

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 three months.....\$2.25
Daily, per six months in advance.....\$4.50
Daily, per year in advance.....\$8.00
By Mail
Daily, per month.....75c
Daily, per three months.....\$2.25
Daily, per six months in advance.....\$4.50
Daily, per year in advance.....\$8.00
Weekly Observer-Star, by mail, per year in advance.....\$1.50

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WHAT IS A STRIKE?

We have all been taught that a strike is a fearful thing. Even legislation has been offered to prevent strikes. But what is a strike? You say immediately, when men cease work in a body. Yes, but is not a strike something else, as well?

When men quit work in a body, of their own accord, we all say they have pulled a strike, but when men are laid off by the hundreds, is that also not a strike?

When the buying public decided that things were too high and ceased buying, the buying public struck.

When the sawmills refused to run at a loss because of the excessive freight rates, the sawmill operators struck.

And so it is clear down the line. The railroad managers are laying off men by the thousands. The men are idle. Did the men strike? No, but the railroads did. Idleness results, no matter who does the striking.

It is quite likely if the railroad workers had planned and carried out a condition such as at present, forcing the amount of idleness that now exists, the national congress would meet to find some way to prevent the "strike," but again we say the results are the same, whether the railroads do the striking or the men do it—for idleness stalks abroad in the land, causing stagnation of business and misery.

We believe that the handling of the word "strike" will have to be done in a little different manner than in the past.

PAUL SPILLMAN AN EXCEPTION.

Union county had Paul Spillman as county agent for some time. He was a good agent, a graduate of O. A. C. and did a lot of good work here. But Paul was much more than the average graduate of colleges, for he possessed that old-time desire to do something worth while for himself.

He was not content to be on the pay roll of Union county, for he knew well that pay rolls never give a man much more than a living, so he planned for his future, and today he is operating one of the largest wheat ranches in the state.

Right here it might be well to once more say what the Observer has often said before, namely that it is strange how many young men we send to O. A. C. and how few farmers develop. We do not mention this in a way of criticism, but somehow when we see the magnificent plant at Corvallis, witness the thousands of students, talk with the management and the faculty, we wonder why the instinct and desire to farm ceases after a boy from the Grande Ronde valley attends the institution for a year or two.

Paul Spillman is the exception. He knows the worth of a farm. He looks with sheer pity on the lad who insists on sticking around town when this great big country is open to him and the nation is crying out for young men to take the places of farmers who have grown old in the service.

If the Oregon Agricultural College could find some way to make farmers, it would be the grandest institution on the coast.

VERY MUCH OUT OF ALIGNMENT.

The Grande Ronde valley is facing a perplexing problem. Farmers know not what they will receive for wheat. They have based their labor price at \$10 a month and board. Men naturally do not want to work for that wage if they can do better. The road work seems to be heaving in sight, and while the scale has not been set, it is presumed that it will be around \$4 a day. This will prevent farmers from getting the labor necessary to grow crops without raising their wage scale, which in turn will force a loss to the farmer on cheap grain.

Certainly an unbalanced condition.

UPSIDE-DOWN JUSTICE.

Her Honor Florence E. Allen of Cleveland, first woman judge in America, recently indulged in some plain speaking out of court about the criminal bond system as she has observed it, and gave the following example:

"The other day a man came into my court with a smile on his face. He sat down in the defendant's chair and was tried for robbery. The man was well dressed, and had been out on bail.

"Another man was led in. He was the prosecuting witness. His clothes were wrinkled and his demeanor was sullen. He had been kept in county jail 100 days as a witness because he had informed the police he had been robbed of \$7.

Can anyone imagine a more ridiculous perversion of justice? The man whom he had accused, and who was ultimately found guilty of the offense charged, was allowed to go free pending trial, while the man of the witness was compelled to suffer imprisonment merely to insure his presence in court when the case should come to trial. The law permitted this injustice because the wrong-doer had influential friends to sign his bond and the wronged man had not.

This is but one of the many ways in which the bond system, as ordinarily practiced, operates with undue leniency on one people and with undue severity on others. The least that can be said against it is that it is undemocratic, because it makes money and personal influence the keys to freedom, whereas in theory the courts are presumed to treat all human beings alike.

THE OFFICE CAT



—By JUNIUS—

Self-Preservation.

We intended to lead off this column today with a sort of Doc Crane inspirational lay, telling how to be happy, though lacking in self, but it sounds so convincing we'll try it out.

One of these days some enterprising cartoonist is going to sum up the situation by depicting capital and labor on opposite ends of a teeter board.

