

LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

An Independent Newspaper

Published Daily and Weekly at La Grande, Oregon, by La Grande Evening Observer Publishing Company.

BRUCE DENNIS, Publisher.

Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as Second Class Mail Matter.

Address all Communications to The Observer, 1710 Sixth Street.

City and 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, Oregon.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Carrier
Daily, per month65c
Daily, per three months\$1.95
Daily, per six months in advance\$3.75
Daily, per year in advance\$7.50
Daily, single copy5c
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 month50c
The Saturday Evening Observer, by mail, per year in advance\$1.50
Weekly Observer-Star, by mail, per year in advance\$1.50



Wall Street Envises the Western Farmer.

For a quarter century public speakers and the press have placed Wall Street bankers in the spotlight as profligate spenders and guilty of all the crimes that bloated finance begets. But now comes the New York World with a confession to the effect that the effete east is losing its grip on such extravagance and crime and cites for example the farmers of Nebraska as an example of what the western people are doing. The World says:

"Nebraska has fallen from its early moral grandeur. It now boasts of owning more automobiles, according to population, than any other state in the union. The time is past when in the wind-swept west any person who rode in a motor car was denounced as a 'plutocrat' and the vehicle of the malefactor of great wealth who fattened on the toil of the honest farmer. It was the symbol of the billionairess whose palaces lined Manhattan's avenues and whose yachts rode proudly in the waters of Newport. Populists grew great by denouncing this criminal class that waxed sleek by the sweat of others' brows.

"But today it is Wall Street's turn to be envious of the western farmer. It is not raising wheat of which the future price is fixed by the government at a lucrative figure. It rides to business in Mr. Shonts's subway when the line is not tied up, and is glad to pay a nickel for the privilege. Illinois claims over \$800,000,000 of farm products; Iowa runs Nebraska close second for the automobile record, and grain, hogs and cattle are creating new financial centers beyond the Mississippi where Liberty loans are over-subscribed the first week.

"If the west is not on its guard its fall from grace will result in giving it a reputation no better than that of the narrow street in New York City from which all crimes of this country have been supposed to be engineered. In its exceeding prosperity let it beware lest it provoke poverty-stricken Wall Street to declare for government ownership of railroads, confiscation of private property and the stripping of the farmers who live by clipping coupons from their bonds and spend their incomes in gasoline and tires."

Germany Souawks and Squeals When Down.

Former Ambassador Gerard recently addressed a meeting of several hundred New York women. In the course of his talk certain questions were asked him as to the fairness of various proposed methods of dealing with Germany. In reply Mr. Gerard himself asked the following questions:

"Was it fair for Germany to sit in prison?"

"Was it fair to devastate France and Belgium?"

"Was it fair to take 20,000 babies like you in this audience and compel them to work and live with Prussian troops, with all that implies?"

"Was it fair to sink the Lusitania?"

"Was it fair to sink unarmed merchantmen and murder the sailors?"

"Was it fair to do any of these things contrary to international law of which Germany has been guilty?"

He then added: "There is no contrition in Germany. So far we have heard only the souawks and squeals of the bully when he is down."

There will be steady pressure exerted by means of all possible German propaganda, to arouse a feeling of undeserved pity for Germany. This is exactly the policy that the ad-

ministration of peace terms there still may be some sort of split between the allies and the United States. It is well that such words of these of Ambassador Gerard's be taken as a warning so that there may be no mistaken pity expressed for Germany.

Mr. Gerard did not begin to name over the list of Germany's unfair and premeditated assaults upon the peace and safety of mankind; and when the peace congress determines her final punishment, its decisions, severe as they may be, should have the undivided support of all the decent people in the world.

Human Greed Responsible for All Trouble.

It is said that greed has been responsible for every great disaster, from the flood to this last war. The building burns and lives are destroyed, because the greedy owner would not pay for proper fire protection. The excursion boat turns turtle because too many tickets were sold. The concrete building of improper construction collapses, the dam on which somebody collected a little graft breaks down with the result that lives and property are destroyed; and so on through all the list of public catastrophes.

That this great war arose purely because of greed there is no question. That greed is the most dangerous element with which the peace conference will have to contend is unquestionably true.

Fear of this most human of failings was at the root of the suggestion to sink the German warships. To pursue this course in regard to them is to fly from a common foe. There is some method for their disposal which will operate fairly toward everybody. This is the thing to be sought. If it implies the yielding of a point here, the conceding of something there, so much the better, for the world will then be on the highroad to generosity and the dispassionate adjustment which must be the standard of human dealings if peace is to rule from now on. The disposal of the battleships may well be made a test case of the practicability of peaceful division or co-operative possession. They they should be sunk would be a confession of the superior power of Waste and Greed.

End of the World—Has It Come?

