

La Grande Evening Observer

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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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 missed you.



"My Country 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty."

HOMESTEAD ENTRYMEN GRANTED LEAVE

On the 20th of December, last, congress passed an act authorizing the absence from their claims of homestead entrymen during the period of the war for the purpose of allowing such entrymen to assist in farm work.

The Observer has received from Congressman N. J. Sinnott a summary of the important features of this act, as the same has not yet been given any publicity as to the specific points of the new regulation. In order that such entrymen as may be in position to take advantage of the leave of absence thus granted and for the information of farmers who may be able to avail themselves of such work, the summary of this act is given herewith.

Regulations under the act of December 20, 1917, which act is to remain in full force and effect only during the period of the present war, are now being prepared by the general land office and will probably be available for distribution in the near future. A person desiring to avail himself of the provisions of the act above mentioned, must file, within fifteen days after leaving his homestead, at the United States land office in which land is situated, notice that he has left the land pursuant to the provisions of the act for the purpose of farm labor elsewhere. On or before February 1 of each year he must file in the land office a written statement under oath, corroborated by two witnesses, with regard to such absence or absences during the last current year. Said statement must give the date or dates when he left the land and the date or dates of his return thereto; names and places where he was engaged in farm work and the name of the party for whom the work was performed, otherwise the entryman is not entitled to the benefits of the act.

WARS AND RUMORS OF WAR

It is a saying somewhat hackneyed and not intended to be sacrilegious that the Bible can be quoted in support of almost any proposition that may be named, if the deduction is to be applied either directly or only by inference. But the old, old declaration as to "rumors of war" is certainly seeing fulfillment in these times.

The office phone rang this morning and the question came straight forth, "Have you received word that Japan has declared war against the United States?" Upon assurance that no such report had come to The Observer office, the questioner, a lady, said, "Well, I am so greatly relieved to hear it. I thought if there was any truth in the report that you people would know something about it. I just heard it yesterday and I could not sleep any last night thinking about it."

This is a fair sample of the war rumors that get into circulation. But this lady, who lives out in the country,

A Checking Account

Have you a checking account?

Every year there comes up some item of expense on which you have no check.

Every once in a while you are called on to show proof that a certain bill or account is paid.

Almost every day someone loses change out of his pocket or loses his purse.

Very frequently money is taken from people's houses.

All this can be averted by carrying a bank account with us, and using your check book for reference—besides your money is in a safe place.

Don't Forget to Make Your Income Tax Return Before April 1

Member Federal Reserve System

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON

NEWEST LURE FOR BRITISH RECRUITS



Here's the latest type of British recruiting officer—a sergeant, she is. Not exactly a type yet either, for she's the only one. Her name is Miss Nettie McPherson, 19, and she recruits in Chicago. She is attached to the British and Canadian recruiting mission. She was born in Scotland and was graduated from Chicago high school. She and a bagpipe player mingle with the crowds in the "loop." She dances, as above, then tells the boys the way to recruiting headquarters.

MRS. M. A. HARRIS LEAVES

Pioneer Of Grande Ronde Goes To Canada To Live On Homestead

Mrs. M. A. Harris has taken her departure for Canada where she goes on a homestead with her daughter, Mrs. Cora E. Lewis. Mrs. Harris says she intends to do her bit in raising chickens, while Mrs. Lewis will go into the field and help her brother, "Dode" Harris, do the farm work. It is admitted that this is quite a trip for Mrs. Harris, who is a youngster of only 59 years and will soon celebrate the fourscore birthday. She was very cheerful upon leaving, however, and waved a goodbye as she left the Grande Ronde Valley with the pioneer spirit of going forward to conquer a new domain.

is no less susceptible of being led away by false reports than are the people in town. This morning there were frequent inquiries as to a reported clash on the western front of the most stupendous nature, in which 70,000 were reported killed. There is no truth in this report, which is as far-fetched as the other one. On the contrary, the news reports today indicate the belief that the Germans will not begin any major offensive on the western front this spring.

The war situation as it is, is harrowing enough. But it is made worse by reports that gain currency with no foundation in truth and no possible way to discover the source, the motive or other tangible trace of origin. It appears that nothing can go more rapidly, scatter more profusely or get further disconnected from the truth than these self-same "rumors of war."

If talk would do it, Grande Ronde would fall down on weather, crops, fruit and many other necessities. The warm weather of the early winter months has not damaged the orchards, but talk at the time had killed them all off. Talk also did a lot of damage to the fall-sown grain, but the spring moisture and other conditions are nursing the grain back into life. Nature is kept fairly busy pulverizing the helpless victims of the gas attacks with which the country's outlook is persistently assailed.

If the preliminary work that is being done by those in charge of the forthcoming liberty loan may be taken as a guide, this county will be found, as it always has been found heretofore, among the top-notchers.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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UNDERTAKING AND EMBALMING

Modern Funeral Service at Established Prices, with Credit When Desired.

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Spring Opening



The women of today with her keen discrimination of modes in dress, desires to use her own judgment in the selection of that which is best suited for her own individuality. For that reason she prefers to choose from an extensive variety, and it is this feature which in particular brings her to this store. We select from America's leading manufacturers—discriminatingly—on our showing in the choice of style and distinction.



