

# The Observer

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## What's Wrong With the People?

La Grande held an important city election and only about ten per cent of the people voted. What's wrong? Don't people know history reveals the fierce fact that when the franchise is neglected and practically disregarded a monarchy encroaches and soon takes charge? Every republic in olden time was supplanted by a monarchy because the people threw away those cherished rights of expressing by ballot their preference and their opinions.

What's the matter, anyway? Should anyone kick at anything if he does not vote? He should not. If he does not take enough interest in this city, state and county to go to the polls that person has no right whatever to roar and fuss about public affairs.

And the ladies—God bless them. Didn't Susan R. Anthony and Abigail Scott Duniway spend their lives to get suffrage for the ladies? Look at the vote in La Grande. Women want to vote—no, of course they do not, or they would have voted.

Has it been a waste of effort, all this hurrah about women proudly going to the polls to cast their ballots? It surely has.

The people in public life get the burden of blame for trying to carry out the wishes of a very small handful of voters. La Grande will continue to operate under a charter that badly needs repairing. The city commission will endeavor to care for the needs of La Grande under the mandate of about ten per cent of the registered vote.

When the water system goes down and out and there is no water for domestic use or fire protection, then the cry for criticism for men in public office will be severe. And it will be by people who do not possess enough interest in their community to vote. We are a funny, funny people.

## When You Feel Like The Mischief

Harry Lander says it's nice to get up in the morning but it's nicer to lay in your bed. Quite true, even on these beautiful summer mornings in the Grande Ronde valley. But when you feel like laying in bed through the early morning, just remember that the country needs you on your toes. Right now. The crops are to harvest, the store is to open and the bank needs your attention. So, when the dawn breaks over those mountains east of Cove, hit the floor with both feet, turn on the cold water and take the morning bath, jump out and dance around like a Umatilla Indian on a Round-Up cruise, and hasten off to your work.

The old muscles will respond just as do the muscles of the old work horse respond when he gets into action. The brain will begin to function and the first thing you know you will have a half day's work done before breakfast. Try it—it's fun.

## Selected Immigrants

The restriction of immigration with regard to numbers is operating with partial success as much, perhaps, as could be expected in this short space of time. But in spite of it, many undesirable ones are getting in; and, on the other hand, the old story of the worthy immigrant turned back at the gates of America is being repeated every day.

In order to insure a better grade of immigrants, and to prevent the

tragedy of those who make the journey only to be denied admittance. Representative Albert Johnson of Washington has introduced a bill to have prospective immigrants examined at the American consulates abroad, and either turned back there or recommended for admission to this country in accordance with the findings of the examination.

## The Surplus Ships

The British government is selling merchant ships to anybody who will buy them. It is even selling them to the Germans, who will use them to compete with British foreign trade. The French government likewise is selling its surplus merchantmen, and is being severely criticized because they were not sold before. A member of the Chamber of Deputies remarked the other day that a billion francs could have been saved by selling them two years ago.

Possibly a billion dollars could have been saved by selling American ships at peak prices. That was not done then, by any belated country, for various reasons which it is hardly profitable to discuss now. The point is that all of the major belligerents find themselves "stuck" with a great quantity of shipping which was built to win the war, and built wastefully, and is now far in excess of the tonnage required for the world's shrunken trade, and that the only thing to do is to get rid of this surplus as soon as possible.

The record of the United States seems at the same time better and worse than that of any other country. We built ships faster, in an emergency; and as it appears now, we built them worse—of poorer quality and by more wasteful methods. Just how bad the record is it is hard to determine, because of the complicated record and the partisanship involved. Proved guilty should be punished, and proved incompetence criticized unsparsingly. The main thing is to make the best of a bad situation, and get the government out of a business which is poorly adapted to federal operation, and to sell the ships for the most they will bring, as rapidly as improving trade opens a market for them.

## Leave it to Lloyd George

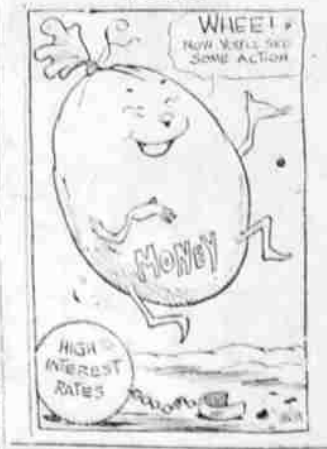
The American people like Lord Northcliffe, the famous British publisher, from what they have seen and heard of him, but they do not follow him in his quarrel with Lloyd George. Not that the American public particularly likes or admires the British premier; but he has been so long in the world's eye and has talked so large during the war and since that he is regarded as the leading figure in Europe and will be welcomed accordingly. America dotes on foreign notables.