Many a fat society matron, who spends hours a day trying to reduce, would be surprised to find how easy it would be if she'd only grip a mop and swing it around the kitchen floor a few times.

It's a curious thing that the woman who has ten blessings to one affliction will get more enjoyment out of worrying over the one than enjoying the ten.

A pessimist is a chap who has had too many dealings with an optimist.

The girl who is fishing for a husband is about as impatient as the man who is fishing for a cat fish. They both imagine every nibble is a bite.

Speaking of Nature.

"What is more natural," asks somebody or other in a woman's magazine, "than for woman to wish to retain her place in the industrial world?" Nothing, dear writer. It's just as natural as for a bald-headed guy to demand a seat in the front row at a burly-Q show.

Which is the zenith of naturalness?

When it comes to rough-house stuff, this nation stands foremost among the roughhouses. We lynch more citizens, pick more pockets, sell more wildcat stocks, shoot more husbands and walk on more grass than any other people in any other country on earth.

Hunger Strikes of History.

Adam—Hungry for an apple.

Noah—Hungry for an oyster and only two oysters on board.

Alexander—Hungry for more worlds to conquer.

King Solomon—Hungry for a little domestic peace.

Helen of Troy—Hungry for a full length mirror.

Francis Bacon—Hungry for Shakespeare's fame.

Patrick Henry—Hungry for liberty or death.

Almost anybody in 1921—Hungry for a good drink.

To sick men every trained nurse under forty-five is a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

A maiden of years thirty-three. Would say: "Men don't interest me."

But just the same, when the subject was men, she'd giggle: "He, he, he, HE!"

"Why do they have knots instead of miles on the ocean?"

"So they can have the ocean tide."

Get something for nothing and you'll never cease paying for it.

Kind o' curious, isn't it, about money—less the filthy stuff is worth, the harder we scramble to get it.

By the way, the Hartford City (Ind.) News speaks of a "near-automobile accident." Guess the make.

Fashion Notes.

(By Uncle Jarve.)

A lady of the period, dressed in the height and depth of fashion, was crossing the street between the two drug stores when she came to a big mud, by force of habit, she grabbed long dresses and as she stepped in the mud, by force of habit, she grabbed her modern skirt and raised it 7 inches.

Several of the boys standing on the walk fell in a dead faint and when their Uncle came to he was at the hospital surrounded by his immediate relatives, his lawyer and the minister.

The latest creation in ladies' underspeakables is a broad elastic band to be worn around the center of the body, the waist and skirt is to be attached to the band and the combination makes a quick-change device that is perfect—while walking with Auntie or the minister, the waist can be fastened to a collar button under the chin and the skirt hooked to the shoe tops, and when out with "Chollie" or on the street where the old bald-headed rubbernecks congregate, the outfit can be brought back to normalcy by simply touching an electric button.

The elastic is guaranteed not to break and great care is taken in its manufacture in order to protect the innocent bystander.

Never mind—about a year from now Germany will be scraping up the money to pay her income tax to the Allies, and that will help some.

Europe is turning all its paper into money. It sometimes seems to newspaper publishers that all the money in America is going into paper.

Avoiding "Coin" and "Coop."

"Coincidence" is the way a recent writer spells it. Excellent! Now if authors and printers will quaternize we'll get rid of some more of those awkward looking words beginning with "co."—Boston Transcript

Romance of Paper.

When our forefathers were roasting on Chinese were reading books printed on paper fashioned from the bark of the mulberry tree or of other sprouts. The Moors introduced paper in the twelfth century into Spain.

SWEATERS
All kinds—Jersey and
Knit.
\$2.00 to \$11.25

NEW Silk & Co.

One Week Until Easter Shop Tomorrow

NOT A MOMENT HAS BEEN LOST IN SHOWING THESE

NEW SILK Underthings



—Pretty ENVELOPE

CHEMISE in flesh, pink,

lavender and white, of

Georgette Crepe, Crepe

de Chine and Dainty

Wash Silks. Various

trimmed and embroidered;

also many are plain

with narrow shoulder

straps. Among the new-

est are those of lavender.

Prices range from \$3.00

up to \$6.00.

—Camisoles in dozens of

styles — of Georgette

Crepe and Fine Wash Satins, embroidered and plain. Navy blue, flesh and pink. Prices from \$1.50 up to \$3.85.

—KNICKERS are the most pleasing in variety. There are lavender, silver gray, white, pink, flesh and pongee. Lovely quality materials; range in price from \$3.00 to \$5.75.

—The Department Grows Each Day—Watch It!

