

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



NAVY ACTIVITY.

The reports say that the bold raid made on the German submarine base yesterday is but a beginning of what may be expected in the way of active naval operations against the imperial German government. While yesterday's exploit, as far as the news reports go, was participated in principally by British sea dogs, it has been known for a long while that the American navy is almost wild to get into the fray and it cannot be long until they will be heard from.

But the work of the American navy has not been all a blank even at that. The submarine menace on the high seas has been very largely overcome through the vigilance of Uncle Sam's navy, and this is only a beginning.

Whether the full expectations of the blocking at Zeebrugge have been accomplished or not, a beginning has been made, and it will most likely be followed up until there will be no submarine base on the Belgian coast.

A move against the German lock-up craft at Kiel is not an impossibility and there are likely to be many other undertakings that will destroy the super-human confidence of Prussianism. It will be no surprise if the allied navies prove deciding factors in the great war.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

While there may be complaints of one kind and another over the bread proposition, the state of Idaho has set an example that should put to shame the people who think they have been placed under an unusual hardship in being required to use a fifty-fifty limitation on wheat flour.

The state of Idaho, through its county representatives, has offered to send out of the state every pound of wheat if it is needed for our armies or the allies, and in doing this they as much as say that the people of Idaho can live on other kinds of grain products if it is necessary to do so. That is the kind of a spirit and a kind of patriotism that counts.

The thing that the state of Idaho proposes is possible all over the United States. It is sheerest nonsense to think that wheat flour is the absolute essential for bread. The reason that the wheat is so much in demand for the armies and for the allies is not because it is of a higher grade or more suitable for sustenance, but because it is the kind of bread product that can be most easily handled. The use of substitutes for export is not practicable.

The people can certainly get along with old-fashioned corn bread, and other grain flour, to say nothing of rice, potatoes and other food substances that take practically the same part in human sustenance that is provided by wheat. Everybody could live as the people of Idaho say they can live, and still be much better off than are they who are engaged in war or those who are reduced to the barest necessities on account of the war.

OUR ONLY LIMITS.

(Saturday Evening Post.)

Everybody knows that before the war began Germany was, next to England, the world's greatest exporter. Part of that foreign trade simply disappeared. Nobody got it. As to who got the rest, some analyses and deductions by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce point in the direction of England quite as much, at least, as in the direction of the United States.

Usually we measure our exports in dollars, and so see a huge increase; but this is partly accounted for by mere rise in prices, and it is a fact that the tonnage cleared from the United States for foreign ports in 1917 was slightly smaller than in 1914. Ship space was more economically used, and a greater part of our exports in 1917 was manufactured goods, whose value runs higher to the ton than raw materials. But measuring our foreign trade in quantity of goods gives a much less flattering view than measuring it in dollars.

In this connection Consul General Skinner, at London, lately reported upon the very elaborate organization England has set in motion to study and promote foreign trade, particularly with a view to after the war.

The direct war burden is, of course, relatively much heavier upon Great Britain than upon the United States. A far greater proportion of the population is with the colors; the financial strain is greater in proportion to national wealth. Yet England finds time and money and talent to do a good many things besides carry on the war. Ambitious housing programs, this careful and comprehensive promotion of foreign trade, and various other things, signify national energy, well organized and efficiently applied.

It vexes us to hear statements that labor shortage and so on set stone-wall limits—only a couple of yards ahead of our present performance—beyond which we cannot go. There are no limits, except our shortage of organization and vim.

TEDDY AND HIS WAR-BABY GRANDSON



"Certainly a fine little fellow!" was Colonel Roosevelt's appraisal when he saw his new grandson for the first time. With the colonel and Archie Jr. in this picture is Mrs. Archie Roosevelt. Archie Jr.'s father is fighting in France, where he was recently slightly wounded and decorated. This is the first picture of Colonel Roosevelt since his recent serious illness.

WHY WE ARE AT WAR WITH GERMANY

By EPHRAIM DOUGLASS ADAMS
Executive Head, History Department
Leland Stanford Junior University

"The object of this war is to deliver the free peoples of the world from the menace and the actual power of a vast military establishment controlled by an irresponsible government, which, having secretly planned to dominate the world, proceeded to carry out the plan without regard either to the sacred obligations of treaty or the long-established principles and long-cherished principles of international action and honor." This power is not the German people. It is the ruthless master of the German people. It is our business to see to it that the history of the rest of the world is no longer left to its handling."
—President Wilson, August 27, 1917.