Northcliffe's explanation of his present feud with Lloyd George is that he does not want the latter to attend the Washington conference because Lloyd George has lost touch with public sentiment at home and no longer speaks for the British people. With all due respect to Northcliffe's journalistic opinion, American editors are not much impressed by that argument.

Leave it to Lloyd George. If he doesn't represent British opinion in disarmament and on British relations with America and on the problems of the Far East, he will. Just give him a little time. No statesman of this generation has so capably represented so many different sets of public opinion, one after another.

He is engaged at present in making a settlement with Ireland which is absolutely at variance with his former policy, and doing it because his job depends on British opinion, and he wants to hold his job. He may be trusted to do the same thing when with the Irish problem either solved or given up as hopeless, he turns his attention to Washington. By the time he arrives, unless his hand has been cut, he will know what the British public wants done, and will be prepared to do it.

## LOOSE



WHEEL  
HIGH INTEREST RATES

# Carr's Carr's

Where Your Credit Is Good Use It

## COMPLETE HOME FURNISHER

## IN THE OLD HOME TOWN



FED RYAN SUDDENLY LEFT HIS POSITION AS FLY BRUSHER AT BERGEN'S SHOP TODAY.

## THE OFFICE CAT



By JUNIUS

To He—Or Not To Be.  
Who wants to know who always knocks.  
The girls with their turned down socks?  
It is the folks who always sneeze  
Whenever a breeze blows on their knees.

It is their architectural plan  
That causes them to place a ban  
On dimpled knee which often shows  
Above a much be-ribboned hose.  
In making folks the dear Lord found  
Not fat enough to go around;  
So some poor girls, like you and me,  
Have no nice dimples in each knee.  
We're born to work and not to charm  
Our "stockings" never cause alarm.  
We pull them over our knees so thin,  
And fix them with a safety-pin.  
No dimky bows are at the side  
To draw attention and misguide.  
We know we're very proper, too,  
To do as prim folks ought to do.  
But still, you know, in spite of that,  
"Dear Lord, next time, please make us fat."

## Famous Rings

Wedding: Three for a nickel.  
The case you wear is the case you get.  
Bull: W. Lardner.  
Curfew shall not tonight.  
Smoke: Ling Bros.  
Twice for ice water.  
Tail monkey.  
Blanche: 'em again.

The wife of Captain Kidd was terrified when he called her "My treasure!" says Union county's best money saver. She thought he wanted to bury her.

"A woman driving her first auto acts almost as nuptially and laughably as a young father who is steering his own baby buggy for the first time."

Last those scientists who are trying to telegraph to Mars should become confused, we beg to advise that that intermittent clicking noise is our general automatic. Mr. Dennis, taking his daily lesson on Mr. Remington's first typewriter.

For the benefit of the readers of the Observer who are in the mountains, or at the seashore, or sojourning at the lakes, let us say that the weather here at home is fine. Gentle breezes blow through golden afternoons. At night, just now, a full moon shines upon a land of peace and plenty. The days are delightful, the evenings little short of perfect. Right now La Grande is the finest of sun-sets respects blessed by all the breezes of Araby.

Some folks burn their bridges behind them, and some burn theirs before them.

Jack Peters says your dog is the one friend who never looks up your rating with Dunn and Brausestreet.

## Connection Obvious.

(Boston Transcript.)  
Headline—Powdering the Knees Latest Feminine Fad.  
Headline—Beauty Specialist Invents a Permanent Blush.

A bottle plant at Belleaire, O., has resumed operations after months of idleness. The hooch season is just around the corner.

We thought some one would spring the joke about Tatt adding weight to the bench.

Nurse—Why, Robby, you selfish little boy! Who didn't you give your sister a piece of your apple?  
Bobby—"I gave her the seeds. She can plant 'em and have a whole orchard."

Marking time is all right but to get anywhere you have to step right out, and keep stepping.

Geo. H. Carrey says no wonder Rip Van Winkle slept twenty years. He started the evening by watching a game of chess.

Right now it's boot-leg whisky. Next week we'll have boot-leg cigarettes, boot-leg dancing, boot-leg movies and boot-leg ice cream sodas. Sure as sin, some of us are going to live to see boot-leg funerals.

