

**LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER**  
 AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER  
 Published Daily and Weekly at La Grande, Oregon, by the  
**LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER PUBLISHING COMPANY.**  
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Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as Second-class Matter.  
 Address All Communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.  
 City Official Paper.  
 Leased Wire Telegraph Report of United Press Association.  
 On Sale in Other Cities:  
 Oregon Hotel News Stand, Portland; Imperial News Stand, Portland.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

By Carrier		By Mail	
Daily, single copy	5c	Daily, per year in advance	\$5.00
Daily, per month	65c	Daily, per six months in advance	\$2.50
Daily, per six months in advance	\$3.50	Daily, three months in advance	\$1.25
Daily, per year in advance	\$7.00	Daily, per month	45c
The Saturday Evening Observer, by mail, per year in advance	\$1.50		
Weekly Observer-Star, by mail, per year in advance	\$1.50		

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**TRAIN, TRAIN, TRAIN, THE BOYS ARE TRAINING!**

Today, young men, who a year ago were balancing bank books or selling life insurance or writing advertisements or doing a thousand and one other things, are directing batteries of artillery or commanding companies of infantry, or zipping around through the air in fighting planes. Most of them were densely ignorant a year ago of the things they are now doing with confidence, assurance, skill. They acquired their new knowledge and cunning by the hardest kind of work in training camps.

There are today many thousands of husky high-school boys, from sixteen to twenty-one years of age, who know no more about plowing or hoeing or handling a team of farm horses than their elder brothers knew a year ago about machine guns and gas masks. But it has been shown that training camps can teach the technicalities of farming as well as the technicalities of soldiering. And if the first transformation can be effected by military training camps, is there any reason why another great army, of a very different type, can not also be supplied—in part at least—by the training-camp plan?

We must have farm labor in order to increase food production, and we must increase food production in order to win the war. And yet, war conditions have caused a shortage of skilled farm labor. Obviously one of the things to do is to train as much new farm labor as possible. As a result of such reasoning and conclusions, boys' farm training camps came into existence last spring, just after we entered the war. They sprang into being simultaneously in various parts of the country, but were most numerous in the Eastern and New England states, where the farm labor shortage was very pronounced—munitions plants and war industries having attracted, by higher wages, many workers who had formerly been available for agricultural work.

The question that at once suggests itself is whether these boys' camps did or can turn out expert farm help—farm labor that is really and genuinely as skilled as men whose lives have been spent working on farms. Of course not! It would be absurd to expect such a thing. The farm-camp boys last year were not, and the ones this year will not be, expert agriculturalists any more than their elder brothers left the military training camps possessed of all the skill and soldierly wisdom of seasoned, veteran campaigners. But the camp boys last year filled the bill, in the great majority of cases. Men of farm experience would have been preferable, naturally. But the boys saved crops that otherwise could not have been saved—and that is the object in the present emergency. It isn't a time to quibble over what is the ideal farm labor supply. It isn't a time to delay because of niceties of preference as to the kind of labor we would like to have. It is just a plain proposition of getting the sort of labor we can. To win the war we must make and save the crops and we'll have to do that with the help that is available under war conditions. The boys of the United States will do better work than a lot of old huns picked up in the cities.

**Patriotism and Business**

Every good citizen at this time should do his share toward strengthening the Federal Reserve Banking System which our Government has created with its billion dollars of money to stand back of its member banks and their depositors.

It can contribute directly to the strength of this system, and at the same time secure its protection by depositing your money with us, since part of every dollar you deposit with us goes directly into the new system, where it is always ready for you when wanted.

This is a suggestion for prompt action.

Member Federal Reserve System

**La Grande National Bank**

Oregon City  
**INDIAN BLANKETS**  
 Now  
**\$5.70 and \$8.55**

**Summer Dresses**  
**\$2.98**

A limited number of these dresses for the last two days at **\$2.98**. Voiles and organdies.

**Coats At**  
**\$2.98**

Half dozen coats for the last two days at **\$2.98**. Values to **\$17.00**.

**Your Last Chance**

at wool and cotton blankets. Prices may be more than double by next winter.

**LAST 2 DAYS OF OUR ANNUAL JANUARY CLEARANCE SALES**

The last two days of advantage to you. The time when you see you clothes money do double duty; when every dollar you pay for merchandise at this store, gets more than its usual value in return.

The goods we bought for this SALE are pretty generally in use by wearers now; but we have a large amount still on hand.

After this month prices will keep going higher, and merchandise that you can buy now at sale prices will be nearly double.

Invest today and save money.

**BIG REDUCTIONS ON ALL WHITE GOODS**

Longcloth, Mainsook, Mercerized Nainsook, Batiste, Swiss, Voile, Organdy and Pecay. Also all linens—Spreads, Sheets, Sheeting, Tubing and Pillow Cases.



