

## LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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## September 17 Is Constitution Day.

Tomorrow, September 17, is the birthday of the Constitution of the United States, an instrument which Gladstone, the English statesman, said was "the grandest work ever struck off at a given time by the hand and brain of man."

Although the date by reason of its supreme significance deserves the dignity of a holiday it passes by year by year with scarcely a thought and never with anything beyond the slightest recognition.

But the constitution was not built in a day and it did not come through any spontaneous inspiration. Its provisions were debated and pondered over almost line by line and when it reached its finished form it ran the gauntlet of acceptance by the thirteen original states by a narrow margin.

A wise provision was that of changes and amendments which would become operative by the concurrence of two-thirds of the states. Some of the constitutional amendments have been of far-reaching importance, such as the Fourteenth Amendment, which removed the color barrier to the right of franchise, but still limited the voting privilege to males over the age of twenty-one years. The franchise feature will be the essence of a new amendment not yet fully ratified by the required number of states, but which will guarantee the voting privilege to all citizens of legal age regardless of sex. It will be known as the "Equal Suffrage" amendment.

One of the amendments adopted not long after constitution went into effect, would ordinarily be supposed to come under the head of trivial amendments, and it is in fact in the way of what many people consider would be an improvement in court practices—the doing away with the trial of trivial cases which cost money to the taxpayers who do not become entangled in courts. But the Constitution says that any case involving the value of twenty-five dollars or more shall be submitted to trial before a jury.

But on the whole it is a great document, designed to protect the weak as well as the powerful, and designed to guarantee political liberty and equal rights to all.  
It is a document that keeps green names of George Washington, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, Rufus King, John Jay, Edmund Randolph, the Pickneys and other members of the great convention of 1787.

## Mexican Authority Divided Among Many.

A man printed recently by the New York Times, based on the latest information as to political conditions in Mexico, shows the absurdity of Carranza's pretension as the sole governing power in that country.

It appears that the territory which Carranza actually controls—that is, in which he exercises more authority than any other leader—amounts to about half of Mexico. It is not a solid block, either, but consists of two irregular areas, one extending north and west of Mexico City and the other embracing the peninsula of Yucatan, with a big stretch between.

Besides this "federal" area held, more or less strongly, by the Carranzistas, there are no less than seven other distinctly recognizable areas controlled by other leaders. Villa and his followers hold the great state of Chihuahua; south of the upper Rio Grande, in northern Durango and the western part of Coahuila. The Yaqui Indians are supreme in most of Sonora, all but the upper stretch along the United States border. Cantu has Lower California. The Felicistas hold out against Carranza in the southern part of Tamaulipas, adjoining Tampico, and Pelaez rules Tuxtepec, south of Tampico. These rivals dispute the control of the rich Tampico oil region with each other and with Carranza. Zapata is supreme in Puebla, south of Mexico City, and another rebel band holds away in Oaxaca, between Puebla and the Pacific.

Thus Carranza is merely the biggest of many chieftains. If the rest could unite under one leader, they would evidently be at least as powerful as he.

His government deserves consideration as the nearest approach to a national government there is in Mexico, but that is all. He has shown a lack of force sufficient to suppress his rivals and a lack of diplomacy sufficient to enlist them under his banner. He has alienated those who should be his friends and supporters, just as he has alienated most of the outside world.

One of these days he will drop out of sight; and then chaos will probably come again, until a real statesman appears, or the United States steps in and clears things up.

## A Women Advocate of a New Party.

Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton, President of the Ohio State Suffrage Association, foresees the necessity of a new political party for the women of this country, if the present parties are to divide so sharply on party lines that legislation which is for the good

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of everybody is to be held up easily.

"Women know," says Mrs. Upton, "that it is not right for the father to toll unceasingly while the family barely subsists. Women are saying, 'If the political parties cannot be divorced from beef and steak without dying, let them die.'"

According to Mrs. Upton, the party which wants the woman vote for its policies has got to show some real results in solving the problems which are distressing the country today—the cost of living, the danger of war and all the things which make life harder for every-day people.

It is a fair warning fairly issued, and the leaders of both parties should take it to heart. There is coming to be a great body of women voters, and women "want what she wants when she wants it." Why is going to get it for her—Republican or Democrat? Or will she be forced into getting it for herself?

## GERMAN ACTIVITY AGAIN EVIDENT IN VENEZUELA

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Sept. 16.—American travelers who have recently arrived here from Venezuela report that there are open evidences of renewed German activity in that country. Many Germans have been arriving in Venezuela during the past few months and German commercial travelers are reported particularly active. They represent all lines of industry.

## KOLCHAK BREAKS BOLSHEVIEK FRONT

LONDON, Sept. 16.—Admiral Kolchak, in pursuing his offensive against the Bolsheviks, has broken their front in three places, according to official information reaching here Monday. The progress of the all-Russian counter movement, it is stated, threatens to outflank the Bolshevik forces advancing from Tobolsk.

## ESTONIANS TO TALK PEACE WITH SOVIETS

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 16.—The Estonian government has accepted the Russian soviet government's offer to enter into peace negotiations.

deciding to message received here from Rev. The first meeting is to be held at Petchory near Pskov.