THE GERMANS AS A CHOSEN PEOPLE.

The foundation cause of this war is Germany's firm belief that she alone has the right to direct the progress of the world and to exploit its resources. For the last thirty years the military autocracy of Germany has seen to it that this belief was taught in the schools, and today that autocracy is reaping the benefits of a blind obedience to its will. German political writing of recent years is full of the idea that the German people is "God's chosen people, destined to impose its 'Kultur' upon all other peoples."

"The German soul is the world's soul. God and Germany belong to one another." "Germany is the center of God's plans for the world." "We hope that a great mission will be allotted to us Germans . . . and this German mission is: to look after the world." "Germany is chosen, for her own good and that of other nations, to undertake their guidance. Providence has placed the appointed people, at the appointed moment, ready for the appointed task."

"The German people is always right, because it is the German people, and numbers 87,000,000 souls." "Kultur is best promoted when the strongest individual Kultur, that of a given nation, enlarges its field of activity at the expense of the other national Kulturs." "The attempt of Napoleon to graft the Kultur of Western Europe upon the empire of the Muscovite ended in failure. Today history has made us Germans the inheritors of the Napoleonic idea." "The further we carry our Kultur into the East, the more and the more profitable outlets shall we find for our wares. Economic profit is of course not the main motive of our Kultur-activity, but it is no unwelcome by-product." "Our belief is that the salvation of the whole Kultur of Europe depends upon the victory which German 'Militarism' is about to achieve."

These quotations are but a few of hundreds of like expression, and the last one cited is from a manifesto signed by thirty-five hundred German professors and lecturers. Reduced to simple terms, the German belief at the beginning of this war was: "God directs Germany. Civilization advances only by combats between Kulturs in which the stronger and God-directed one has the right to prevail and must prevail. The immediate and present object is to make our Kultur prevail in the East (in 'Muscovy'), and in accomplishing this we shall also gain economic advantages. This is the first step in our world domination."

Where does America stand in this theory of a "chosen people"? America denies that theory; she denies that God has chosen any one people as His own; she asserts rather that there are many civilizations, each with its own merits and defects, and that to each must be left the working out of its own problems.

We Americans are unable to understand, or sympathize with, a people who conceive of themselves as a chosen people, chosen of God—a people to whom all things and actions, however inhuman or brutal, are regarded as permissible, even holy, because of a faith in their superior mission and civilization. To us such a belief is direct evidence, not of a leading, but of a lagging civilization.

This German ideal, when expressed merely in theory, even though taught in Germany for the last thirty years, stirred but indifferent interest in other European nations. In this war Germany has revealed in the application of her theory a lust for world power at the expense of other peoples, a lack of good faith, a brutality that have

stamped her theory as involving a return to barbarism.

By the application of German theory we were forced, unwillingly, to go to war. But today we know that there was no escape from a war between two contradictory ideals. Germany's economic objects are many and large (they will be pointed out), but the basic cause of this war was the German ideal of a dominant nation. That ideal, by Germany's own challenge, is on trial in arms. Against it we must prevail, or we shall perish.

Pettis-Grossmayer Co., General Insurance

Wilcox Bldg.

SYNOPSIS OF THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE

New Hampshire Fire Insurance Co. of Manchester

In the state of New Hampshire, on the 31st day of December, 1917, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oregon, pursuant to law:

