# The Observer

An Independent Newspaper

Published Daily and Weekly at La Grande, Oregon.
La Grande Evening Observer Publishing Company.
BRUCE DENNIS, Publisher.

Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as Second-class Matter.

Address All Communications to The Observer, 1710 Sixth Street.

City Official Paper. County Official Paper.

Evening Telegraph Report of United Press Association.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Carrier

Daily, per month .....65c
Daily, per three months.....$1.95
Daily, per six months in advance $3.75
Daily, per year in advance.....$7.50
Daily, single copy.....5c

By Mail

Daily, per year in advance.....$5.00
Daily, per six months in advance $2.50
Daily, three months in advance..$1.25
Daily, per month.....50c
The Saturday Evening Observer, by mail, per year in advance.....$1.50
Weekly Observer-Star, by mail, per year in advance.....$1.50

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

### THEY ALWAYS FAIL.

The German military forces always fail except in one particular and that is in the useless waste of human life in the struggle to perpetuate military autocracy. There are heavy losses inflicted on the allies but not anything in proportion to the losses sustained by the mad followers of the German kaiser and his military accomplices. The losses to the Germans in the late drive as given from neutral countries make a total of 525,000. It is estimated that there were 1,080,000 so they lost nearly half of their fighting force and then did not accomplish their object. According to prisoners statements as reported by the press the 28th German division has suffered losses of 70 per cent since the beginning of the offensive. The 20th division lost 50 per cent. The 88th lost 70 per cent the first day and 40 per cent in an attack on Moizeres, March 29.

In the first division on the average strength of the companies was reduced to 40 men by March 28. The Guard Ersatz Division suffered a 25 per cent loss between March 21 and 28. The 5th division had 60 per cent casualties at Ham, and additional heavy losses crossing the Somme. In an attack north of the Scarpe River one regiment of the 26th division lost 24 officers.

The expectancy of reaching Paris on express train time at the beginning was a failure. The whole German army is a failure as fighters as compared to the Belgians or the French or the English who have been able to stand them off or at least interfere with their movements to such an exient as to make their objectives an impossibility. And this, too, against a superiority of numbers.

The kaiser's forces will be no better enabled to accomplish their widely heralded and boastful purposes when they stack up against the American boys. You can bet on that.

### THE LOAN DRIVE.

The Observer publishes today about all the details that are needed for a general idea of the forthcoming Liberty Loan. The plan of payments for loan subscriptions has just been made public by the state chairman at Portland. The local war board has set out as nearly equitable as possible the amounts which are to be raised by the different localities. The banks have come forward with a liberal proposition to aid with finances responsible parties who may need a little assistance and it now only remains for the people to do what is expected of them. Mr. Larrison chairman of the La Grande district put the matter very appropriately yesterday in an address at the business men's luncheon yesterday when he said that "every man with two legs and two arms will be expected to subscribe for at least $50."

It really looks like there is no excuse for anyone not to do his part.

The payment of delinquent improvement assessments in La Grande need not stand in the way as the bonds will be received in lieu of money for such payments. This is taxpaying time and that will make it a little difficult for many to "dig up" much more money than enough to meet the first half payments on taxes. At the same time but five per cent, on the bond subscriptions are payable at the beginning, and this provision should be the means of enabling the subscribers to carry the bond obligation with safely.

But, anyway, this county's portion of the big war fund must be provided. There has been no time when Union county citizens have lagged. It is believed they will be found equally valiant on the firing line this time.

## Editorial Comment

(Col. Henry Watterson in Louisville Courier-Journal.)

The war is to be prosecuted vigorously by the entente allies and the United States until a peace "based on the principles of freedom, justice and respect for international law" is obtained. This is the decision of the supreme war council of the countries in arms against the Teutonic allies.—Paris cable.

Certainly it is. How could it be otherwise? Why be constantly iterating and reiterating it? One might fancy there is a hitch, halt or doubt somewhere.