TIME NOW TO SELECT YOUR HAT FOR EASTER

A fascinating exhibit of beautifully trimmed hats in which the creations of master milliners are seen.

Every shape—height, width and novelty effect correct for spring.

YOUR INSPECTION INVITED



OUR SHOE EXHIBIT



Oxfords in Brown and Black

will please you. Come and examine the new ideas in beautiful spring footwear. Oxfords and pumps are very strong this season.

COME EARLY AND CHOOSE

BEAUTIFUL NEW WAISTS

in georgette and crepe de chine. Such an assemblage as this, with its many distinct and lovely models, its variety of coloring and trimming, and its crisp freshness, is a rare opportunity for us and our customers.

ON DISPLAY IN OUR READY-TO-WEAR DEPARTMENT

West & Co

THE QUALITY STORE

MOTOR CARS' HAUL WOOD

Plow Through Snow And Bring Fuel When Coal Is Scarce.

At least one business man in Boston is thankful to the motor car and a country wood lot for preventing a complete shut-down of his business during the New England coal famine. For the wood was transported to his factory over country roads, through deep snow, at a time when he had no coal and could get none.

When he found himself actually face to face with the alternative of buying wood or stopping business, this man made inquiry and learned that Boston coal yards held their wood at \$14 to \$16 a cord. Even so, none had a truck or team available for immediate delivery of wood.

Then it occurred to him that last fall, while driving his car along the road from Boston to Worcester, Mass., he had noticed a large wood lot, with great quantities of chopped wood piled up. By a bit of telephoning he got in touch with the owner, who was perfectly willing to sell any amount of his wood at \$5 a cord, but had no other means of shipping than to sled it to the railroad.

This plan was impossible because of the element of time; and when the business man suggested motor trucks, the woodsman said that, in his opinion, the snow was too deep in the woods for a motor truck to

set in, much less get out with a load.

However, the business man declined to take his word for the difficulty, and began consulting motor truck authorities. He found none who cared to tackle the job until he phoned C. S. Henshaw. Mr. Henshaw was so confident of the ability of Dodge Brothers commercial car to go anywhere that he was willing to send out as many as were needed.

The cars readily made their way to the wood lot. There for a time it looked as though the venture was ended, for the cars sank in the snow to their axles. But every one pulled through, loaded with half a cord of wood. The entire trip took only part of a day, and the wood was

Synopsis of the Annual Statement OF THE Insurance Company of North America.

Capital.	
Amount of capital paid up.....	\$ 4,000,000.00
Income.	
Net premiums received during the year.....	\$20,683,027.91
Interest, dividends and rents received during the year.....	1,009,328.49
Income from other sources received during the year.....	16,375.62
Total income.....	\$21,708,732.02
Disbursements.	
Net losses paid during the year.....	\$ 9,280,064.18
Dividends paid on capital stock during the year.....	600,000.00
Commissions and salaries paid during the year.....	2,200,030.39
Taxes, licenses and fees paid during the year.....	324,723.19
Amount of all other expenditures.....	297,148.45
Total expenditures.....	\$12,482,166.21
Assets.	
Other ledger assets.....	\$ 150,000.10
Value of real estate owned.....	281,071.29
Value of stocks and bonds owned.....	22,181,250.00
Loans on mortgages.....	12,850.00
Cash in hands and on hand.....	2,500,000.00
Premiums in course of collection.....	1,000,000.00
Interest and rents due and accrued.....	3,000,000.00
Total assets.....	\$39,285,371.39
Less special deposits in any state if not stated here.....	100,000.00
Total assets admitted to liabilities.....	\$39,185,371.39
Liabilities.	
Gross claims for losses unpaid.....	\$ 4,000,000.00
Amount of unearned premiums on all outstanding policies.....	10,000,000.00
Due for commissions and brokerage.....	100,000.00
Other.....	100,000.00
All other liabilities.....	100,000.00
Total liabilities.....	\$14,200,000.00
Total surplus.....	\$24,985,371.39
Total position in Force Division, Dec. 31, 1917.....	\$19,500,123.62
Business in Oregon for the Year.	
Total insurance written during the year.....	\$10,000,000.00
Gross premiums received during the year.....	11,000,000.00
Losses paid during the year.....	2,000,000.00
Losses incurred during the year.....	15,000.00
Total amount of insurance written during the year.....	\$10,000,000.00
Dec. 31, 1917.....	4,000,000.00
INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA.	
By J. H. HENSHAW, President.	
Witness my hand and seal at New York, N. Y., this 17th day of March, 1918.	

unloaded in the Boston boiler room in ample time to avert a shutdown.

Overstock of Auto Tires. We have a number of 30x3 tires which we will sell at a discount while they last. 2-28-18. MAXWELL SERVICE STATION

You may want a box of very nice writing paper, something that is better than the ordinary. You will be able to find just what you want at Silverthorn's Family Drug Store. 3-11-18.

CHICHESTER'S PILLS
THE DIAMOND BRAND
Largest and Best
SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE



Preparedness

LEARN THE TRUTH ABOUT CORSETS As We Are Learning the Truth About War. Get Acquainted With



La Camille
The Front Lace Corset with the JENTILIO Back and Front Shield There's a La Camille Style That's Best For You.
All the Latest Models Now on Hand Priced at \$2.00 up.
MRS. ROBT. PATTON Corsetiere.
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