

EDITORIAL PAGE

The Observer

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WE HOPE MR. CHAPMAN IS COMING

Mr. Chapman's Oregon Voter of June 11th there is a fund of statistics that everyone should place on file. And it is especially interesting to know that La Grande city taxes have decreased eight and six-tenths per cent since 1915, while one other city of Baker has increased her city tax one hundred ten and six-tenths per cent.

Thus, you say, La Grande as a city, for the past five years, has kept the brakes set fairly tight, compared with our neighboring cities of the same class.

In commenting upon La Grande's excellent record on city tax reduction, Chapman's Voter says:

La Grande, however, would appear to be the champion city of Oregon in the 2,500 or larger class, in that, in spite of an increased valuation of 35 per cent, it managed to operate so economically as a city that its city taxes decreased 8.6 per cent.

The writer has endeavored to urge economy in city affairs at all times, but the great credit for decrease in city taxes is due to the thrift and sentiment of La Grande people who inherently believe in spending tax money with care and caution.

CREATING THE CHURCHES

If you would go to a show and be entertained you would expect to pay something; if you hear a lecturer tell his experiences and review his great research on a subject you expect to pay for that privilege.

The men and women are few, indeed, who, after hearing a sermon, feel obliged to put a dollar into the collection box, yet you go to the dance and don't expect to dance for less than a dollar and use tax; you go to the theatre and you expect and do pay the admission price with a smile in as doing; you go to the boxing match and you pay; then, why is it possible to expect to pay when they go to church?

You should pay! The average family should contribute at least ten dollars a month to some religious denomination—anything less than that amount is only justifiable when financial depression overtakes the household. You should contribute that as a privilege and pleasure, and not with the thought of how much chaffin it would buy, or tobacco it would purchase.

La Grande churches are all worthy of support of the people. They are worthy of better attendance, for those preaching the gospel here are doing it with all their might. If any priest or preacher of La Grande chose to turn his attention and his talents to commercial lines he could make from two to three times what he is receiving in money for his services as such priest or minister.

People generally are off on the wrong foot when they do not support the church and pay the preacher. No one loses a cent by contributing to the House of God. Then, get in line everybody and do a little church-going and preacher-paying. The conscience will be easier and better, and there will be a looseness decidedly comfortable to replace that tightness which is prompted by selfishness and narrowness.

Some one says, "I would go to church and contribute but I don't like our preacher." That is no excuse. Perhaps the preacher does not like you, but he does not say so. He may be your neighbor and have you catalogued; he may know how small are your thoughts and what a narrow channel you are rattling around in, but he is charitable so he would not be preaching the gospel. He is willing to meet you half way and fix up anything that he has said which may have hurt your feelings.

Be bigger than you were yesterday, and go to church. Be more generous than you have been and dig up to support that church.

MARKETING GRAIN BY UNIONS

It is, at least, with an earnest trial, this proposed marketing of grain by unions. The farmers, always unorganized in business, have decided to organize, and they should. Every other line of business has more or less of an organization, then why not the farmer?

Yes, they have tried before, and failed to get results. But this has been very largely due to the kind of men who headed the movement and the further fact that they never before organized on correct business principles.

Under the plan proposed a union will be formed of the farmers to sell grain only as the demands of the country and the world absorbs that grain. Speculation in grain has always been fattered by the untimely disposal of crops. One section of

the nation would unload heavy holdings on the market and the law of supply and demand would work as it always does, dropping the price. There never has been much headway made in cornering wheat. Fixing prices of wheat is not to be worried about, for in reality such seldom exists. But the thing that plays havoc with the wheat and grain raisers is in the under marketing of the product. This permits and encourages the gambling, as it is called, in grain, but the gamblers do not fix the price, except in very few and rare instances. They bet on the amount of wheat to go on the market at a certain time which automatically either raises or lowers the price as the supply and demand exists.

If farmers can hold their wheat in a pool they will overcome this largely and the market for grain will run much more even and that is the intent and desire of those favoring the present day movement. They are liable to accomplish results along this line and if they do the farmer will be the king pin in all industry.

PUBLIC SENTIMENT AND LAW

The Observer has been repeatedly criticized for making the assertion that public sentiment is law. There are other laws of course, but they are technical, for the big laws of the land come from public sentiment. And, when you do not have public sentiment behind a law you can be sure that it will be often times broken and that convictions will be hard.

