

# The Observer

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## BE THE FIRST WITH AIR STATION.

La Grande has an opportunity to lead with an air station for government planes. This has been demonstrated from the manner in which the matter has been treated by the department which is now in the market for proper landing fields in Eastern Oregon.

The contest is between Burns and La Grande, with chances greatly in favor of this city. This will mean if it is secured as the base, the home of the fire patrol ships which will guard all Eastern Oregon forests during the fire season. It will mean the establishment of a landing field for the air mail planes soon to operate between Salt Lake and Portland, and later for the planes that will branch off to Spokane via aerial mail.

These advanced things are coming—they are almost here, and the town that gets in now and makes good with the government will be the town that will hold the places when air service becomes almost as common as railroad service.

The city commission at its meeting last evening expressed a desire to assist in every way possible to secure a landing field, and the commission is to be encouraged for its far sightedness in this matter. The air travel is a reality. Let La Grande be the great airplane base of the inland country.

## STRAIGHT FORWARD AND UP-STANDING.

President Harding's message is a gem. It is straightforward. It is encoined in the common American language of understanding. Nothing about it carries a double meaning. He plainly tells the world where America stands; that the league of nations is not to be considered by this nation; that peace with the Central Powers shall be established soon; that Europe must take notice now that this nation will insist on our rights and no more veiled diplomacy will be countenanced.

On internal business President Harding does not wash over the surface, but in firm words draws the attention of America to the seriousness of the present situation. He insists upon a more comprehensive war tax system, urges solution of the railroad problem so that freight rates and railroad expenses may go hand in hand in the general downward trend that is apparent.

Probably the most important of all the good things which Mr. Harding utters is his foreign policy. And it is so simple, for it means that Uncle Sam will attend to his own business and asks the European countries to do likewise. He insists on this country having what is her rights, but plainly tells Europe to take care of her side of the ocean and we will do likewise.

The Harding message is the great balance wheel for the present period. Every American citizen can go to work with a will now that we realize there is safety, justice and firmness in the administration at Washington.

## UNDER THE NEW LAW.

Farmers of Union county are to meet Saturday for the purpose of organizing a holding company so that wheat may be marketed along different lines.

This will be done under the new law passed by the Oregon legislature permitting co-operative organizations and giving them protection by the state.

It is understood that a six-year contract will be entered into by the farmers to sell their grain to no one except the co-operative syndicate.

The plan seems feasible and it is presumed the farmers will look to the safeguarding of their organization. We mean by this that proper men will be placed in charge and that the old feature of human selfishness will be reduced to the minimum in organization. There never has been a time that farmers could not have controlled the business of the country if they had stood together, but too often leaders in movements had the innate desire to profit too heavily.

Long experience should have cured this defect, however, and the new co-operative system should function.

## "DISCRIMINATION."

Germany's complaints of stagnation in trade, of discrimination by allied countries against German goods and of the resultant difficulties of national rehabilitation in the face of a hostile world have commanded much sympathy on this side of the Atlantic. To many Americans it has seemed a shame that a great people, whatever the error of the past, should be denied opportunity to work out its business salvation unhampered by the prejudices and jealousies of neighbor nations.

But nowhere are Germans more unpopular than in the United Kingdom and no nation has been criticized so bitterly by the Germans, before, during and since the war. It is interesting, therefore, to note that in the year 1920 Germany exported to England goods in the sum of 155 million dollars, and imported from England goods worth only 195 million dollars. It is evident that, as far as the United Kingdom is concerned, Germany's complaint of discrimination can carry but little weight. Perhaps it is just as well that sentiment rule world relations.

ships, it would be generations before the war's wounds had a chance to heal, for sentiment would bar all intercourse. Trade, however, compels intercourse, and everyone knows how difficult it is to hate persistently any individual with whom one comes in frequent contact.

Commercial interests have, no doubt, caused many wars even as they caused this last and most terrible one, but it is indisputable that they have prevented more. Germany may complain of discrimination to her heart's content, but her complaints will not count. The trade which is in process of creation will presently silence even such complaints.