Amount of capital paid up	\$1,500,000.00
Capital	
Net premiums received during the year	\$3,425,491.05
Interest, dividends and rents received during the year	307,049.47
Income from other sources received during the year	2,102.20
Total income	\$3,728,642.72
Net losses paid during the year	\$1,618,703.22
Dividends paid on capital stock during the year	202,483.00
Commissions and salaries paid during the year	1,099,299.29
Taxes, licenses and fees paid during the year	105,209.77
Amount of all other expenditures	190,123.17
Total expenditures	\$3,216,218.45
Value of real estate owned (market value)	\$300,000.00
Value of stocks and bonds owned (market value)	6,021,477.00
Loans on mortgages and collateral, etc.	6,307.50
Cash in banks and on hand	\$11,123.28
Premiums in course of collection written since September 30, 1917	574,040.74
Reserve fund on losses paid, interest and rents due and accrued	55,372.40
Total assets	\$7,883,893.95
Total assets admitted in Oregon	\$7,883,893.95
Gross claims for losses unpaid	\$78,332.32
Amount of unearned premiums on all outstanding risks	3,157,186.54
Due for commissions and expenses	10,000.00
All other liabilities	220,185.29
Total liabilities, exclusive of capital stock	\$3,771,704.15
Total premiums in force December 31, 1917	\$0,087,051.00
Total insurance written during the year	\$2,800,900.00
Gross premiums received during the year	42,872.95
Premiums returned during the year	11,496.22
Losses paid during the year	3,783.50
Losses incurred during the year	4,839.93
Total amount of insurance outstanding in Oregon December 31, 1917	\$3,111,418.00

Business in Oregon for the Year.

Total insurance written during the year	\$2,800,900.00
Gross premiums received during the year	42,872.95
Premiums returned during the year	11,496.22
Losses paid during the year	3,783.50
Losses incurred during the year	4,839.93
Total amount of insurance outstanding in Oregon December 31, 1917	\$3,111,418.00

By LEWIS W. CROCKETT, Secretary, Statutory resident general agent and attorney for service: PHILIP GROSSMAYER, Portland, Oregon.

National Fire Insurance Co. of Hartford

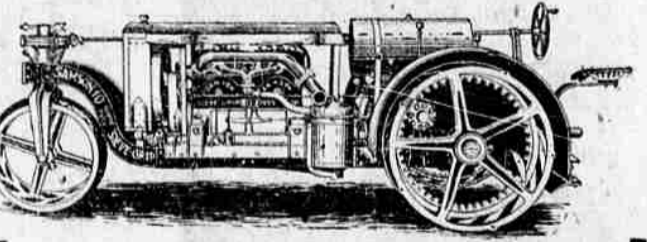
In the state of Connecticut, on the 31st day of December, 1917, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oregon, pursuant to law:

Amount of capital paid up	\$2,000,000.00
Capital	
Net premiums received during the year	\$11,309,603.40
Interest, dividends and rents received during the year	680,607.53
Income from other sources received during the year	53,232.92
Total income	\$12,132,734.85
Net losses paid during the year	\$5,268,096.25
Dividends paid on capital stock during the year	400,000.00
Commissions and salaries paid during the year	3,224,279.89
Taxes, licenses and fees paid during the year	475,954.06
Amount of all other expenditures	701,276.94
Total expenditures	\$10,170,207.14
Value of real estate owned (market value)	593,700.00
Value of stocks and bonds owned (market value)	12,452,191.46
Loans on mortgages and collateral, etc.	1,381,125.00
Cash in banks and on hand	2,347,509.19
Premiums in course of collection written since September 30, 1917	2,405,753.85
Interest and rents due and accrued	174,428.47
Total assets	\$19,350,755.97
Less special deposits in any state (if any there be)	128,232.46
Total assets admitted in Oregon	\$19,222,523.51
Gross claims for losses unpaid	\$1,350,909.72
Amount of unearned premiums on all outstanding risks	10,979,583.61
Due for taxes and expenses	284,902.81
All other liabilities	365,504.11
Total liabilities, exclusive of capital stock	\$13,110,000.23
Total premiums in force December 31, 1917	\$20,994,242.41

Business in Oregon for the Year.

Total insurance written during the year	\$6,025,504.00
Gross premiums received during the year	108,818.74
Premiums returned during the year	22,500.49
Losses paid during the year	22,827.23
Losses incurred during the year	40,270.50
Total amount of insurance outstanding in Oregon December 31, 1917	\$4,174,408.00

By H. A. SMITH, President, Statutory resident general agent and attorney for service: PHILIP GROSSMAYER, Portland, Oregon.



“Why Some People Fail”

the use of fain tractors on farms adopted for their use is a proposition which every farmer should give his earnest and careful consideration. There is every conservable make and slope of Tractors, and the greater part of these are undergoing the try and stage of the Tractor game, so it pays to use common sense and judgment in selecting a Tractor—don't buy a Tractor for one certain piece of work—buy one that is most adopted to all classes of work—if farm labor and horse power is taken up by the use of Tractors, you must figure on the one that will meet these demands—now don't be misled by some poor imitation of a tractor—investigate "Sonison, Kill-u, Strait, Rumly" oil pull tractors—they are the kind that stay sold.