The war is to be prosecuted until we win it. It is to be prosecuted until the Hun is licked to a frazzle and out of his bloody boots; until the allied flags are triumphant over Poissiam, Fuba Dam and Hellior Sartin; until old Hindenburg and old Tirpitz are made to dance the can-can in the courtyard of the Schloss to the ragtime of "Yankee Doodle." It is to be prosecuted until the boys, having crossed the Rhine, razing Brienstein to the level of the stream, and swept onward to Berlin, march through Unter den Linden to the music of "The Star-Spangled Banner," each mother's son shouting "We'll hang Kaiser Bill to a sour apple tree!" It is to be prosecuted until Germany regenerate, the "Marseillaise" substituted for "Die Wacht am Rhein" as the national anthem, each individual German is taught to say his prayers in alternate French, Italian and English.

In the same cablegram from which we take the above we find the following:

"The high-sounding phrases in the recent speeches of the imperial German chancellor and the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister were entirely thrown into the discard by the council at its session at Versailles, and it was decided that the war would be vigorously prosecuted until the time comes when there is justification for the hope that a peace may be realized in accord with the policies laid down by President Wilson and David Lloyd George the British premier."

"Justification for the hope!" May the devil fly away with the son-of-a-gun who wrote that! The "policies of President Wilson and David Lloyd George"—what "policies?" Not "peace without victory," surely?

"Nay, Pauline, nay!" The end of the war is to be wrought not by pen-work, however clever, but by the sword of the Lord and of Gideon; the "terms" are to be delivered out of the mouths of cannon; the lazy sons of peace who are too good to live and too proud to fight will have to put on something more than war paint and feathers before they can be trusted in the final equation to handle results. Down with the tommyrot!

There are a few other things to be considered than "freedom, justice and respect for the principles of international law." We shall not treat with the Hohenzollern at all, nor with Germany, until Germany is born again. Meanwhile there are scores, many and bloody scores, to settle; the Lusitania and the Sussex; the Belgian horrors, especially the murder of Miss Cavell; the murderous air raids upon London and Paris and the undefended coast towns and hamlets. Even as we have suffered the Hun shall suffer.

"Vengeance is mine," saith the Lord, but heaven has heard the shrieks of drowning women—has seen the tiny hands of children stretched out in dumb entreaty from the bottom of the sea—and, in answer to both, another voice exclaims above the din of the tempest and the roar of battle, "Smite the Philistine hip and thigh!"

If we equivocate we are lost. Freedom in the United States requires not only the destruction of autocracy in Germany, but the total annihilation of militarism and the military spirit. If any power is left intact in Germany to make treaty with any other power we are lost. If all government in Germany be not blotted out even as the southern confederacy in America was blotted out we are lost. We have fought in vain, and all our sacrifices in blood and treasure will go for naught if we make not clean and sure work of it. We must smite the Philistine hip and thigh!

Yea, hip and thigh! So get out of the way, Woody! Mind your eyes, Harvey! It is a man's job—war to the knife and the knife to the hilt—the black flag for the Black Hand and no quarter to the unspeakable Hun.

Great Britain has already spent one-third of her national wealth in this war; we have given only our small change.—The Dallas Chronicle.

The Bolsheviki, who talk nine hours a day and worked occasionally while liberty reigned, are now putting in twelve hours a day working under a German boss and at night are too tired to even talk about the blessings of liberty.—Capital Journal.

### WHY WHEAT MUST BE SAVED

"We have the preservation of the world on our hands. Every single living human being in this republic, from ocean to ocean, should make it his or her special purpose to save food."

These are the words of F. P. Cullen, personal representative of Herbert C. Hoover, in a recent address.

