

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 60c
The Saturday Evening Observer, by mail, per year in advance \$1.50
Weekly Observer-Star, by mail, per year in advance \$1.50



UNREASONABLE DEMANDS.

Shipworkers, according to dispatches, are going to demand one-dollar an hour, time and a half for overtime, with a half day on Saturday.

What are we coming to? Why should such a condition be permitted?

Is a shipbuilder made of superior clay to the soldier who is fighting the Hun?

Those who are agitating such demands are forcing the government (which is the people) to do what should have been done long ago, namely, to draft all labor on government work, establish government commissaries, and pay labor that is producing war materials the same pay that soldiers draw.

It was impossible to do this, so necessary was it to have ships at the beginning of the war. But such a plan is now not only possible but probable. The wise head that framed the man power bill (which is the best of all the measures) saw that there was an element of men who were going to make unreasonable and drastic demands and with the present man power bill in force, it will be easy for the government to say to every citizen of the United States "go into the shipyards and the apruce plants and work for the flag, receiving soldier's pay and soldier's grub."

Let us all halt the day when congress stiffens up its backbone to enact such a program.

Here is a picture to reflect upon:

One family lives on the south side of the street. Their boys are in France fighting. Another family lives on the north of the street and their boys of fighting age are working in the apruce plant at high wages, while those not of military age are in the shipyards drawing enormous wages.

When evening's shadows come the mother on the south side of the street sits on her porch praying to God that her boys are safe but proud of the fact that they are fighting for a just cause. She looks across at her neighbor's home and realizes the boys from that home are working in safety at high wages. How does she feel? Ask yourself? How would you feel? It would take more than the heart of a true Christian to feel that things were being handled in an equitable manner, would it not?

FOR ONE SOLID CHURCH.

As the Sabbath day grows nearer each week we are confronted with the many churches with small congregations, with ministers either gone to war, in shipyards or at some duty that will add to the material strength of the Allies during this conflict.

And when the bell on each of

these churches rings its Sunday morning welcome there seems to be a tone of sadness, of desolation, of lack of life.

The church interior no longer possesses the warmth of years ago, when a full and complete organization was always on hand. When the Sunday school adjourned and the rustle of the arrivals for church was quieted by the choir leader announcing the first hymn of the service.

It is gone. The present day church is doomed during the war period at least to suffer lack of attendance with only an occasional pulpit being filled.

And from over in France the tidings are trickling through that the great new religion of man is being born—that religion which is different, worshipping the same God, it is true, but worshipping in a different manner. It is a man's religion—a religion that will when the war is over take in every congregation of the different faiths existing and nurse them as the babe is nursed in the arms of its mother. That religion which sinks deeply into men's souls and prompts them in their every day life to live the square clean life of God's children.

Man is determining on the battlefields of France that he is truly the son of the living God and is coming into his rights as that son as never before has been known. The spiritual man is taking charge of the armies. The prayer no longer need be made on bended knee—for, after all, a good thought is a prayer, and the good thoughts preeminate in that blazing furnace of destruction which the men of America are now entering.

So, it is of little consequence while this furnace is raging, while the new era is dawning upon the world whether the little church in the lane has a minister or not. Mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, wives and sweethearts of the soldiers are breathing prayers each day in the homes. There never has been a time in history when prayer was so fervently and earnestly made to a just God. Then why is the minister in every pulpit essential? He is not.

And the probable solution of the whole matter is one church in every town where by hard work and earnest effort services may be held weekly.

Concentration of every industry is the cry, concentration of the man power and the woman power of the country is no longer a guess, and it brings us back to the idea of concentration of churches and church work.

"BURBANK" STODDARD.

Although J. B. Stoddard denies that he is a Burbank, and claims that he is no wizard of any description, the fact remains that he is the man who has propagated the seed corn which produced the field of corn for Floyd McKenna on the Sandridge, mentioned recently in the Observer.

Propagating seed corn is a task, and while we cannot technically describe the process, we do know that Mr. Stoddard has made selections of corn from Minnesota for its hardness and then has watched each spring and fall to make selections for large size of the kernel and the full ear. He has furnished the seed corn that has made good in the entire section from Elgin to Baker, and the Grande Ronde is to become a corn-producing section through the efforts of J. B. Stoddard to propagate a seed corn that is suitable for this particular climate and section.

That he has succeeded in perfecting such a seed seems certain when one looks at the McKenna corn field.

When the experimental stages shall have been past, when the crops of the Grande Ronde each year include an acreage of corn way by which manufacturers can J. B. Stoddard will be known as the man who turned this valley from a strictly wheat section to a land of allos, corn, cows and hogs. It will be then and not until then that the valley will come into her own and every quarter section of land will have a farmer living upon it.

