a margin of profit. The railway manager who makes rates for the farmer for shipping fertilizer and other merchandise to the farm, and for shipping the farmer's produce to market, should make a ratio that will leave the farmer a margin of profit. The middlemen who handle the farmer's produce should endeavor to get him such prices and should charge him only such commissions as will leave the farmer a margin of profit. In the long run, it is only thus that the banks, the railroads and the commission men can insure their own profits.

If the leaders of the business world will lay this lesson to heart, if on New Year's day throughout this country they will take the legume as their model, and the word "Leave the farmer a margin of profit" as their motto, it will do more to increase production and reduce the high cost of living, it will do more to keep the boy and the girl on the farm, it will do more to create an invincible national efficiency and to push forward the work of national preparedness, than any other single step that can be taken.

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