CHILDREN'S COATS

—The little Miss has ample selection here, as well as her mother; from the toddler of two, to the school girl of fourteen, we are prepared to cloak the little ones with all the taste you could find in exclusive "children's bazaars"—and at prices affording signally good values.

—Every mother is invited to bring the daughter here and inspect these new arrivals.

—Prices from \$5.45 to \$12.00.



EASTER

Footwear

—To insure you being properly outfitted before Easter. — Next

week will be the final shopping week, and in the rushed days our

salesmen cannot justly give you the attention you may require.

—We urge you to shop in the morning, when possible.

BUY EASTER

Blouses

TOMORROW!

—Beautiful exclusive models in Georgette and Crepe de Chine Blouses; especially for wear with the Easter costumes. Ready for your thorough inspection tomorrow.

—Several new and distinct models arrived yesterday and were put on display for the first time today. Prices are from \$4.75 up to \$12.50.

REPORTS ARE CONFIRMED

STOCKHOLM, Mar. 18.—Reports that the fortress of Kronstadt, the center of the revolution against the soviet government, has been taken by the Bolsheviks, appear to be confirmed in dispatches from Finland. Trotsky, the Bolshevik war minister, directed the assault on the fortress, using 60,000 men.

MRS. SPRECKLES, JR., IS GIVEN DIVORCE

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 18.—Mrs. Sylvia Wirt Spreckles has been granted an interlocutory decree of divorce from John D. Spreckles Jr., wealthy clubman, by Superior Judge E. P. Shortall, who heard her charges of cruelty and desertion. Spreckles did not contest the suit, but was represented at the trial by counsel.

A property settlement was made out of court. Counsel refused to disclose the amount, but admitted that it was "substantial."

WATER BOND ISSUE LOST IN THE DALLES

THE DALLES, March 18.—The \$250,000 water bond issue voted

upon here Wednesday to determine whether or not the city water plant should be enlarged, was defeated by more than two to one. A light vote was cast.

E. E. BRODIE WILL BE URGED FOR MINISTER TO SIAM

Oregon City Man To Be in Washington Soon, As Is Also Daniel Boyd, Of Enterprise.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—E. E. Brodie, of Oregon City, who has just been elected president of the National Editorial association, is expected to stop in Washington on his way home for a conference with the Oregon delegation.

It is understood that Mr. Brodie will be presented to President Harding while here, and will be urged for minister to Siam, which post some years ago was held by an Oregon man and which it is hoped may again be procured for a son of Oregon.

Daniel Boyd, of Enterprise, Ore., is also expected to arrive here this week for a conference with the Oregon delegation as to his appointment to a position in the diplomatic service of some South American country.

GIVES PERMISSION TO PIPE WATER TO HOMES

At the meeting of the city commission Wednesday evening it was decided to grant the petition of residents along First street for permission to lay a two-inch water pipe to

convey the water to their homes. The residents agree to do the work and take their payment in water rent.

UNION COUNTY WILL NOT TAKE PART IN DRIVE

Only Voluntary Contributions of Grain to Far East Relief to Be Sent From Here.

No canvass will be made for wheat and other grains for the far east relief fund, according to a decision arrived at by a meeting of the local committee last night. The committee reached this decision after thoroughly discussing the matter, deciding that at present the Union county farmers are not able to contribute heavily to such a fund, although no cash donations were asked, only donations of grain being asked.

Farmers and others wishing to contribute voluntarily can do so and the committee will see that the contributions are properly forwarded.

The matter has been under advisement for some time and last evening's meeting was the result of a thorough investigation into the matter by the committee.

The members of the committee are Frank McKennon, chairman; C. B.

Miller, secretary; A. W. Nelson, H. K. O'Brien, and J. E. Reynolds. Messrs. McKennon and Nelson were absent at the meeting last night, but it is understood that they favored the stand taken.

AUTO CRASHES INTO STREETCAR

SPOKANE, Mar. 18.—One woman was killed and another perhaps fatally injured, and two persons seriously hurt and two less seriously hurt when an automobile containing five women and three men crashed into a street car. The automobile party was returning from a dance at a road house.

The summer days are rapidly approaching and you will want to line up at our soda fountain where you can always get the best ice cream sundaes and all other drinks it is possible to make. Al Cain will be right on hand to wait upon you at the

Palace Confectionery Co.

3-18-21

Do you make the grade of a trying day's work free from fatigue? For those who lack reserve strength and energy

Grape-Nuts

is the ideal food.

This sturdy blend of whole wheat and malted barley is rich in the very elements required to build and maintain health and strength.

Ready-Cooked—Easy to Digest Economical

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