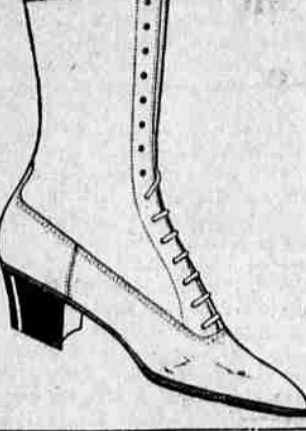
LA GRANDE IMPLEMENT CO.

E. S. NORRIS
1529 JEFFERSON STREET LA GRANDE, OREGON
Home Ind., Main 780; Union Co., Red 371

JUST ARRIVED!

NEW MILITARY SPORT BOOTS FOR LADIES.

These shoes came yesterday by express and we've just finished putting them in the shelf—already for you. These are made up in military heel, not the Cuban. They are a trifle lower than a Cuban heel, making a most comfortable street shoe, or school shoe for girls. Come in and see them any time.



We also have these Cuban heels for spring and summer.

A brown, calf, Cuban heel, welt sole, imitation tip, price \$9.00

An all-grey kid- Cuban heel, cloth top, welt sole, price \$8.50

A chocolate brown kid, cloth top, welt sole, Cuban heel, price \$8.50

A black vamp, grey top, Cuban heel, welt sole, price \$8.50

An olive drab, cloth top, military heel, imitation tip, welt sole. Price \$7.50

A brown, all leather, light weight calf, imitation tip, military heel, welt sole. Price \$8.00

A black soft calf, all leather, military heel, imitation wing tip, welt sole. Price \$7.00

A brown, low heel, calf skin, wing tip, welt sole. Price \$7.00

Olive Drab Hosiery to match the new shoes.

Fibre Silk, 85c pr.



The Girl's Fellow

A Lecture by REV. GEORGE HARRISON FEESE

—at the—

First Methodist Episcopal Church

FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 26

Prices Popular.

An address that journeys through beautiful gardens with music, flowers, fountains, sunshine, zephyrs, nooks and shades; that brightens the horizon of hope, sharpens the sword of conquest, perfects note of joy. In it love's beautiful romance is not to be forgotten.

Mr. Grain Farmer:

Are you prepared to handle your grain in bulk? Do not wait until Spring and Summer when you are buried with work and worried with labor shortage, but build your granaries now.

You can buy the lumber and roofing paper for a first-class 1000 bushel portable granary for \$54.58 and it will last for years. Sacks for the same amount of grain will cost you \$125.00 and this would be a dead loss against this year's crop.

A granary of this size can be moved anywhere and can be filled directly from the thresher, doing away with high priced labor handling and sewing sacks.

The boys in the trenches need the sacks for sand bags for the protection of their very lives and perhaps your boy is among them.

Spend your money in your own valley by buying lumber manufactured at home. When you buy sacks part of the money goes to India.

BUILD YOUR GRANARIES NOW

Be prepared by building them before the farming season opens up. Be sure to get good lumber, well seasoned, as low grade lumber will give you trouble in a few seasons. Don't use green lumber.

Save money—keep what you spend at home—prevent loss and damage from exposure to weather—leave the sacks for our boys in the trenches; help win the war by building granaries now.

Portable granaries of this type are universally used in other sections. One trip with a good team will haul the material for one granary. For particulars as well as prices on Union County lumber for all farm purposes, see

The George Palmer Lumber Co.

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.

Furniture Exchange

Fir and Jefferson E. J. DONOHUE Black 1241
Best Prices Paid for Used Furniture

RUNNIN' RISKS!

Despite the prevalence of robbery, a few continue to keep money about their homes. In thus doing they are not only risking the loss of the money, but also their lives.

How much safer and better it would be if these people would bring their money to this bank.

You're not running this risk—are you?

Never despise a small beginning.

Remember, "The Lofty Oak From a Small Acorn Grows."

Member Federal Reserve System

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON