

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

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.....50c
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 RAILROADS MUST OPERATE.

If the railroads are broke, as many believe; if they are con-
scientiously cutting down their labor in order to be able to pay
those who remain in their employ, no one can criticize them very
much. If, on the other hand, they are slashing their pay rolls
to teach labor a lesson, as quite a few think they are doing, then
the duty of the government is plain and the demand for immedi-
ate action is imperative.

The Observer confesses that it does not know what is going
on. We are not of the large financial mind that can tell just
what condition the railroads are in after the Esch-Cummins law
has been in operation.

This much we do know: The railroads must operate. They
must haul the produce of the country. They must carry the
passenger traffic of the country, and they must do it efficiently
and properly. To do this requires labor. The curtailed list of
employees as it now exists can not take care of the country's busi-
ness unless there has been gross extravagance in the past, which
we do not think has existed. In other words we do not believe
five men have been employed when there was but need for one.

The rise in freight rates, while it sounded good to the trans-
portation companies at first flush, has found its economic base
that everything finds, namely, that the goose laying the golden
egg has been slaughtered. Lumber, the great tonnage provider
for northwestern roads, has been ruined and paralyzed by the
advanced freight rates. The roads have been taught the painful
lesson of getting an article so high that no one can buy it.

In answer the railroad officials assert they must have the
advanced rates or they cannot pay their expenses, and going fur-
ther they say, without the business we will have to curtail and
close every possible department, a process which is now on.

The whole problem becomes more complex when we read the
deficits of railroads passed up to the government.

As to the working out of the detail to make the properties
pay, we will confess that the undertaking is a huge one. Perhaps
there is watered stock and perhaps there is not. That is largely
a matter of viewpoint, for the argument is good on either side.
But one fact remains patent and firm: The railroads must op-
erate, and to operate properly they are going to need more men
than at present employed. With the first flush of business in-
crease employment must increase. Rolling stock and power can
be run for about so long without overhauling and repair, but that
is not long. It would seem that the darkest hour in railroad
work is with us and that the future must show up better.

THE PRICE MR. WILSON HAS PAID.

America takes the life out of her public men. No man can
serve the public without paying the price. The best illustration
of this statement is the condition of Woodrow Wilson, now ex-
president of the United States.

We are told that he is a gray, tottering, broken down old
gentleman whose withered hands shake as he reaches for his
walking stick. He has paid the price. America has taken from
him his energy, his strength, and now that he is out of office
he is a wreck with but a short time to live.

But Mr. Wilson led the parade for a number of years. His
word was law, his gesture meant action; his demands were met,
his commands were obeyed.

No one can enjoy such distinction without paying something
for it. There must be a return payment made for everything
received in this world, but somehow as we stop to think of Mr
Wilson hobbling down the steps of the White House it does seem
that he has paid too heavily—that we have demanded too much.
And this is said by a newspaper which has usually disagreed
with the Wilson policies.

JIM LINN'S RANCH.

We notice in Johnnie Kelly's "Those who come and go" column
of the Oregonian, that Jim Linn, of Salem, has gone out to his
ranch at Bend. Nothing very strange about this, except that it
recalls a bit of conversation the writer had with Mr. Linn regard-
ing land values and land ownership. He told us of his magnifi-
cent ranch near Bend, of the good livestock he had on it, of the
beautiful setting of the place, and closed his remarks by saying,
"but I can't make a dollar off of that ranch."

Our reply was that he was not entitled to make any money off
of land unless he lived on the land. In this remark we did not
jump at conclusions. We have noticed in many instances pro-
fessional men and city men buying farms, expecting to make
money from operating them, but not content to live on the land.
Providence has taken care of that feature, and you can't beat
Providence at her own game.

Farms will not make money for anyone who does not make
the farm a home. Farms render safe investment for money—
abundantly safe, but there will be no dividends to amount to any-
thing unless the land is nursed and cared for by the owner. You
can figure it any way you choose. You may have the best of
renters, you may have it drawn out on paper so that returns will
be large, but when you finally add up and strike a balance you
will find you cannot live in a city and expect to farm by proxy
and make money.

Mr. Linn is finding this out with his Bend ranch, and he is
but one of thousands who are learning the lesson of the land.

Nothing is so good as land for the farmer.

Thank goodness the style court has convened and decided the
corset for women shall not be abolished. This will help straighten
things out, anyway.

THE OFFICE CAT



—By JUNIUS—

HERE'S PROOF OF IT.