WHO IS DOING IT?

Day after day we see in the Portland Journal long editorials arguing against the dethronement of Ben Olcott from the office of secretary of state. The Journal claims it can't be done, for the constitution is so and so.

But what the people would like to know is who is doing it?

Who are the parties that seek to oust Olcott before his term of office, for which he was elected, has expired?

If there are such people, they should soft pedal a little for we are not so sure that Olcott could not go out and get a constitutional amendment put over permitting him to hold the office for some time to come.

Olcott as a secretary of state is a great public official and anyone who has transacted public business in Oregon knows this to be true. Therefore, it is a bounden duty of the Journal to point out just who these parties are who are trying to disorganize the secretary of state's office.

THE DAY-TO-DAY DRIVE.

The greater part of a year has passed since the war-bond drive in England. Instead of selling bonds by periodical drives, the government adopted the plan of continuous sale—a steady drive with no objective point as to time and no limit as to amount. By that process it has now sold through the banks and the post office nearly five billion dollars of bonds, and to this writing the government has not intimated an intention of returning to the drive plan.

The continuous-sale plan has not been a complete success. Sales have averaged a hundred and ten million dollars weekly, while the chancellor asked for a hundred and twenty-five millions as a minimum. The stimulation of a periodic drive, with a definite goal to reach in a definite time, brings out rather more money. But the British record in the absence of that stimulation is something for us to think about. Without the excitement of a periodic campaign nearly ninety per cent of the government's expectations have been realized.

And for you it must be a day-to-day drive. Remember this: Whatever you subscribed to the last Liberty Loan you have signed a note for fifty per cent more which will fall due next October. Between expanding your income and contracting your outgo you must squeeze it out—Saturday Evening Post.

APPEALS TO EMPLOYERS.

In Union county there is a desire to get away from the periodic drive but not to follow the English custom entirely. For the War Chest is modeled to take care of all small drives in an endeavor to prevent the overhead expense in time being consumed, but the big Liberty Loan drives will continue as usual.

Col. William A. Gaston, head of the Public Service Reserve in Massachusetts, has found that young men in deferred draft classes are having difficulty in conforming to the "work or fight" regulation because employers refuse to give them jobs owing to their lack of mechanical training.

These young men, who are married or otherwise supporting dependent relatives, have been forced out of their jobs in stores and elsewhere by the draft regulation providing that they must be engaged in productive work. The consequence is that they have been placed in a serious position, which Col. Gaston is endeavoring to improve.

He has issued a patriotic appeal to employers in Massachusetts to give these young men employment, regardless of their inexperience. He suggests that it is one way by which manufacturers can do their part in the war—by enabling these young men to support themselves and their dependents while they are learning mechanical trades.

James McGrady, former president of the Boston Central Labor Union, who is associated with Col. Gaston in this work, expresses the view



People Are Now Calling For Boys Clothes

Come and investigate—Prices Unusually Low. Boys' All Wool Suits \$8 to \$17.50. Suits that are good looking and that will stand the wear and tear of school days. Boys' Overcoats \$6 to \$20. Boys' Mackinaws \$5 to \$9. Boys' Munsing Union Suits, sizes 6 to 18 years, \$1.50 to \$4.00.

Specials in Boys Accessories

Boys' Blouses	75c to \$1.25	Boys' Separate Pants	75c to \$2.50
Boys' Shirts	50c to \$2.00	Boys' Hats	\$1.25 to \$2.50
Boys' Caps	35c, 50c, \$1.25	Boys' Gloves	35c to \$1.50

BOYS' SHOES—The best constructed shoes for wear that we can purchase. Built for comfort as well as durability; all sizes and widths; black and tan; lace and button; \$2.75 to \$5.00.

Store Closes Saturday 8:30 P. M.

N. K. West & Co.

THE QUALITY STORE

Store Closes Saturday 8:30 P. M.

that the young men, most of whom are well educated and have been engaged in work considered important in peace time, will be able to learn rapidly, and that in giving them the chance the employers are not only manifesting their own willingness to help the Government, but are enabling the young men to serve where they can serve best.

Who would want to be a member of the State Tax Commission now? With a demand for ten million increase in state expenses and a constitutional amendment on the other side staring it in the face, what is the board to do? And yet, if there is a bunch of men on earth who know how to get around a sharp corner it is the boys of the Willamette valley, and the commission hales from that section of the state.

FRIENDLY CHAT

(By Bruce Dennis.)