## THE OFFICE CAT



—By JUNIUS—

We have been waiting all day for the "Scenes From A Union Depot," Bridal Couple, to buy those 25 papers of us, telling of their wedding, but up to the time of going to press, they had not appeared. We had depended on that money to take our own girl to the show and treat her to a chocolate malted milk, and we feel very badly. But, we will not censure them. We are in love ourselves and know that it makes us flighty and forgetful.

### Song of Self-Restraint.

I've never been given to cruel guffaws  
On beholding some other chap's woes.  
For instance, poked fun at some geezer  
because  
He's equipped with an oversize nose.  
Say one is so cross-eyed both ways  
he can see,  
Or, perchance, he has stammered  
since birth,  
Is he cross-eyed to furnish amusement  
for me?  
Does he stutter to stir up my  
mirth?  
Fun, based on misfortune, is going  
too far.  
But—though I'm aware 'tis a sin—  
When a fat guy's potato sack busts  
on a car,  
I confess, I can't keep back a grin.

We have been asked why the Office Cat is occasionally omitted from the Observer. The answer is simple yet full of truth. Whenever anyone in the composing room gets mad, they kick out the Office Cat. That's what becomes of this column, sometimes.

### Expenses.

Rich man, twin six. Poor man, six twins.

### Beloved Hypocrites.

The woman who says: "I haven't a thing to wear."  
The woman who says: "Why, I think it is simply stunning."  
The girl who says: "I shall never marry."  
The girl who says: "He is merely a friend."  
The boy who says: "Yuh'll never catch me tyin' up to no jane."  
The boys who say: "What? Her? Not me, bo."  
The man who says: "Darling, I never looked at another woman."  
The man who says: "You don't realize how hard I have to work to earn that money."  
The old man who says: "We marched 200 miles that day, and I drove the enemy back."  
The old man who says: "When I was a boy, I," etc. etc.  
Any Governor who says: "I defy my opponent to point to a single crooked, etc."  
The opponent who says: "I defy the governor to point to a single honest," etc.

A local doctor reports that he cured a patient with failing memory a few days ago, and then the patient went away and forgot to pay his bill.

Times have changed. These days when the average person gets an invitation to a "hard times" sociable it isn't necessary to ransack the attic for old clothes.

Ten volumes of poetry on the beauty of snow cannot outweigh a single word on the ugliness of slush.

Two drunks were riding on a street car. One of them took out his watch and the other one asked:  
"What time 'it?"  
"Tuesday - his - afternoon," was the reply.  
"Well, this is where I get off then."

Why is it that there is always a hole in a fellow's socks when he makes up his mind he wants a pair of shoes?

There was once two cats from Killegny.  
Each thought that was one cat too many.  
So they scratched and they bit,  
And they growled and they bit,  
'Till, exceptin' their tails,  
And the tips of their tails,  
What was left of them cats wasn't emy."

By close observation a local mar has found that it is easy to be a real philosopher if you don't have a personal interest in the thing that is going wrong.

J. H. Keeney opines that the two early bird catches nothing but a cold.

Trivial Accident Brings Disaster.  
The gyros moth has caused a great deal of trouble in this country, and much money and energy have been spent in the effort to exterminate it. The trouble started when a French naturalist named Trouvelot, residing in the town of Malden, Mass., left a paper box containing gyros moth eggs on a window ledge and it blew off that was in the early eighties, and he was making experiments with various kinds of caterpillars as silk spinners.

## MANY MEMBERS JOIN SOCIETY

ORGANIZATION FORMED TO PROMOTE POULTRY INDUSTRY

Association Will Encourage and Protect Its Members, as Well as the Dealer and Housewife

E. M. Jensen, president, and E. S. Shultz, secretary-treasurer of the Eastern Oregon Poultry Producers' Association, report to date that they have signed up a great many of the egg producers of Eastern Oregon, and fully expect to sign up seventy-five more members in the next sixty days.