I saw her in the ball room,
A figure most divine,
A shape that Venus might have liked,
Superb in every line.
I saw her at the seashore,
The contrast made me sigh,
I cannot help believing now,
That figures sometimes lie.

Many families here in La Grande
live on the European plan—they are
always fighting.

PROVIDED IN THE MEANTIME
CONGRESS DOESN'T AUTHORIZE
A HALF PENNY COINAGE
When profiteers land in the region
infernal

To hoil for each ill-gotten dollar
and dime,
Counting profits should be their em-
ployment eternal,
In rosy-hot pennies—just one at a
time.

The Ku Klux Klan we're interested
in are the blamed clucks who eat their
heads off and won't lay an egg.

Roy Flexer says that although busi-
ness in some lines may fall down, the
hold-up business holds up.

POPE.

You sing a little song or two,
And you have a little chat,
She makes a little sandy fudge,
And then you take your hat
You hold her hand and say good-night
As sweetly as you can—
Ain't that a hell of an evening
For a great big healthy man.

THASS RIGHT.

"There ain't a chance in the world
for the girl that wears oversize stock-
ings," observes the Arkansas Thom-
as Cat (Hot Springs.)

VITAL STATISTICS.

Dictographed out on Z avenue:
"I see by the papers," remarked
ma, "that every fourth child born is
a chinaman."

"I don't see anything to worry
about," replied Colonel Cootie. "We've
only got two kids."

It would be easy to get Bergdoll
out of Germany if that country would
engage in another war.

A CONFESSION.

As I lay in bed one morning
And gazed upon the wall,
The spiders and the ants
Were having a game of ball.
The score was one to nothing
The spiders were ahead,
When all at once my wife came in
And yanked me out of bed.

L. C. Smith says that he don't
know a helluva lot. But that he does
know that Hard Work is as big a fac-
tor as Religion in keeping a man out
of trouble.

much right to wear a short skirt as
well as a well built girl, but it cer-
tainly looks to me like abusing a privi-
lege.

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard
For some beer to quench her thirst.
But, when she got there,
The cupboard was bare—
The old man had got there first.
We suppose a skinny girl has as

A CALL-DOWN TO THE BOYS.

(By A Popular Girl.)
My man, you make a great mistake
If your remarks imply
That you suppose we wear our clothes
To please the masculine eye.
If a woman should dress to please the
men,
And ne'er, her own preference declare,
She'd be clothed, I'm afraid, like a
cannibal maid,
In a smile, with a flow'r in her hair.
It don't seem to me you have room to
complain
Of those gaudy garments of ours,
For the thinner they are, the more
amorous by far
Are your attentions and candles and
flowers.

If such be the case, that you really
respect
The girl bundled from head to her
shoe
In warm wollen clothes, yet you fol-
low the gauze,
What should be our opinion of you?
I think that you criticize just to find
out

Just how much attention we'll pay,
But you'll learn to your cost, when
our respect you have lost,
That we still dress our own filmy
way.

10 lbs. hard for \$1.75 at Fre People's
Market.
2-62-1f

BLACK CAT DARKENS CITY

SMALL KITTY YIELDS LIFE

ELECTRICITY IS HALTED

ASTORIA, Mar. 7.—It was a cow
that caused the great Chicago con-
flagration but it was a cat that put
the Pacific Power & Light company's
plant out of commission for a half
hour Saturday and left the city with-
out electrical juice for the same pe-
riod. The cow was burned by reason
of its impertinent feat and the cat like-
wise perished in distinguishing itself.

A common, ordinary, black tomcat
with an inquisitive and adventurous
disposition walked out on the rack
holding the horn gaps which carry a
22,000-volt lightning arrester at the
Astor street sub-station of the P. P.
& L. A short circuit resulted that
interrupted the city's electrical ser-
vice until a broken insulator could be
replaced.

MAYOR OF LIMERICK

IS KILLED IN HOME

DUBLIN, Mar. 7.—George Clancy,
mayor of Limerick, was killed in his
home, and his wife wounded, at

Coffee May Harm You— POSTUM Cannot

And Postum is a fully satisfying
meal-time beverage which all the
family can drink with benefit—
as many cups as desired.
"There's a Reason"

ANOTHER HELPING FOR ALL The Whole Family can Dine for a Day for a Dollar

From Grand-pa down to "Buster," these delicious meats are thoroug-
ly enjoyed by the whole family and, like Oliver Twist, they ask for more.
Mother appreciates these meats most of all; because they are conven-
ient to handle—they are easily and quickly prepared;—there is no
waste; and she can keep a quantity on hand for emergencies.
She knows too, that Uncle Sam's guarantee of purity is behind every
can and that she pays less than pre-war prices for this nourishing can-
ned corned beef and corned beef hash.
Insist on YOUR dealer getting you a supply of this wholesome food.
There's a legitimate profit in the sale for him (wholesale prices listed
below) and a considerable saving for YOU.