La Grande has a curfew law which does not operate. Why? Because public sentiment is against it. It has many other laws that are inoperative simply because the public is not behind the laws.

People less governed are best governed, and therefore, appears the folly of passing a law for everything. Tough common sense, self respect and decency and the law books will straighten us out.

Music leaders have decided that the "hot songs" must go, and the dancing masters have ruled against the "hot dances" that they are sure to go. But wouldn't it simplify matters if the "nuts" themselves disappeared?

The government has been urged to buy the Cape Cod canal for \$11,500,000. Wouldn't we better take care of our disabled service men before ditching such a sum as that?

Conditions in the Near East again indicate that the only way to have a real Thanksgiving is to kill the Turk.

The government will now "investigate" charges that New York state has been profiteering at the expense of disabled war veterans. Why not do something for the soldiers instead?

It must pain two shrinking violets like Henry Ford and Thomas A. Edison to get so much free publicity.

There are some journalistic jingles in this country when they are not railing against Japanese imperialism, are yelling for Uncle Sam to gobble up Mexico.

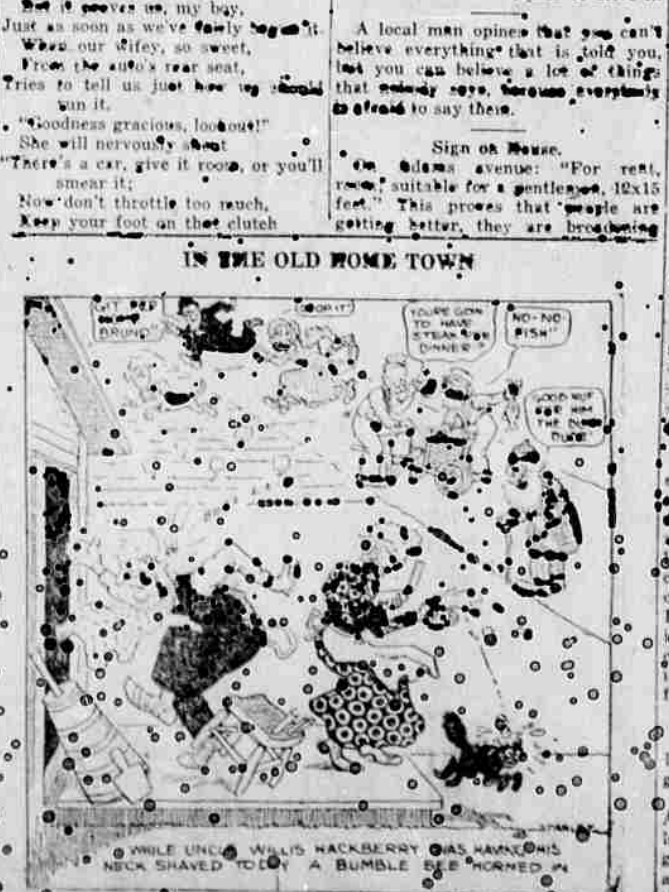
"I am learning not to talk," said Ambassador Harvey, just before he sailed for England—and then he talked, etc. well live and learn.

THE OFFICE CAT



And don't rub around when you love it.
"Say, go easy, you work. There's an awful bad cut. You've got when, if you don't you will get it."
And don't go on just that. That's a cut we just passed. If he says you're a workaholic, get it.

IN THE OLD ROME TOWN



WHILE UNCLE WILLIS HACKBERRY WAS MANNING HIS NECK SHAVED TODAY A BUMBLE BEE HORNED IN

Advertisement for N.W. West & Co. featuring silk underwear. Text: "An Unusual Opportunity in Our Silk Underwear Department. Crepe de Chine Gowns \$5.90". Includes illustration of women in gowns.

Advertisement for a dress. Text: "A Dress For \$1.00. Made of checked Gingham with Organdy collar, cuffs and neck...". Includes illustration of a woman in a dress.

Advertisement for a new corset. Text: "A New Corset For Growing Girls. 'Tree' Corset. The Tree Corset is designed especially for the growing girl...". Includes illustration of a corset.

Advertisement for aprons. Text: "Aprons of Gingham and Percale. \$1.00 Each. There are all sizes and light percale, damask and organdy...". Includes illustration of an apron.

Various news snippets and short stories. Includes: "Beautiful Ladies", "Living on the Bias", "Went Overas Think", "Around the Edges", "Playing for Ties".