

EDITORIAL PAGE OF LA GRANDE OBSERVER

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The Observer carrier boys are instructed to put the papers on the porches. 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 instructions. Phone Main 37 before 7:30 o'clock and a paper will be sent you by special messenger if the carrier has not issued you.

PRESIDENT WILSON AND THE CRISIS.

We wouldn't want to be sitting in the President's chair just now. We sympathize with the President in the crisis which confronts him. Mr. Wilson has gone through four trying years. Crisis after crisis has arisen. No sooner had he taken office than the country was thrown into an economic depression that was burdensome. Then came the European war which brought on a financial crisis, which we weathered by good management and which was overcome by the influx of war orders which stimulated American manufacturing. Then came the Lusitania horror, the troubles with Mexico, diplomatic negotiations of difficulty with Germany and the Allies. Then the strain of a presidential campaign, followed by sincere efforts in behalf of world's peace and an International League to enforce peace and to establish a Monroe doctrine of non-territorial aggression and expansion for Europe. Through it all, Mr. Wilson has kept his head and his remarkable poise and serenity. We hope that Mr. Wilson will bring the country past the present crisis with Germany without war or breach of diplomatic relations.

The present crisis is a trifle different from the Lusitania affair. There Germany sacrificed American lives without notice. Now she gives warning to America to keep her ships and citizens out of forbidden zones. The question is: Shall we heed this warning, has Germany the right to establish a submarine blockade of the Allies' territory? The whole question of submarine warfare and submarine blockades is new and present international law does not cover the situation. We are inclined to believe that Germany has a right to declare such a blockade and that it is just as legal to attempt to enforce it as it is for German raiders to prey upon allies' and neutrals' commerce carrying contraband of war. The submarine is a new and effective instrument of warfare and we can conceive of a submarine blockade being made actual and effective. To our mind there is nothing more illegal about it than the action of Great Britain in laying mines, dangerous to neutral commerce, in the North Sea and warning commerce to keep out of forbidden zones in order to make effective the Allies' blockade against Germany.

No matter what we think about the issues between Germany and the Allies and between Germany and the United States, one thing is clear: It is the duty of all patriotic citizens to stand by the President at this time, to hold up his hands, and to pray and hope that we can weather the storm and retain the blessings of peace without sacrificing our national honor.

THE OBSERVER'S NEWS SERVICE.

The Observer can, without the appearance of boasting, acknowledge gratefully the many compliments received from its patrons on account of the improvements in its appearance and on account of its improved news service which have been apparent to all the last few days. Great events like the Mexican border riots, the plot to murder Premier Lloyd George, Germany removing the restriction on submarine warfare, the diplomatic crisis with Germany, the Japanese situation, the important happenings at Salem, have all been fully and completely covered in The Observer the day these events happened. It is needless to say that people in the territory covered by this newspaper are not getting the news of the world and of this vicinity if they do not take The Observer. Telegraph service is expensive and these big events mean extra expense to this newspaper. So far, in spite

The man that says advertising doesn't pay is like the man who burnt one match under a ten gallon kettle of water and said that fire would not heat water.

Some advertising doesn't pay, but that doesn't signify that it can't be made to pay.

The OBSERVER with its superior circulation is the paper you need to reach the most buyers in Union and Wallowa Counties at the least cost.

of higher costs of telegraph service, of paper, ink, metal, labor and everything that goes into the manufacture of a newspaper, The Observer has not raised its rates to subscribers or advertisers. It hopes that it will not have to do so. It is grateful to its patrons for their support. The improvements made in the newspaper arise from a sincere and honest desire to give the people of this country a newspaper that they will be proud of. Other improvements will be made as patronage justifies. If everyone in Union and Wallowa Counties who could afford to do so would subscribe to The Observer and support it loyally, this newspaper would soon take rank with newspapers in still larger cities and the people would not be dependent to any extent upon city newspapers. The Observer will do its part and it has confidence that the people will do theirs. The Observer has other plans in view to better its service to subscriber and advertiser. It is a growing institution and will not be found lagging at the tail of the procession. Its columns, news and advertising, are open to any legitimate cause, it is not dominated by any clique or faction, it is a newspaper for all the people.

THE RURAL CREDITS MEETING.

Farmers will meet in La Grande Saturday to complete the organization of the Union County Farm Loan association. All farmers interested are invited to attend. The meeting will be held at 10 a. m. at the City Hall. In this connection it should be stated that both of La Grande's banks are in favor of the formation of this National Farm Loan Association. La Grande banks take the view that anything which benefits the farmer will benefit all. This is the same progressive view that the La Grande banks take upon all matters that concern the welfare of the citizens of this territory. It is the kind of constructive banking that prevails here, which has built up solid institutions and which is deserving of public praise.

All of the people in Eastern Oregon should unite to support Representative Small's bill for a state highway connecting the principal cities of Eastern Oregon—Pendleton, La Grande, Baker, and Ontario—with the Columbia River Highway. This is our due. We should fight for our rights.