La Grande people are scattered over the state and are following different lines of work. Whenever one runs across a La Grander, however, the hailing sign is given and no matter what the business is on hand, it is dropped and a visit follows.

Recently the writer in skirmishing around, bumped into several La Grande people in different parts of Oregon and Washington and it was a pleasure to know that every one of them is getting along very fine.

Down at Marshfield while we were walking along the main street, a very fine automobile came to a stop before us, and there was Clint McCormick and his wife, happy as the Pacific coast eland on a sunny day. They are running the only and official jazz band of Coos Bay. They have it leased until eternity and use it to give jitney dances all the way from Myrtle Point to Sunset Bay.

Clint is looking well, admits that the soft breeze off the ocean has caused his hair to grow more luxuriantly and lays claim to being a good looking young man, full of pep and energy. His first question was "how is Joe Carr and the rest of them up at La Grande?" And then followed a long visit, which reviewed the happenings in Union county for the past year.

Mr. McCormick was formerly owner of the Club cigar store.

At Oakland, Oregon, we met E. C. Moore, who for years was connected with the O. W. R. & N. company at La Grande. His friends here at one time dubbed him "Spud" Moore because he believed there was a fortune in potatoes. Mr. Moore and family are located on a nice little ranch in the edge of Oakland, the great turkey producing section of Oregon. They have a large acreage of prunes, some fine sheep, and are getting along well. One daughter, Miss Gertrude, is attending college in Los Angeles, while Margaret is at home doing the fall canning. The little girl, Maudie, is also at home, but the two boys are in the shipyards at work. Mr. Moore formerly had poor health, but he is feeling splendid now, he says.

Auntie and Uncle Berry, who have been living at the Multnomah hotel in Portland for a number of years, have removed to a cottage where Auntie can boil a mess of cabbage to her own liking and where Uncle Berry can sit under his own vine and figtree. They both say they are much more contented. Their hearts are still in La Grande and one of the greatest pleasures is to review conditions here when the town was young and snappy.

John Leighton, a brother to Bob, of the Leighton garage, who worked here several years ago, is driving a rural mail route over in Washington, out of the town of Cape Horn. He grew tired of steam engines and machine shops some time back and made a deal with his Uncle Sam to handle the mail on a route that runs through the hills. That was before war was declared and men of his ability in steam were not so much in demand. His friends believe that he will be drafted from the mail route and put to work setting machinery in the new ships on the Columbia before long. He is happy, with his little Metz car, and does errands for the ranchers along with his mail service.

FORUM

ABOUT CITY WATER.

LA GRANDE, August 24.—Editor Observer.—Will you kindly permit space for a word of comfort to the water-users of La Grande who have all felt the seeming unkindness of our City Fathers, in charging with Shylockian exactitude, every extra drop of water used on a war garden. We never dreamed that they were planning such a far-reaching generosity and pleasant surprise for us while they were teaching us economy of water by the shortest method conceivable, they at the same time were planning to turn over all this unearned sum collected for a little extra water, which cost the city no extra expense, to the Red Cross for bandages and things for our boys, who, we hope, will get to know that for many of these little comforts they have to thank our astute city manager. The little bird that whispered all this sits high up in the branches watching future developments, which in due course will be recorded.

Yours truly,
L. GARRICK.

We buy for cash all School Books that have been used, such as are used in our public schools, if they are in good condition.—Silverthorn's.

Daily 8-23 If

Silverthorn's
FAMILY DRUG STORE
LA GRANDE, OREGON.

GO TO THE BEE, THOU SLUGGARD, CONSIDER HIS WAYS AND BE WISE.

The most important thing about a bee is not his stinger—but, that he is a "Saver," while the fact that he is also a stinger is the next most important thing about him, as you have probably had reasons to experience.

If you adopt his plan on saving, and make our bank your hive, you are less liable to "get stung" by some "get-rich-quick" scheme.

You can't lose if your money is deposited in our bank. We take every precaution to protect your money; we carry burglar insurance, have fire-proof vaults, and bonded employees.

Member Federal Reserve System

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON

SPECIAL

Economy Caps 25c per dozen

As long as they last

Harris Furniture Store

H. B. HARRIS, Proprietor
406 FIR STREET
PHONE: Red 3171.

ADVERTISING IS INSURANCE

An advertiser's advertisement is his voluntary agreement to do certain things. Good business policy, law and public opinion require that an advertisement-agreement be fulfilled. This serves as a protection to the buyer of advertised goods.

If, by chance, you have an experience with the deceptive selling practices or misleading advertising, please report it to us.