EDITORIAL PAGE

The Observer

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

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

Address all Communications to
THE OBSERVER, 1416 Adams Ave., La Grande, Oregon.

CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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	75c	Daily, per six months in advance	$4.50
Daily, per three months	$2.25	Daily, single copy	5c

By Mail

Daily, per year in advance	$6.00	Daily, three months in advance	$1.50
Daily, six months in advance	$3.00	Daily, per month	50
Weekly Observer-Star, by mail, per year in advance			$1.50

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the local news published therein. All rights of re-publication of special dispatches here are also reserved.

THE NEEDED THING.

There is no longer use to boost ourselves up with our boot straps and proclaim that "things are getting better" for the fact is stubborn and pertinent that business conditions are bad, very bad. When La Grande sees the boards stripped of railway employes, when she sees the ranchers in the position they are in, when she sees the lumber business down and out, it is folly longer to claim that just around the corner the band is playing and big doings will soon overtake us.

Bankers of the East insist that the worst is over, but when the worst is over in the East it usually takes quite a while for the change to occur on the Pacific coast. The Observer believes that we have a slow period ahead of us. Yes, it will be slow for some time to come. It will get steadier as people realize they have lost money and settle down to put their house in order and take that loss. There will be a more solid foundation as the losses are wiped out and men who had made paper profits awaken to the fact that it was but a dream.

It is mightily interesting to watch the men from over the state drift into Portland. Many of them a few months ago were positive they were worth a handsome fortune, and even some were rated near the million mark. Today they are realizing that the ready cash, which after all is the essence of it all, is hard for them to obtain. They find when they talk of putting up securities to get money, that those securities and property which they would hypothecate no longer command the respect of the money centers, and they are turned down with regularity at every financial institution they visit.

During war times many men were hooked up in lines of business that did not profit but were hard hit, and those men look on now with wonder at the fellow who was so flush with wealth a short time ago. While a few months ago, those not making money were wondering what was the matter with them and indulged in quite a little self-criticism, now they see the game of life in a different manner, for the war times did not bring out business judgment or sagacity—it piled up paper wealth for men in certain lines without effort on the part of those men.

But present conditions show conclusively that what was so lavishly and quickly given can be as quickly taken away, and that is the process now on.

So, we can expect close times. It is the program, and there is no use trying to dodge it. The whole remedy for the upset conditions of affairs now is for everyone to go to work at something. If the tradesman finds his trade lagging and unable to employ him, get something else to do. This is a time when the watchmaker may find employment in a foundry or the artisan may labor to make the ground produce. Be what it may, take the first thing that shows up and work.

"In life we are in death," was brought forcefully home to all of us when the untimely passing of Mrs. Merton Kiddle occurred this week. She was a grand woman, a noble wife, an ideal mother. Taken right in the prime of life, it seems hard to realize that her home is bereft by loss of wife and mother. As the birth of the flower destroys the parent vine, her life was given to the end that another life might be started. To the husband and daughters who are left in deep mourning, the sympathy of friends is given with the full realization that in such a time nothing can be said that will in the least measure heal the aching hearts, and that time alone can partially heal.

Perhaps Governor Olcott will veto all salary bills, including his own, a lot of the appropriations as well, and thus bring the expenditures of Oregon down to her income. Let us all hope so. Should the governor do this, he will be a man to reckon with politically for all future time. Should he fail to do it, he had as well announce immediately his intention of not running for the office of governor again.

FORESTS ESENTIAL.

Three measures dealing with forestry have been introduced in the New Hampshire legislature. In its annual report to the legislature, the state forestry commission called attention to the fact that one-third of all the land in the state is waste land, idle and unproductive. Formerly it was covered with excellent timber, and it would be again if the state were wise. What it would mean financially to have all the idle land reforested is indicated by the fact that another third of the state, which is forested, is now yielding the state a gross return of $15,000,000 a year.