Ben Grout's Body Here This Morning

The body of Ben Grout, La Grande man killed in a snowslide near Douglas, Alaska, January 26, arrived in the city this morning. Mrs. Ben Grout and one year son, and E. E. Grout of La Grande came in on No. 6 at 11:25 o'clock. Mr. Grout met his daughter-in-law at Seattle. The body is at Bohnenkamp's chapel. The funeral will be held at 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

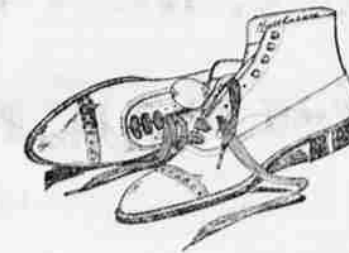
Cafeteria Does Rushing Business.

The La Grande high school cafeteria this noon fed 130 people at an average cost per person of 12 1/2 cents. The capacity of the cafeteria is but 60 yet the girl manager and her assistants handled the task without confusion.

FOR RENT SIGNS—For sale at The Observer office.

New Spring Styles in Footwear For Men and Women

Styles and quality that appeal to the most critical. We were fortunate in buying shoes before the great advance in price. Our prices on all shoes represent real savings as compared to stores that have felt the pressure of rising costs.



Men's velvet dress shoes—lace and button, all widths \$3.50 to \$5.00
Men's Kangaroo Shoes, all sizes \$6.00
Men's Mahogany English Shoes \$7.00
Extensive showing ladies' street and dress shoes in all the new lasts and colors. All sizes and widths in stock \$3.50 to \$10.00
We fit the children's feet with shoes that have style and that give real service.

N. K. West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

Hammersley Not Eaten by Wolves

Pendleton, Ore., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Fulfilling his prediction that John Hammersley, government hunter reported killed by wolves in Jackson county, was not dead but would show up to send his monthly report to Pen-

leton, E. F. Averill district inspector of predatory animals, yesterday afternoon received a telegram declaring there was not truth in the published story of Hammersley's death.

Hammersley showed up yesterday at Wymer to learn that he was supposed to have been eaten by wolves. He stated that he had been absent from his cabin on Willow flats for four or five days on a cougar hunt. He at once telephoned the news of his safety to Gold Hill.

Reports reaching Portland state that the bones found have been identified as those of John Duranda, a prospector of Grants Pass. He probably perished in the mountains and was afterwards discovered by wolves.

Elks' Annual Ball.

The annual ball of the B. P. O. Elks will be given Friday, February 19. Committees have been appointed and this will be made the big event of the winter's social season.

The real estate market is picking up. Now is the time to advertise that farm, house or lot.

The last of the Oregon troops are coming home. They made a record to be proud of.

We have won one victory over Mexico anyway. The Mexicans have consented to bathe.

Women Go To China As Trade Envoys

They Represent the United States as Trade Commissioners—American Selling Houses Will Be Established in Hankow, Canton, Peking, and Shanghai.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 1.—(United Press)—Somewhere on the sea today between the United States and China are two American women, bound for the Orient to stir up trade in American made goods for their Uncle Sam.

These two women, who are fully accredited commissioners representing the United States government, are Mrs. Harriet M. Johnston and Mrs. L. W. Neely of Muncie, Indiana.

Mrs. Johnston and Mrs. Neely are members of the American Commercial commission, appointed to go to China and establish closer commercial relations between the two countries and to develop American sales agencies throughout the Orient.

They will assist the other members of the commission in establishing selling houses in Hankow, Canton, Peking and Shanghai and in selecting Chinese salesmen for American goods, as the Chinese do not like to buy direct from foreigners. Direct financial trade ar-

rangements will be made. The American commission is under the direction of Hon. David S. Ross, general counsel for the Chinese-American Products Exchange, and five times mayor of Milwaukee.

Members of the party are: Gen. Julian S. Carr, Durham, S. C., representing the Southern Commercial congress; Fernando P. Neal, Kansas City; Julius C. Frank, Milwaukee; J. S. Lawson, Wisconsin, and Fred A. Landeck, Wisconsin.

REV. GIBBS' BROTHER HONORED

Rev. Upton H. Gibbs received word this week that his brother-in-law, Lt. Colonel Rogers of the Royal Horse artillery, had been mentioned in the despatches for his services and awarded the decoration of the distinguished service order. Colonel Rogers has had rather a peculiar military experience. Over 20 years ago, after seeing active service in India and Egypt, he left the army while he was a captain, on account of some physical ailment which interfered with his work. When the war broke out he was in Victoria, B. C., and having recovered from his disability, he offered his services in any capacity to the British war office, although he was past age. After some delay, he was accepted and reinstated in his former rank and in his old regiment. For nearly two years he has been "somewhere in France," and was successively promoted from captain to major and then to lieutenant colonel.

National Thrift Day



Among the many other National Holidays, February 2d has been set aside as a special day, devoted to thrift, throughout the United States. This day being set aside to give you an incentive to save your earnings.

Saving little by little is the only way by which large sums of money can be accumulated. Don't wait for larger sums to start saving; show your ability to save from small savings.

You are invited and welcomed here.

La Grande National Bank

MAMMOTH GROCERY

WISHES YOU TO PHONE IN YOUR ORDERS.
WE WILL BE ON THE SQUARE WITH YOU.
ALL ERRORS CHEERFULLY CORRECTED.
TRUSTING TO HEAR OR MEET YOU SOON.
A COMPLETE LINE TO SELECT FROM.
COME