"Men will resist any power but the power of starvation," said Mr. Cullen. "Hunger in the final analysis, is the only force that can weaken a nation and demoralize an army. Food is strength, and without a perpetual supply of strength, the world can stand in danger of tottering, weakening, and falling into utter chaos. A man cannot fight, think or work, if he is hungry. The allies today are practically wholly dependent upon the United States for food. Upon this nation rests the responsibility of preserving the world from Prussianism. This is the task of the people of this nation—to produce and save food enough to keep a steady stream of essential supplies moving towards the front so long as it shall be necessary to wage this war. If at any time we fail in this, we must inevitably go down, with the allies, to defeat. This is no exaggeration, but a serious fact. It is the purpose of the U. S. Food Administration to bring the realization of this fact home to every American man, woman and child, and to enlist the active aid of our hundred million people in producing and saving food. The Food Administration is not asking you to eat less; it only urges that you substitute one nutritious food for another equally nutritious food, thus saving the vital staples needed by our armies and the armies and the peoples of the allies. We must, during the next three months, save wheat, especially. Our surplus has already been shipped abroad, and a hundred million bushels more are needed. Every time you eat a slice of bread less, omit the crackers with your soup or otherwise conserve wheat, you are contributing towards the hundred million bushels needed over there to our fighting men and the exhausted people of Belgium, France and England, who have for more than three years been bearing the brunt of this war. Keep this in mind and bring it before the minds of your thoughtless friends and neighbors.

### Do You Sleep Well?

To be at his best a man must have sound, refreshing sleep. When wakeful and restless at night he is in no condition for work or business during the day. Wakefulness is often caused by indigestion and constipation, and is quickly relieved by Chamberlain's Tablets. How much better you feel with a clear head and good digestion. —Adv.

Don't forget the dance at Rex hall, Wednesday, April 3. Admission 75c.—Adv. 3-30-4t.

## "OVER THERE."

SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE

### Michigan Millers Mutual Fire Insurance Company

of Lansing in the state of Michigan, on the 31st day of December, 1917, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the state of Oregon, pursuant to law.

**Capital.**

Amount of capital stock paid up..... Mutual Co

**Income.**

Net premiums received during the year..... $ 241,[illegible]
Interest, dividends and rents received during the year..... [illegible]
Total income..... $1,[illegible]

**Disbursements.**

Net losses paid during the year..... $ [illegible]
Dividends to policyholders during the year..... [illegible]
Commissions and salaries paid during the year..... [illegible]
Taxes, licenses and fees paid during the year..... [illegible]
Amount of all other expenditures during the year..... [illegible]
Total expenditures..... $1,169,71[illegible]

**Assets.**

Value of real estate owned..... $ [illegible]
Value of stocks and bonds owned..... [illegible]
Loans on mortgages and collateral..... [illegible]
Cash in banks and on hand..... [illegible]
Premiums in course of collection written since September 30, 1917..... [illegible]
Interest and rents due and accrued..... [illegible]
Total assets..... $1,[illegible]

**Liabilities.**

Net unpaid for losses adjusted..... $ [illegible]
Amount of dividends remaining unpaid..... [illegible]
All other liabilities..... [illegible]
Total liabilities except capital stock..... $1,[illegible]
Total premiums in force December 31, 1917..... $1,[illegible]

**Business in Oregon for Year.**

Net premiums received during the year..... $ [illegible]
Net losses paid during the year..... [illegible]
Losses incurred during the year..... [illegible]

Total amount of deposits with securities in foreign countries, December 31, 1917..... $1,[illegible]

MICHIGAN MILLERS MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
By A. H. BAKER, Secretary.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of January, 1918. H. [illegible], Notary Public.

## GIRLS TO INSTRUCT S S SOLDIERS

New York girls of the Women's Radio Corps of America are in training which will fit them to instruct selective service soldiers in "buzzer" signaling. The girls shown here, Sergeant Elsie Owen and (below) Sergeant Georgina B. Davida are in charge of the woman's corps.