## FORUM

### DEAN STRAUB'S LETTER

The following letter from Dean Straub of the Oregon University addressed to Bruce Dennis, editor of the Observer, is herewith printed in full:

Editor of the La Grande Evening Observer:

My dear friend:  
Some one sent me a copy of your reply to my article in the Oregonian. Thank you for your courteous and generous treatment. Of course, I expected that from Bruce Dennis. Now, may I make a few additional remarks? When I said "College men won the last war," I did not mean recent graduates, but men who had been at college some time within the last thirty or more years. Neither did I mean to say that those brave "non-college boys" did not do their full duty. Not at all. No one has a higher regard for those who fought and won the war than I have. But when I wrote "College men won the war," I was quoting from some eastern paper, and if you will allow me the space, I will quote a few more items (from memory) from that article. It said that "over one million of our soldiers were college men, that the inventors of the aeroplanes, submarine, etc., were college graduates; the man who invented the machine for locating submarines and the one who invented depth bombs, etc., were college men. The German who invented the deadly gas bombs was a German professor

## SPORT POT POURI

Sports News of Varied kinds and Sources.  
Big Wrestling Match at Elgin.

# Wealth Building

Ambition and ability combined with a proper amount of aggressiveness make poor men rich.

In addition to these qualities learn the value of a DOLLAR, then form an association with a safe, responsible bank like this, by starting a check account and you have laid the foundation for consistent WEALTH BUILDING.

## LA GRANDE NATIONAL BANK

LA GRANDE, ORE.  
SOUND-RELIABLE-PROGRESSIVE

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

# THE AUTUMN SKIRT

New Wool Plaids and Stripes—Just in!

Among the first of new fall stocks to be shown in a complete variety are good looking wool skirts in dashing plaids, black designs or neat stripes.

Becoming and smart, these separate skirts promise to be more popular than the preceding season when we believed them to be at their height.

So practical and convenient that every woman does not wish to be without a separate skirt.

This late shipment covers a wide variety as to pattern, coloring, etc. Your early inspection will be welcomed.  
Prices range from \$6.50 to \$19.50.

## NEW WOOL SKIRTINGS FOR FALL

Proving the popularity of the new fall skirts of bright striped and checked wools are many new weaves, designs and colorings for fall in materials by the yard.

The patterns and colorings in these are distinctive, each piece contains only enough for one or two skirts.

See the newest of these in one of our windows.  
Prices range from \$1.50 to \$6.50 yard.

### "HELP THE BAND"

Wrestling fans are promised a treat at Elgin tomorrow night when Al Gustavo, of Baker, grapples with Carl Nelson, the Turner, Washington, favorite. The event is staged by the interests which built the big park pavilion at Elgin, and after the bout, which is to be a finish affair, the commission will conduct a dancing party, to which the public is likewise invited. Nelson and Gustavo have both wrestled Ted Thye, and Nelson has hooked up with Farmer Burns and Goch, hence he must be some goer. Gustavo is well known here, having lived here and wrestled here several times. He appeared at Elgin in a handicap event with Jim Noregard on July fourth, when he failed to get away with his promises. Elgin fans believe tomorrow night's affair will be the best wrestling match ever staged in Elgin.

## LA GRANDE MONDAY AUGUST 15TH.

# COMING SOON

America's Foremost Trained Wild Animal Exhibition

## PALMER BROS.

BIG 3 RING WILD ANIMAL CIRCUS

## CHAS. FULTON BALL ROOM HORSES

Featuring SUNBURST, AGREEMENT, KIDDO, DARKNIGHT and DYNAMITE. Foremost Horse Act Ever Presented

And the Magnificent \$20,000 Gorgeous DARDENELLA Costumed, Oriental Spectacular Pageant THE ROSE OF THE ORIENT

## STEEL ARENA

25 FUNNY CLOWNS

Finest Horses with any CIRCUS

Hundreds of Educated ANIMALS

Mlle. SILVERS The Lady with the DOVES

## CHILDREN'S FAIRYLAND

Performing Dogs, Goats, Shetland Ponies, Monkeys Leaping Wolf Hounds, direct from Belmont Kennels

Roy Ring's BICYCLE RIDING MONKEY "Tony"

Capt. JOHN HOFFMAN and His Group of JUNGLE BRED BLACK MANED AFRICAN LIONS

# ONLY BIG SHOW COMING

MILE STREET PARADE  
Two Performances 2 P. M. and 8 P. M.