The proposed legislation provides for the establishment of a new state forest nursery, for dividing the state into fire protection districts with a fire-fighting force in each district, and for a tax levy of 2 cents an acre upon private owners of timber land to create a fund for additional fire protection.

Aside from the sale value of the timber itself, such forest lands as the state already owns and as it is hoping to develop would control the watersheds of practically every important river in New England. Indirectly then, the New Hampshire forests affect all New England.

Many towns of the state own municipal forests. A reservation of 430,000 acres known as the National Forest is maintained in the White mountains. The state has purchased 6,000 acres in another section. Altogether there are 65 reservations of some sort in the state, with plans for additional reservations soon.

Substitutes have been found to fulfil a few of the uses of wood after it is cut. There remain the natural uses of wood after it is cut. There remain the natural uses for which no substitutes can serve, such as the protection of watersheds, the shelter of wild animal life and the sheer beauty and loveliness which made the poet call the groves God's first temples. It is encouraging to find state after state and many smaller communities aroused to the need for preserving what forests are left and for establishing more.

THE FINE PIECE OF CO-OPERATION.

Three railroads promptly followed the example of the railroad brotherhoods and offered free use of their equipment for transportation of the surplus corn donated by American farmers to the needy population of Europe, the Near East and China. Other railroads are expected to follow suit as fast as is necessary. The farmers who gave the corn will haul it themselves to the elevators. The elevator companies have offered to do the storing and loading into cars free of charge, just as the mills have pledged themselves to grind the meal.

All this means that transportation from the farms to the seaports is assured for the grain donated to the relief organizations. Free use of the government emergency fleet, including officers and men of the naval reserve, is now sought, and will probably be granted.

It was a big thing the farmers started. Whether or not their gift could be utilized depended entirely upon the generosity of transportation lines and other branches of the distributing system. Apparently every group involved is answering the call to service promptly and fully so that, unless some unforseen hitch occurs, one more splendid example will be given the world of what can be accomplished when many men pull together in a common cause of generosity and service.

The Bookworm

Mary A. Nichols,
County Librarian.

H. G. Wells' "Outline of History" undoubtedly has raised more comment and discussion in the four short months it has been off the press than any book for many moons. It is a commentary on the life of the earth from the Stone Age to A. D. 1920. It is really a philosophy of history dealing with ages, races and nations where the ordinary history deals with reigns, pedigrees and campaigns. Mr. Wells has a faculty of being provocative. Whether you agree with him or not you must admit he has daringly attempted a super-human work in an unique way. It is remarkably easy and interesting to read.

Place your name on the "reserve" list for this at the public library. The librarian has never been able to fathom the reluctance of the public in this locality to make use of the "reserved" list. Is it bashfulness? It is the only way to make sure of getting hold of the book you are anxious to read and to keep a worth while book from lying idle on the shelves. This reserve list is open to anyone in the county.

Are you doing any traveling this winter via the "easy chair" route? "See America First" is a good slogan and we can offer you the following excursions which are quite new on our shelves:

Johnson—What to See In America.
Faris—Seeing the Far West.
Yard—Book of the National Parks.
Chase—California Desert Trails.
Muir—Mountains of California.
Mills—Spell of the Rockies.
Murphy—Oregon, the Picturesque.
Strahorn — Fifteen Thousand Miles By Stage.
Lummis—Some Strange Corners of our country.

Coming in the movies! These stories have been booked to appear in the local movie theatres. Why not read the book from the public library before seeing the picture?

King—Street Called Straight.
Wiggin—Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm.
Furnelle—My Lady's Garter.
Ward—Marriage of William Ashe.
Stevenson—Treasure Island.
London—Sea Wolf.
Grey—U. P. Trail.
McCarthy—If I Were King.
Cooper—Last of the Mohicans.

The Wonderful Tigris.

From Bagdad to the sea, more than 600 miles, the Tigris is navigable for any boat not drawing more than about eight feet. River steamers go to Bagdad, though they often run aground on the shifting banks.