## Joseph People Enjoy Easter

JOSEPH, April 1.—(Special)—Easter morning was bright and beautiful, filling the streets of Joseph with church goers and picnickers bound for Wallowa Lake.

On next Friday night the Jo-Hi Glee club presents the beautiful sailor operetta, "The Nautical Knot" or "The Belle of Barnstapoole," in Romp's hall. Practice has been going on for weeks in preparation for the production, which assures its success. Mrs. A. K. Parker and Miss Helen Wastell have spent much time in coaching the actors and arranging the scenes, dances, etc., and with the hearty cooperation of the cast have built up a fine operetta. The main cast is supported by a large chorus of sailors, artists and girls who certainly add to the musical score. The cast is as follows:

Julia.....Gladys Lane
Nance.....Emma Shanafelt
Barnabas Lee.....Guy Morelock
Joe Stout.....Ralp Felt
Bill Salt.....Raymond Cook
Jim Spray.....Vern Morelock
Ned Bluff.....Kenneth Lane
Jack Brace.....Ted Mays
Delia.....Jean Patton
Daisy.....Grace Caviness
Dora.....Alma Desler

A very well attended "Morning Watch Service" was enjoyed early Sunday morning by the members of the Epworth league. Mrs. Shanafelt, the leader, presented the lesson in such a manner that it made the service quite impressive indeed.

James Thompson, who formerly owned and managed the Thompson Livery stable in North Joseph but who has been wintering in California, returned home Sunday. Mr. Thompson reports a very interesting trip, having visited San Diego, San Francisco, Camp Kearney and several other places of interest even going a short distance into Mexico. He saw many Joseph people, among them Glen Sprague and Gibson Taylor, both former Joseph boys now at Camp Kearney.

Hendrick Jure spent Sunday in Joseph.

G. J. Wagner, of La Grande, spent a few days in Joseph on business the last of the week in the interests of the Racine Feet Knitting company.

Merrill Gershon left Sunday for Ft. Riley, Kansas, where he will be enrolled as a member of a Medical corps. Merrill has many friends in Joseph who wish him all kinds of luck.

Bert M. Sprague, of Lamaha, spent some time in Joseph last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyons and little daughter, of upper Prairie creek, came in Sunday for the Easter services at the M. E. church.

The streets of Joseph are reported by those who know to be the best in the county.

The setting of the clocks ahead caused no trouble in Joseph, every one consenting to the change without a murmur. The schools, churches and business houses are all running on the new schedule.

Dwight French, of Enterprise, is a frequent visitor in Joseph.

Fred Miller is making several improvements about his property in South Joseph, among which is the addition of a new porch on to his house. Several houses in Joseph are being painted and it is said that concrete walks may be built in the near future wherever needed.

Easter Service at M. E. Church.

The Easter services at the Little Stone church were all well attended. The patriotic feeling was carried out in all services making them doubly impressive. At the regular Sunday School hour a fine program consisting mostly of music attended the unveiling of two flags, one the U. S. flag, presented by Mrs. E. A. Pollock, who made a touching appeal to those present to back "our boys." The flag was unveiled by six girls who all had brothers in the army. A prayer was then offered and the assembly dismissed, all feeling a deep reverence and inspiration.

At the church house in the morning was given a splendid Easter sermon which was followed in the evening by a musical program by the choir. The splendid music at this service made a fitting closing for the day of worship.

The weather is playing "April Fool" jokes by giving us one kind of weather one hour and a different variety the next. Such is life.

L. H. Morelock and wife returned last week from a trip in Western Idaho, where Mr. Morelock went on business.

The building which housed the Sheets Blacksmith shop for so many years is being torn down to give room for a "war garden." Several other old shacks which infest our city should receive the same treatment.

Jack Hamilton, the local shoemaker, reports that he expects to move with his family to a new field of labor soon, probably somewhere in the east.

Geo. Harrigsen is putting a foundation under the building just north of the Harry Carpenter residence for W. G. Reiln, who expects to establish a Kerr, Gifford & Co. office there in the near future.