**COMMENT OF THE PRESS**

**Wilson Should Remove Baker**

Secretary of War Baker has been spending some unpleasant days on the witness stand before the Senatorial Committee and he has not made a favorable impression on the people of the country. It is apparent to any one who is on the inside that the job is too big for Baker, and President Wilson should have long since picked a man equal to the great task of secretary of war. The best man in the country today for that job is Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, but it is out of the question to think that he would be selected for the post.—Tarryton (N. Y.) Daily News.

**Injury to America's Cause**

Government in a democracy is by public opinion. There can be no enlightened and responsible opinion unless there shall be knowledge; and there will not be knowledge unless there shall be discussion and opportunity to ascertain facts.

If the bureaucrats, revolving-chair patriots and chronic tape-winders at Washington had their way, there would be no light upon administrative methods during war time. Not a ray, not a gleam. They have had their way for nine months, and now there are disagreeable disclosures. But they are necessary and wholesome. They might not have been necessary at all but for the mistake of the membership.—Portland Oregonian.

**One of Hundreds**

The death of Major Augustus P. Gardner is of national concern, for it focusses the judgment of the country upon deficiencies of military administration at the precise moment when a hot public sentiment is demanding reform. Unanimous public opinion here will have it that Major Gardner was the shining victim of the inefficiency of the war department which he was the first to point out. Weeks ago, it is known, Major, then Colonel Gardner, sent to the White House a ringing letter describing the unsatisfactory condition of the post where he was stationed and where he died. As he was the first critic of national unpreparedness, so was he the last critic of administrative incapacity.—Boston Transcript.

**Bill Hanley's Division Scheme**

The Crook County Journal (Prineville), edited by L. B. LaFollette, hates to hurt Bill Hanley's feelings when he would divide Oregon into two parts—"Zip!"—just like that, so he comments favorably and then raises an insurmountable obstacle. Thusly he speaks:

William Hanley, the sage of the sagebrush country, has proven that he resembles the famous W. J. Bryan in more ways than personal appearance. Just now he is getting a lot of publicity because of the fact that he is advocating a theory which, like many of Bryan's theories, is impossible to achieve.

In the scheme to divide the state of Oregon, on a line running along the summit of the Cascades, there is real merit, and were it not for the fact it would perhaps be impossible to get the people of the east side of the state together on the location of the state capital, the matter might be achieved, but the merging of Eastern Washington and Eastern Oregon into a long state, and the western half of the two states likewise, would be just as possible as a love feast for Portland and Seattle, staked at Tacoma, or President Wilson and William Hohenzollern eating Easter dinner together. Mr. Hanley has evidently been quite successful at the cattle business and has many friends throughout the country, but politically, well, he does resemble Mr. Bryan.

Perhaps it is just as well Oregon remains intact. She's a pretty good old state as it is, and that part east of the Cascades has been smearing the fog and pretty regularly as it is. A good family spat is better than divorce any day.

For life is the mirror of king and slave; it's just what you are and what you do. If you give to the world the best that you have, the best will come back to you.—Smilage News.

**VERSES OF THE DAY**

**A BOY WHO KNOWS THE TRUTH**

Goodbye mother, do not weep,  
 Because I'm going away;  
 My country, it has called me  
 So why should I delay?

You know it is the duty  
 Of every U. S. man,  
 To fall in line and do his best  
 For dear old Uncle Sam.  
 Yes, mother, I'm going away;  
 I ask you not to weep;  
 But pray for me while you're awake;  
 Dream of me in your sleep.

Today I have enlisted  
 In a cause I know is right;  
 To France I guess they'll send me,  
 To help put all wrongs right.

The Kaiser, he is busted,  
 But says he's doing right,  
 Like Nero and Napoleon  
 In the end will lose the fight.

So cheer up, dear mother,  
 Forget this earthly love,  
 Remember there is lasting life  
 With our Savior up above.  
 —THOMAS HOY.  
 (La Grande's Blacksmith Songster.)

**COVE NEWS ITEMS**

John Allen has sold his farm west of Cove to Max Riehe of La Grande. Mr. Riehe's nephew will take possession in the early Spring.  
 Tom Jones has been home from Camp Lewis on a short furlough.  
 The M. W. A. Cove Camp No. 1762, and the Royal Neighbors held a joint installation of officers at their hall recently as follows: M. W. A.—H. E. Blevens, consul; T. G. Wilson, clerk; James Harris, adviser; Joseph Gersette, banker; Thomas Harris, watchman; John Atterberry, sentry; A. A. Antles, manager; Royal Neighbors—Mrs. Myrtle Pulp, orator; Mrs. Cora Peterson, vice-orator; Mrs.

