

UNION PEOPLE ATTEND FUNERAL

(Special to The Observer)
 UNION, Jan. 3.—Miss Mattie Best, teacher in the city schools, and Mrs. Siegel Cline attended the matinee of "The Four Horsemen" yesterday at the Arcade theatre in La Grande and pronounce it a most wonderful show.
 Misses Chloe and Lucille Taylor of La Grande attended the ball at the Union hotel last evening.
 Mrs. Belle Irvin and children, who spent New Year's in Union with her father, Henry Griggs, has returned to La Grande.
 Mrs. W. W. Stevens is in La Grande visiting her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor. Monday Mr. Stevens and their son went over and enjoyed New Year's dinner at the Taylor home.
 Charles Rich and family, who have been spending New Year's in Union, have returned to their home in La Grande.
 Miss Lucille Craig of La Grande spent the holiday period with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Zeck.
 The following men from Union attended the funeral of Dr. Bacon in La Grande yesterday: L. A. Wright, F. L. Hunter, Walter Cook and Claude Busick.
 Miss Stella Levy is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Gus Levy of La Grande for a few days.

WHOLESALE HOSTS AT AD CLUB LUNCH

(Continued from Page One.)

houses focus the trade and commercial attention of Union and Wallowa counties upon this city in a most emphatic way, establishing La Grande as the commercial trade center and hub of the district. In addition to that, La Grande becomes known as a trading center by manufacturers throughout the United States, because the lines carried are largely shipped direct to La Grande from all parts of the country.

"Trading centers grow around the wholesale business. Wholesalers become the core of community development. Manufacturers and other evidences of community growth generally follow as a result of the concentration and centralization of trade toward the town that has the wholesale establishments.

"The economic savings to consumers because the wholesale grocery houses are located in La Grande, runs into an enormous figure. Sixty per cent of our lines sell as cheaply in La Grande as they do in San Francisco, Seattle, or Portland. This would be an impossibility if the wholesale shipments were not a fact. In addition to this 60 per cent, there is an additional 20 per cent whereon are saved from 30 to 40 cents per cwt. The balance of the lines handled are based on Portland prices plus freight from Portland to La Grande.

"The total average number of employees necessary to conduct the two businesses here is 26 and the total expenditures necessary to operate the business will run over the \$80,000 mark annually.

"In all community affairs the two institutions take their places of duty willingly."

WHEAT CROP ESTIMATE IS NEAR AVERAGE

(Continued from Page One.)

ed this fall considerably more than a year ago. Total acreage not large however.

MORROW — (Heppner) Conditions have been ideal for fall seeding. More moisture at this time than I have known for a good many years. The very early fall seeding did not do quite so well and a few farmers had to re-seed.

(Lexington) The seeding was very poor on account of moisture. Only seeded one-half of my summer fallow and expect to leave rest till spring. 100 percent moisture for the first of December. The growth of plants very small.

SHERMAN—The present moisture supply for this time of year is more than usual. Had over 4 inches in November. Nearly all wheat is up but not as far advanced as last fall. Some early sown wheat will have to be re-seeded.

UMATILLA — (Pilot Rock) The moisture at early seeding wasn't very plentiful. At the present there is plenty. Farmers that took chances on the early dry seeding, have grain that looks better than it has for the past few years in this part. (Pendleton) Our crop is in poor shape on account of weeds and spotted. We re-seeded about 15 per cent and expected to re-seed more but on account of snow had to stop. Snow helped a lot.

UNION—Ideal seeding conditions where summer fallow was plowed early. Some dry land had to be worked down after rains. Moisture plentiful now. Wheat well along. Stand too thick in a few places, weeds bad in others.

WALLOWA—Was very dry at seeding time. Only about 50 percent came up. Have plenty of moisture at present. Plants are very small and puny.

WASCO—The early sown wheat is quite uniformly poor due to dry ground at seeding time. Some grain was re-seeded on that account. Rains did not come until late causing much extremely late seeding which was barely up when the snow came.

TAXES OF CITY HAVE DECLINED

According to a statement prepared by City Manager Garrett for his annual report to the city commission, the tax rate for city taxes has steadily decreased since the commission-manager form of city government was adopted by the city of La Grande and the actual amount of taxes raised for 1921 is lower than in 1913 in spite of the increased assessed valuation and the higher cost of many items which enter into the expenditures of the city. This lowering of the levy for city purposes, Mr. Garrett pointed out in his statement, has been accomplished at a time when the tax rate for county and state and for the school district comprising La Grande has increased.