By-laws are being drafted that will safeguard the members and give them the cheapest possible source of poultry feed and supplies. The local trade and the consumer will benefit by being supplied with good fresh eggs and poultry, according to these officers. Members' products will be so stamped and their guarantee so placed that the housewife can be assured at all times of fresh and wholesome eggs and poultry. Membership cards are issued to each member which guarantees recognition by the dealer in poultry supplies. These cards also safeguard the dealer in that the holder is a bona fide member of the association and is interested in seeing the poultry industry become a formidable business in Eastern Oregon.

The Eastern Oregon Poultry Producers' association organized in La Grande the 27th day of March for the purpose of promoting the poultry industry in Eastern Oregon and to help remove a few stumbling blocks that hinder the poultry man's progress and deprive him of the benefits he should receive. This will be done by encouraging its members in the breeding and keeping of larger flocks of standard bred or pure bred poultry, by better housing facilities, a much needed factor in this climate, will so encourage economical and skillful feeding methods, by co-operative buying of poultry feeds and supplies. Co-operative storing, distributing and marketing its products thus eliminating the manipulator that devour the profits.

The association recommends the holding of poultry shows and will extend its heartiest support to the poultry agents of the county fair. Their motto is "Progressive business methods and fairness to all."

## SAYS CRIME IS ON DECREASE

SALEM, April 14.—There is no occasion for alarm over the present much heralded "crime wave" in this country according to Jesse Webb, life term in the state prison here, and editor of the "Lead a Hand" the prison publication. Statistics compiled by Webb, in connection with his work as editor of the prison paper show that while the in the ten years prior to January 1, 1921, the number of convicts received at the prison in that period was actually 40 percent less than the receipts for the preceding ten years.

The peak of the prison population Webb's figures show was reached in April, 1918, when 565 prisoners were incarcerated in the state prison and the low water mark was reached on September 15, 1919, when only 243 prisoners were in the penitentiary.

That prohibition has had its effect on the prison receipts is shown by figures to the effect that prior to 1915, when the state was voted

## STAR

SATURDAY — SUNDAY



WILLIAM RUSSELL  
The Iron Rider  
By Frank L. Packard

Also  
CLYDE COOK  
DON'T TICKLE  
A Two Real Scream.

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It is advisable that you make your selections early because assortments are refreshingly complete now. Prices vary so greatly that it would be impossible to quote a range here. You are invited to see these garments now—feel free to inspect them thoroughly.

**SALE OF NECKWEAR:**  
—See one of our window displays now and you will realize what exceptional values there are in this special lot of new lace neckwear. A special purchase makes possible this exceptional price. Over 12 dozen to select from, and your choice at 50c.

**GREY  
LA FRANCE SILK HOSE,  
\$2.50.**  
—First shipment of this famous make in months, comes in a very popular shade of grey. Considerable lower in price. All sizes now, at \$2.50.

dry, an average of 250 men were received at the prison annually, whereas since that date, the number has decreased to approximately 150 annually.

In proof of the refutation of the statement that the recent war is responsible for the so-called "crime wave" Webb points out the fact that only six ex-servicemen have been received at the prison her.

Of the 345 men in the prison at the present time, 58 are serving life terms, and three of them—Jim Owens, Jack Rathle and George hang.

**TRACK MEET ON SATURDAY FOR HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES**  
The annual inter-class meet of the La Grande high school will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the fair ground. Much interest is being manifested in the event this year and

Earl Reynolds, coach of the track squad, expects some good records at the meet. About 40 athletes will participate.

## CREAMERY IS SOLD AGAIN

George C. Hopkins, who disposed of his interest in the Blue Mountain Creamery on September 1, 1920, has again taken over the property and is now in active charge of the creamery. Mr. Hopkins has been in La Grande for many years. He was actively engaged in the creamery business for 8 years and his disposal of his interest in the creamery last fall was a surprise to his many friends here.

## PLAY DECLARED BIG SUCCESS

The play, entitled "Scenes from a Union Depot," was given by the Christian Endeavorers of the Christian Church last evening, to a packed house, and, if one could judge by the hearty applause, it was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The characters were well taken and to the ladies present it was an evening in which to study the latest styles in clothes. Mrs. R. H. Coker, under whose direction the play was given, was presented with a beautiful basket of flowers in appreciation of her work.

It pays to advertise.

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