First Use of Music Notes.

It is not known exactly. In the first half of the Thirteenth century notes of definite length were introduced. The first real school of composition was in Flanders, William Du Fay being the first of the composers of this school. He was born shortly before 1400 and died in 1474.

For Those Who Wear a Truss—

Make up your mind and decide right now that you are going to settle for all times the minor difficulties you have had with your truss. If you will consult with us we will give you the advantage of our experience and expert truss fitting service, by adjusting your old truss to a more comfortable and secure position if it is possible to do so. Or we can sell you a new truss and guarantee it to give you the longest wear, proper tension, and accurate comfortable adjustment.

Silverthorn's
FAMILY DRUG STORE
LA GRANDE, OREGON.

A Liver Lives Lives Longer—

It is a lucky liver that gets one of our Little Liver Touchers. It's an inactive liver that causes you to feel drowsy and thoroughly worn out. Liver Touchers will make you feel quite different and quite fit. As a stimulant tonic for disorders they are most effective. 80 for 32c.

Silverthorn's Family Drug Store.

2-26-tf

THE OFFICE CAT

—By JUNIUS—

OUR PEST HOUSE.

Weary Willie and Sleepy Ike,
Met one day on a dusty pike,
"I fear," said Bill, as he shook Ike's hand,
"They have oodles of smallpox in La Grande.
We had better not stop but go right by,
If the small pox we caught, you know we might die.

"No pest house have they, just a rickety shack,
And the nice icy breezes float in through each crack,
With poor traveling gentlemen, like you and me,
They would put us right there you can very well see.
Now, we like home comforts, although we are bos,
You never can judge a nice gent by his clothes.

"We had better stop in, as we journey along,
And suggest to the Fathers that things are all wrong,
They might, in the course of the next year or so,
Decide they would build a four-room bungalow,
Or, maybe, a house with a hall running through,
And three dinky rooms on each side would sure do.

"Now, where should they build it? I think we will say,
The Park site would be dandy, so out of the way,
Wheen tourists inquire what the residence is,
'Just the pest house, dear friends.' Is that right. Gosh all gee whiz,
Let's beat it, who ever heard doings like these,
We surely had better camp out 'neath the trees.

Or, say, we might put it up under the hill,
Up there it could surely do people no ill,
But, then, as the breezes float over the town,
It might blow some pimples on folks of renown.
On thinking it over, I fear we're not able,
To settle the question—let it rest on the table."

Post-Mortem Jokes.

Quite an interesting article, we fancy, could be written on "The Humor in Wills." For example, take this passage from the will of Lord Pembroke: "I bequeath nothing to Lord Say, because I know he will bestow it upon the poor." Or this: A Lancashire gentleman bequeathed an ounce of modesty to the editor of the London Journal, explaining the small quantity by saying that he was "convinced that an ounce would be found more than he would ever make use of."—Boston Transcript.

Whale Meat Resembles Beef.

The meat of the whale extends in great boneless masses, in uniform quality, from the base of the skull to the tail fin. In appearance it is similar to beef, but is somewhat coarser in texture. Its flavor is said to suggest venison. One of the best "cuts" of the whale is the heart, which weighs 3,000 pounds.

"As Fine as Silk."

Some New York merchants were gathered around a luncheon table "talking shop." A silk merchant admitted conditions with him were "rotten," following which his right-hand neighbor, a leather dealer, remarked that his business was "as fine as silk."—Boston News Bureau.

No Magic in Prosperity.

Springs may bubble over but buckets have to be filled. As much water can be taken from a bucket as is put into it. Likewise prosperity has to be created before men can become prosperous. He who refuses to help create prosperity deserves none.