There is a good deal of discussion nowadays as to whether the kaiser is in truth the "Anti-Christ" spoken of in the Bible, and whether the "wars and rumors of wars" do not portend the second coming of Christ and the end of the world.

It is a fact that in almost all religious bodies there now exists a rather strong feeling that the time is ripe for a new Teacher to come forth. Some believe literally that it will be Jesus in the second ministry foretold in Scripture. Some believe that it will be another Teacher, no less great, teaching the same truths taught by Buddha and by Jesus, but with another emphasis suited for this other time. Some look for him immediately, but others believe that it will be nearly the end of the century before the present chaos will have quieted sufficiently so that he may be heard.

From one point of view the end of the world has already been accomplished. There has been no literal destruction of the visible universe, or even of our little earth. But all the ideas, beliefs, prejudices, political systems which made the world of the past have been consumed. Thought in every line is new. The springs of life have been quickened. From the ashes of the fires of old hatreds and misunderstandings is sprouting a new era. The old world is indeed gone. The tender shoots of the new plant must be fertilized with faith. They must not be stunted with old dullness or incredulity. We, who have been born again in the baptism of fire of the past few years, must tend and nourish this new world. And to do it we must cast off the old garments and clothe ourselves in mental and spiritual vestments suited to the time.

It is reported that Mrs. Wilson directs the household affairs at the Mar-a-Lago palace, and she also supervises every menu, to see that the President gets proper food which he likes and which will be good for him. This is not a criticism, but a delicate tribute to the skill of those famous French cooks, upon whose delicacies a man is prone to dine not wisely but too well.

Non Bernatuff says she was opposed to the German policy which led to the break with America. But it is noticeable that he did not choose to stay here and become a good American. He preferred to go back to Germany and take his place as one more bad German.

That league of nations is a big idea, but it isn't a new one. The Thirteenth Column was a league to enforce peace, and the British can testify that it was successful right from the start.

The Y. M. C. A. must be getting to be a queer little trust. The Los Angeles Times says it sells more chairs than any other concern in the world.

January Clearance Sale

Begins Saturday, Jan. 4th

This great sale offers to you a big saving on the Best, Newest and Most Desirable Merchandise. Thousands of dollars' worth of the highest quality merchandise at lower sale prices than "others'" sale of broken lines and odds and ends.

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MYSTIFIED

McAdoo, I wish you'd told us (Ere enthralled you ceased to hold us)
With the way you tackled problems far too many for one man.
How on earth, in such a jiffy,
Though you were not, stowed or squiffy,
You succeeded so in piecing the established railway plan.

McAdoo, I do respect you.
How could pa-in-lay expect you
To manipulate the duties of the treasury and all?
Any of the jobs unloading
Oh you, would have discommoded.
Any ordinary mortal that our memories can recall.
McAdoo (I want you to go).
When he saddled you and his
With a truckload of portfollos to muddle as you might.

Was it that he thought you brash?
Or desired a royal taxi?
Who would do the master's bidding every hour, day or night?
Treasury and railroads too
And express—heck, McAdoo!
To the man he tried to make of you I hoist my sovle lid.
As it's we're mystified
That, with all the jobs you tried,
You found time to ball the railroads up as fully as you did.
STRICKLAND GILLIAND.

THE ELEVENTH HOUR

The figure eleven has assumed a place in history that will not soon be forgotten. It will be remembered that the fighting in the war was stopped at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Some one was anxious enough to look up the eleventh verse of the eleventh chapter of the eleventh book in the Bible, and the result was:

"Wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant, and my statutes which I have commanded thee, it shall not be given to thee."

The quotation is from the book of Kings, eleventh chapter and the eleventh verse.—The Chariot.

Mary Pickford and Fatty Arbuckle tonight at Astoria. Adv.

MONEY TO LOAN.

On improved real property in Union county. No delay. Current rates. J. A. Grande, Investment Co.

The Observer acknowledges the receipt of a poem entitled "The Kaiser's Talk to Hell," sent in by a reader. The poem does not appear in print, however, for the reason that it has been previously printed in this paper.

Roy S. Stanfield has returned to La Grande after a visit of a few days in Walla Walla.

"Still Alarm" at Star tonight. Adv.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

We have now resumed making our famous Blue Stem Patent flour, which has been off the market for some time, and it is now handled again by all dealers.

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Musterole is a clean, white ointment made with oil of mustard. It is fine for quick relief from sore throat, bronchitis, tonsillitis, croup, stiff neck, asthma, neuralgia, headache, congestion, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and aches of the back or joints, sprains, sore muscles, bruises, chilblains, frosted feet, colds on the chest (it often prevents pneumonia). Nothing like Musterole for croupy children. Keep it handy for instant use. 30c and 60c jars; hospital size \$2.50.



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