Last week the school board of District No. 6 found themselves with only a day's supply of wood at the school house, but a carload arrived just in time to save the day. The wood which had been contracted for failed to arrive.

Home Guard Meets and Organizes.

Last Thursday night a goodly number of Joseph men and boys gathered in Romp's hall with the determination to form a Home Guard to protect the homes of Joseph and vicinity. Mayor Schaupp opened the meeting by explaining the actual need of such an organization and the work that similar organizations are doing elsewhere. Several of the men from the crowd expressed their opinions. Fairchilds and S. L. Burnaugh, of Enterprise, told how things had worked out in Enterprise and read the Enterprise Home Guard's constitution and it was decided to adopt practically the same rules to govern the Joseph body. Frank McSlain, who has been a U. S. sailor at Goat Island and who knows the latest orders and military commands was elected captain. J. C. Desler and Max Wilson were elected first and second lieutenants respectively. The two gentlemen from the neighboring town then proceeded to conduct a drill, in which the more simple military maneuvers were enacted. Much enthusiasm is being shown over the affair and big things are to be expected. Drill will be held each Thursday evening.

According to letters received by his father, who resides in Joseph, Thos Biggs is on his way to France. Mr. Biggs says that the report that Thos was discharged from the service is without foundation.

Measles are again becoming troublesome in Joseph as several new cases have appeared, especially among high school students. Enterprise high school is having the same trouble in so much that they were forced to put off their school play.

J. Rennie has just purchased a Chevrolet auto.

Rev. P. J. Stack went to Enterprise on Friday afternoon's train on church business.

The Ladies' Aid of the M. E. church has made a new altar carpet for the church.

Beatrice Lamphere and George Shanafelt are among the high school students who have enjoyed a case of measles.

Jean Amey, an Enterprise school boy, visited in Joseph last week.

Arthur Rudd was in Enterprise on business last Friday afternoon.

The Red Cross work is going fine in Joseph both at the main headquarters and at the Odd Fellows'

(Continued on page five.)

## "OVER THERE."

SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BRANCH OF

### Atlas Insurance Company, Ltd.


THE MERCHANDISE YOU WANT

And the Kind We Want You to Have

Have you ever seen a man working who looked strong and in the pink of condition, but some one alongside of him did double the work?

It's that way in the Merchandise you buy. Some of it looks alright, but hasn't got the quality; can't stand hard work.

Merchandise like we carry will give you better service. It's just like those two men—

One is expensive at..... $2.00
The other is cheap at..... $2.50

WE INVITE YOUR INSPECTION OF OUR STOCK

MEN!

NEW SILK SHIRTS.

In the very best quality of material. Come in and see these shirts—examine them as to quality.

They are in stripes of pretty shades on white.

See Our Window.

These Shirts at $9.50 and $10.00... Other silk Shirts at $5.00—Fibres at $3.00 to $6.00.

Interwoven

TOE AND HEEL

Socks

Are due for another jump in price.

Men's 60c Silk Hose will go to 75c.

This is the second advance in price in six months. Wise buyers will lay in a supply now at the old price. Also cotton and lisle hose.

Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes

M. West & Co.

Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes



THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATES

with the 7,800 member banks in maintaining the Federal Reserve Banking System for the protection of the business interests of the country. Through the Federal Reserve Board in Washington it supervises the twelve Federal reserve banks; it appoints one-third of their directors; it deposits its funs largely with them; it guarantees the currency they issue.

This co-operation greatly increases the value of the system to us and our community.

Are you linked up with this new national system as one of our depositors? If not, you should delay no longer.

Member Federal Reserve System

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON



OIL BURNERS

Your wood is gone, the summer is here, that oil burner that you have longed for is ready to install in your Range—FREE TRAIL and guarantee cover your dollars.

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Best Prices Paid for Used Furniture