Pledged as collateral for State or other bills payable .....
Owned and unpledged .....
War Savings Certificates and Th
ually owned .....
Total U. S. Government securiti
Other bonds, securities, etc.:
Bonds (other than U. S. bonds) p
postal savings deposits .....
Securities, other than U. S. bond
stocks), owned and unpledge
Total bonds, securities, etc., o
Stock of Federal Reserve Bank
subscription) .....
Value of banking house, owne
bered .....
Furniture and fixtures .....
Real estate owned other than ba
Lawful reserve with Federal Re
Cash in vault and net amounts
al banks .....
Net amounts due from banks, ba
companies in the United Sta
Items 11, 12 or 13) .....
Checks on other banks in the s
as reporting bank (other than
Total of Items 12, 13, 14, 15,
Checks on banks located outside
as reporting bank and other

Playing the Game.

The New York cop had just overhauled the bandit who was speeding away from the jewelry store, his hands full of gems. "No fair!" protested the burglar coyly. "You didn't count a hundred before you started after me." (Profuse and embarrassed apologies from the cop, who calls off the chase.)—New York Sun.

Through Life's Pilgrimage.

And thus ever, by day and night, under the sun and under the stars, climbing the dusty hills and toiling along the weary plains, journeying by land and journeying by sea, coming and going so strangely—to meet, and react on one another, move we restless travelers through the pilgrimage of life.—Charles Dickens, in "Little Dorrit."

To Bore a Conical Hole Through Wood.

When you have a conical hole to bore, such as for a handle hole in a wooden maul or other similar place, leave the cutter of an expensive auger bit a trifle loose and begin boring at the side where the smaller end of the hole is wanted. The inner edge of the cutter lip being angular, the cutter will gradually draw itself out from the body of the bit, making the hole larger as the bit goes into the wood.—Popular Science Monthly.

The Beauty of Lichens.

The famous "Crimson Cliffs" of Greenland, which extend for miles, derive their splendid color from red lichen. They rise 2,000 feet from the water's edge. The Golden Gate in the Yellowstone owes its name to the yellow lichen of its lofty walls.

Dye it the Latest Fashionable Color

Last fall, when the summer season was over, you looked ruefully at the summer hat, which had done such good service. It really was a little the worse for wear, but you wrapped it up in tissue paper, putting it in a band box on the attic shelf. "Perhaps it will do for a starter in the spring" you thought, didn't you? Well, it will, with a little brightening up.

Get it down and look it over. You can brighten up last summer's hat wonderfully and even change the color, if you wish, with a bottle of

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS
HAT BRITE

Made in the prevailing fashionable colors for each season. One bottle colors the usual straw hat. Also excellent for wicker furniture, baby carriages, lamps, basketry, and all woven reed or straw articles, also canvas and leather novelties, ladies' footwear, etc.

Call and let us show you samples finished with the various colors.

Red Cross Drug Store

STAR Today Sunday

HARRY CAREY

in the finest and most human Western Drama he ever made

"SUNDOWN SLIM"

From the famous Novel by H. Herbert Knibbs

"He was the ramblin' son with the nervous feet,
That never was made for a steady beat.
He'd been on the bum, and he'd lived in style,
But, there was the road, windin' mile after mile,
And nothin' to do but go!"

A GREAT UNIVERSAL SPECIAL ATTRACTION

Also Special Two Reel Comedy
"A SEASIDE SIREN"
with
FAY TINCHER
And the "BEACH VAMPS"

Clocks Repaired

WE CAN MAKE YOUR CLOCK KEEP TIME.
—ALARM CLOCKS—
Cleaned and Repaired, 75c to $1.50.
Eight-Day Mantle Clocks Cleaned and Repaired $1.50 to $2.50.
Chime Clocks Cleaned and Repaired, $3.50 to $6.00.
—WE WILL SAVE YOU MONEY—

Siegrist & Co.

Largest Jewelry Store in Eastern Oregon

Keep This Fact In Mind

—Many clothes are ruined by too much heat in ironing. The clothes are scorched and therefore weakened.

A laundryman who thoroughly understands his business uses extraordinary care to prevent such scorching. We take that care.

ALL WORK GUARANTEED.

The Modern Laundry