## BURLISON CHARGED WITH VIOLATING CIVIL SERVICE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Former Civil Service Commissioner Gallop today told the senate postal committee Monday that when a Democrat made a lower rating in the contest for appointment as postmaster at Buffalo, N.Y., than did a Republican, Postmaster General Burlison asked for a reclassification which removed the ratings and gave the job to the Democrat.

The committee is investigating the row between Mr. Burlison and Gallop, which recently culminated in Gallop's resignation from the civil service commission with the statement, that Mr. Burlison was "debauching the civil service."

## WILL ADVERTISE PARK-TO-PARK ROAD

HELENA, Mont., Sept. 16.—H. W. Child of Helena, president of a Yellowstone park transportation company, has set out to spend the winter advertising the park-to-park road system which this state is advocating. Not only has he sent one of the transportation company cars on a run to New York City, as a trail-blazer, but he is making arrangements to establish a route between Chicago and Florida summer resorts with his cars everywhere his service will advertise the parks of the west and endeavor to get tourists to turn this way next summer.

Mr. Child has also arranged with a tourist company of New York City to use ten of the park cars in a transportation service including New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore and Florida resorts.

A few days more for ice cream and cold drinks. You will find the very best that can be made promptly and properly served, at Silverthorn's.

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LA GRANDE, OREGON.

**SALVATION ARMY TO MEET**  
Miss Olive Childers, La Grande, beloved Salvationist Adjutant, will conduct the meeting in the Salvation Army hall tonight at 8 o'clock. All are invited to attend as a good spiritual jubilee is promised.

## WANTS HIS MONEY BACK.

"I do thank Mr. O'Brien, a neighbor for my recovery from severe colic attacks and stomach trouble that nearly forced me to cross the river Jordan. I spent thousands of dollars in the past nine years for doctors and medicine and would have died but for my neighbor's advice to use Mayr's Wonderful Remedy. I wish I had the money back I spent for other medicine." It is a simple, harmless preparation that removes the catarrhal mucus from the intestinal tract and allays the inflammation which causes practically all stomach, liver and intestinal ailments, including appendicitis. One dose will convince or money refunded. Sold everywhere. Adv.

People attending such a meritorious entertainment as that presented by the Harvey Greater Minstrels; a company of forty people, pay a small war tax on every ticket and thus help the government, besides receiving temporary relief from their cares and worries. They will be at the Arcade theatre Monday, September 22. Adv.

Little Liver Touchers are just what all families should keep on hand for a general laxative or physic. "80 Liver Touchers" for 25c, at Silverthorn's Family Drug Store. 9-16c

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Good Hay, \$30 and \$31 per ton.

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**New Novelty Sweater Yarn**

Very effective in colors and quality. This entire shipment of

**MINERVA YARNS**

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**DYEING INFORMATION**

that will guide you in buying your yarns

Your failure to purchase a full quantity of Yarns at one time necessary to complete the garment may do an injustice to yourself and us as well.

It is an impossibility to dye two lots of a shade near enough to be used in the same garment, and very often the beautiful effects obtained only through the use of and by the very superior qualities and richness of colors are ruined through inadequate purchase by you. We are not responsible and are not capable of supplying you with a few balls to finish your garment.

**BLANKETS!**

Just in—two big shipments of BLANKETS being unpacked today. Cotton Blankets, Wool and Woolnap Blankets—there are dark and light colors, in dozens of different patterns and at all prices. We invite your inspection now, and want you to be prepared for the cold nights. Prices \$2.00 up to \$11.50.

BABY BLANKETS, in Woolnap, size 30 in. by 40 in. and 36 in. by 50 in., in different patterns of blue and white; some have the scalloped edge, others are plain. Prices 90c to \$1.50.

**NAK West & Co**  
THE CLOTHING STORE

TONIGHT—Wallie Reid in "Alias Mike Moran."

**ARCADE HIPPODROME**

**VAUDEVILLE**

**TOMORROW**

JEAN PAMM—The Panorama Kid.  
MILLER & HENDRIX—Blackface Comedians.  
MOORE & GERY—A Comedy Conglomeration.  
BROOKS & SOARES—A Chinese Novelty.

Fox Comedy—  
"ROARING LIONS AND WEDDING BELLS."

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New Cookies for the kiddies school lunch—  
Getting Eagle Valley Peaches now—  
Whole and Ground Spices, in bulk—  
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Little White Pickling Onions, 15c a pound—  
Holly Apples for Jelly and Baking—  
One Pound Ryzon Baking Powder, 40c—  
Italian Prunes, 6c lb. by the box—  
1000 Sheets Tissue Toilet Paper, 2 for 35c—  
4-lb. sack A. J. Pancake Flour, 55c each—  
Swiss and Cream Brick Cheese, just in.

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—is another

The La Grande Evening Observer

is in dire need of clean cotton rags suitable for cleaning machinery. Carpet rags, Lace Curtains, Overalls and socks are not acceptable.

**PRICE 3c Per Pound**