THE WHOLESALE PRICES—
are printed below. They will give you some idea of what you
will save on your purchases.

CORNED BEEF HASH.		CORNED BEEF.	
1 lb. cans.....15c per can	No. 1 cans.....15c per can	1 lb. cans.....15c per can	No. 2 cans.....27c per can
2 lb. cans.....29c per can	4 lb. cans.....18c per can	1 lb. cans.....18c per can	8 lb. cans.....\$1.00 per can

TABLE OF DISCOUNTS.
Discounts to apply on all purchases of surplus canned meats on
and after November 15, 1920, are as follows:

\$250 to \$1,000.....	not
1,001 to 2,500.....	5 per cent
2,501 to 4,000.....	10 per cent
4,001 and over.....	20 per cent

The government will pay freight on cartons lots to any point
in the United States located more than 100 miles from ship-
ping point.

CUMULATIVE PURCHASES COUNT—
When purchases reach \$20,000, 24 per cent net to prevail;
when purchases reach \$100,000, 28 per cent net to prevail;
when purchases reach \$200,000, 32 per cent net to prevail;
when purchases reach \$1,000,000 and over, 35 per cent net to
prevail.

MINIMUM ORDER ACCEPTED, \$250—
Buy it by the Case
WAR DEPARTMENT CANNED MEATS

about the same time as Michael O'
Callaghan, former mayor, was killed
at his home.

Announcement

OLD-TIME DANCES
will be given in Rex Hall on
Thursday evenings. Nothing
but the graceful, old-time
dances will be danced. Music
by Lindner's superb orchestra.
Everyone enjoyed the first
dances; be sure and attend
those to be given. Lessons
by appointment. Call Main 42.
Mr. & Mrs. P. J. Powers

DANCE

TUESDAYS
SATURDAYS
Ticket Given Each Daily Dancer for
Prize—To be Given Away Each
Tuesday Night.
Drawing at 10 o'clock.

REX HALL

N. A. Desilet, Mgr.

L. J. AKER
Attorney and Accountant
Income Tax Adviser

Formerly Income Tax In-
spector, Portland Office,
U. S. Internal Revenue Ser-
vice.

Specially equipped to han-
dle problems involving
sales of ranches and other
investments.

Specialist on Corporation,
Partnership and Large In-
dividual Returns, Estate
Taxes and General Reve-
nue Matters.

Main Office — Suite 524
Idaho Bldg., Boise, Idaho.

N.W. West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

Displaying the New

IS A PLEASURE WITH US.

Spring Opening Week

AT THIS STORE.

This store has made a great effort this season to
feature the values that are the very best of their kind
that can be offered. Because prices have reached new
low levels, it does not mean that quality has been sac-
rificed—quite the contrary, in fact. It means that the
merchandise we carry now must be of the utmost in
quality and actual worth. The fact that we have
lower prices only makes it possible for everyone to
afford better quality.

Our entire stocks are of the finest standard quali-
ties and the prices which accompany them mean econ-
omy practiced to the very best advantage.

With this in mind, we are conducting a splendid
SPRING OPENING at this store now. You will feel
well repaid for an early visit

CARR'S CARR'S

Where your Credit is Good Use it

COMPLETE HOMEFURNISHER

La Grande, Oregon

SOMEONE HAS JUST WHAT YOU WANT—TRY AN OBSER-
SERVER CLASSIFIED AD.

AUTO BARGAIN

FOR QUICK SALE—\$1000 (About one-half value) takes
my Nash touring car, run only 4740 miles. In splendid
condition and perfect running order. Bumper, spotlight,
extra tire and other accessories. Call on, write or phone to

Chas. A. Bingaman,
IMBLER, OREGON.

Gill

One-Piece Piston Ring

CHEAPER FARMING

Tractors are subject-
ed to tremendous wear
and tear, yet they must
be kept going all the
time.

Gill Piston Rings will
add power to your mo-
tor, increase its effi-
ciency, and save gas and
oil. They pay for them-
selves in a few months.

For Sale by
**LEIGHTON'S WELDING AND MACHINE
WORKS** R. W. Leighton, Prop.