In 1913 the city raised \$64,880.05 from taxation on an assessed valuation of \$2,507,029, the rate being 18.5 mills. The 1921 taxes total \$59,051.86 on an assessed valuation of \$4,809,964, the rate being 12.3 mills.

The taxes for the school district in that period were increased from \$46,306.73, raised from a 12 mill levy on an assessed valuation of \$3,858,894 in 1913 to \$81,653.99 for 1921 on an assessed valuation of \$5,234,239 from a 15.6 mill levy. In 1913 the county and state taxes for Union county were \$247,270.65, raised from a 12.4 mill levy on an assessed valuation of \$19,941,182 while the 1920 taxes were \$451,134.19 or a 15.1 levy on an assessed valuation of \$29,820,757. The assessed valuation for 1921 is \$29,415,611.

The separation of the county and state taxes during that period, which is set forth in a separate table, shows that the state taxes have grown more rapidly than any of the other taxes. The levy for 1913 was 4.3 mills, the amount raised being \$85,798.55. For 1920 the amount had increased to \$204,263.00 from a 7.3 mill levy. The levy for state purposes for 1921 is 7.51 mills, the amount to be raised being

\$158,421.02, the smaller total being due to the decrease in assessed valuation. The county taxes for 1920 were \$245,945, of which \$30,000 was for market roads, the total levy for county purposes being 3.8. In 1921 the levy for both county and state had increased to 18.8 and the total raised for both to \$497,894.02, the county's share being \$299,385.

Would Force France To Pay Her Debts Or Cut Her Navy

(By Associated Press)
 WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The administration would be directed under a resolution introduced by Representative Reavis, Republican, of Nebraska, to demand repayment by France of money loaned her by the United States during the war. Reavis urged prompt payment be demanded because France indicated her intention of expanding "large sums on increase naval armament."

BOY SCOUT PLAY WAS A WINNER

La Grande people witnessed the first Boy Scout play ever given in the city last night when Scout Commissioner Pryke and his organization presented "The Upper Trail" at the high school auditorium. A large crowd turned out to hear the boys and no one was disappointed. On the other hand, it was a fine show, carried a beautiful lesson and every boy was on his metal to do his best. The camp scene was well arranged and the story of the play telling of one "rough-neck" boy and his gang who made lots of trouble for the entire camp but who later saw the error of his ways and chose the upper instead of the lower trail in life, was complete and well connected.

Intense interest was held from the first curtain to the closing scene where the wayward lad fights out the battle in his heart in the forest and, meeting the scoutmaster, clasps his hand and assures him that he has decided to take the upper trail.

The boys sang well, their acting was good and the play was a success in every way.

Among the special features between acts was the piano solo and acrobatic work of little Russell Nelson, vocal solo by Miss Florence Lynch, selection by the Ad Club Quartette, also a selection by the Boy Scout Sextette, a clarinet solo by Francis Robinson and a violin and clarinet duet by "Tubby" Zundell and Francis Robinson.

The acrobatic feats of Messrs. Hooper, Coker and little Russell Nelson were highly appreciated.

F. L. Meyers delivered a brief talk on the Boy Scouts and their work setting forth many principals of that excellent organization.

COURT STUMPED BY NEWSPAPERS

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Jan. 3.—The circuit court here today refused to entertain the motion of attorneys for Editor Murray of the Herald to quash the alleged false return of the sheriff on the execution of an attachment on property claimed by the Record Publishing company and held by the Herald.

The court denied the motion on the ground of non-jurisdiction. The Herald this afternoon moved for an injunction to restrain the sheriff from removing any of the property in its possession. No answer was this action taken than the Record filed another application for a writ of mandamus to compel the sheriff to execute the original attachment. The court refused to issue the writ asked for on the ground that the original writ of mandamus was still operative. The Herald people look for the circuit court to grant their application for an injunction tomorrow.

Meanwhile the Herald office is

closely guarded and the composing room kept barricaded. There are so many phases of the situation and one legal process has so quickly followed another that a legal tangle has resulted which even the court appears unable to unravel.

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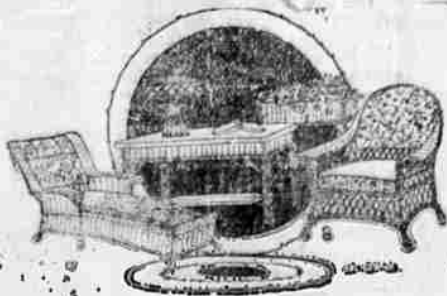
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