Hattie Alexander, past orator; Mrs. Nora DeVore, chaplain; Mrs. Olive Smith, receiver; Mrs. May Aniles, reporter; Mrs. Nellie Martin, inside guard; Mrs. Eva Richards, outside guard; Mrs. Mary Harris, manager.

Rev. M. B. Paronagian, of Salem, Oregon, and native Armenian, lectured at the Cove M. E. church recently. His subject was the Armenian and Syrian relief. A drive is now on to raise funds for this purpose, an executive committee consisting of the Rev. C. C. Pratt, Bishop Mitchell, Rev. Pengra, Frank Roberts, Frank Galloway, and Dr. Ottadahl being appointed at the close of the lecture to select teams and superintend the drive for this work. Rev. Paronagian is a Sunday school missionary in the Oregon conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. The funeral of Mr. James Randall took place a week ago. Services were held at the cemetery.

**OUR FLAG**

Fling out the banner,  
 Fair and sweet,  
 O'er every home,  
 In every street,  
 In other lands,  
 'Neath alien flag,  
 With thee, dear flag,  
 We'll live or die.

Fling out the banner's  
 Shimmering folds;  
 What mystic meaning  
 Each star holds,  
 Dearer than life,  
 Each heart beats high,  
 As bars and stars  
 Go waving by.

A beat of drums,  
 A cannon's roar;  
 Grim war is at  
 Our very door.  
 Float banner high,  
 Above the crowd,  
 At once an emblem or a shroud.  
 —JEAN.  
 (Mrs. C. W. Collier, 1703 X Ave., La Grande.)

**YOUR CHOICE**  
 of  
**Any Ladies' Coat at Half Price**  
 Still Lots to Choose From

**Real Shoe Bargains**

One lot of low heels, patent and calf leathers. Your choice at **\$3.05**  
 English walks; tan, black and black and white, leather and Neolin soles; button and lace. Your choice **\$3.90**  
 One lot of satin, felt and velvet shoes, medium heels. Your choice **\$1.95**  
 Children's shoes, high tops, button; sizes 5½ to 8. Your choice **\$1.69**  
 Same shoes in sizes 11½ to 13. Your choice **\$2.79**  
 A large collection of high heels, button, in grey, bronze and black. Your choice **\$3.35**  
 Children's high tops, calf leathers, welt soles, button; sizes 8½ to 11. Your choice **\$2.29**

**Jerusalem Is Taken.**

An interesting ceremony was held when General Allenby's troops marched into Jerusalem. At the right of the general was the commander of the French detachment and on his left the commander of the Italian detachment. Following were the British, French, and American military attaches and a few members of the general staff. Guards of honor marched in the rear.

The procession turned to the right into Mount Zion and halted at El Kala Citadel. On the steps at the base of the tower of David, which was standing when Christ was in Jerusalem, a proclamation of military law was read in four languages in the presence of the commander in chief and many notables of the city.

**Mayor Is Presented.**

"Reforming, the procession moved up Zion street to Barracks square where the mayor and the mufti were presented and likewise sheiks with charge of mosques and the muslims belonging to the Khaldees and Alameeh families which trace their descendants through many centuries. Patriarchs of Latin, Greek, Orthodox and Armenian churches and Coptic Bishops had been directed to leave Jerusalem by the Turks, but their representatives present were introduced to the general as were also heads of the Jewish communities of the Syria church, of the Greek Catholic church, an Abyssinian archbishop and a representative of the Anglican church. The last to be presented was the Spanish consul, who has in charge the interests of almost all the countries at war.

"The representations over, the procession returned to Jaffa gate. Thus ended a simple and impressive ceremonial, the effect of which must be far reaching."

Read The Observer classified ads.

**For Hard-to-fit Women--**

Some women are hard to fit in corsets; some just think they are.



There are certain types of figures, however—full bust and small hips, small bust and large hips, short stout figures—that require special designing in corsets.

In MODART Front Laced Corsets there are special sizes and models for just such figures. We can give any woman, of whatever size or shape, the kind of style and fit she should have.

**MODART CORSETS**  
 Front Laced  
**PAULINE LEDERLE**

**WANTED FOR MISREPRESENTATION A FOOD CROOK**  
 HOUSEWIVES! ATTENTION!  
 Any person who tells you the government is going to seize your normal winter supply of canned goods or other foods is a crook or a thief. Have him arrested. You will have the Food Administration's hearty approval if you will do so.

Home canning is not hoarding. No person can be convicted of hoarding without a public hearing. Anti-Americans are abroad in the land to convince you otherwise. Jail is their place. Put them there.

Food Administrator, Herbert Hoover, thought the putting down of these "crooks, thieves and confidence operators" important enough to issue a statement recently branding them "petty frauds who should be held for the police."