GRANDE RONDE CHAUTAUQUA ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF SUPERB TALENT, JULY 21-27.

La Grande Evening Observer

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PROGRAM HAS MEN AND WOMEN OF NOTE

CHAUTAUQUA WEEK WILL BE VERY VARIED

This Week's Assembly Promises to outrank any of Recent Years, Judging from List of Talent.

Crackling crispness, variety and color predominate in the 1922 program to be presented by the Grande Ronde Chautauqua Association at Riverside Park beginning July 21st and running for seven days. At no time in the past seven or eight years has there been as much pre-assembly satisfaction with the program as there is this season, for the lecture numbers and the music are all new and fresh—with one exception, and that exception is not objectionable. This one instance refers to that old sage of the lecture platform, Opie Read, who has been here before, but a long time ago.

With the assembly two weeks away, there remains much to be done in the way of ironing out details but the directors are on the job; committees are at work, and when the platform manager calles the first meeting to order, everything will be "fine and dandy."

Scanning the program at this date, and checking up on advance description of the various types of entertainment to be presented, one cannot but feel that a fine lot of entertainment is in store for Chautauqua patrons.

There is the mystic magician, health clinics, music by opera stars to which great sums are paid for one performance; there are novelty musicians, clean fun-makers; there is Opie Read, and a fine galaxy of lecturers along with him; there is a play which, like last year, takes the place of a big band. The day's of big bands on chautauqua platforms are "gone forever." But the play this year is one that will certainly meet with favor. "Cappy Ricks" is the vehicle for these stars to shine from. Everyone has read the "Cappy Ricks" stories and will be interested in their production on the platform-stage.

These are but a few highlights on the program, the full details of which are given in full in descriptive matter in this issue of the Observer.

Frances Ingram to Appear

Nationally Famed Operatic Star to Give Recital as Chautauqua Feature on Second Night

Costly Star is Among the Attractions

With Many Premier Musicians, Frances Ingram Takes Lead in Price Per Concert.

There are numerous big companies booked for the chautauqua program this year, composed of prominent and skilled artists, and chief among these are the closing day numbers presenting the Gilvan Opera company in a selection of light operas, but never before in the history of local chautauqua has there been a single artist of the prominence that is assured this year in the person of Frances Ingram.

Frances Ingram draws $800.00 per concert in 50 eastern cities this year. That should tell something about her ability. Local musicians who follow stars of the country are well acquainted with her wonderful ability. In many cities the single admission to hear Frances Ingram is as much as the season ticket costs for the whole chautauqua.

The directors want to call the attention of the public to this number, without depreciating any of the others. She is a contralto of whom Campanini, late manager of the Chicago Opera association, said: "Frances Ingram is the best American contralto I have ever heard." Daniel Frohman said the same thing.

This one number marks a new policy in chautauqua management. The placing of a single artist at such an expense is a new thing but the demand for better music has prompted it. Locally, there is wide rejoicing over the coming of Frances Ingram.

NEW CURTAINS ORDERED

Old Relic of By-Gone Days To Be Discarded for New Setting.

One relic of the early chautauqua in this community that has been relegated to the scrap heap is the platform setting. The old familiar pictures and the old familiar rips in the wing scenery, the flapping of the curtains and the general rundown condition of the setting are all to go. A committee has been at work for some time devising new curtains and wings and by the time the chautauqua meets, there will be an entirely new arrangement. It is probable that the old roll curtain will be displaced by drops, and the old wings by curtains.

Chautauqua camping parties pay dividends.

Opie Read to Be at Chautauqua

Lecturer, Author and Quaint Philosopher Will Discuss "Human Nature and Politics"

OFFICERS OF ASSOCIATION HAVE CHANGED

Many new Faces Appear on the Directorate of Grande Ronde Organization this Year.

Many new faces appear in the official directorate of the Grande Ronde Chautauqua association as now constituted, but there is still a sprinkling of the old guard who have been with the game since the institution of chautauqua in this county.

Dr. Ray F. Murphy, with whom chautauqua is a fetish, is the directing head of the board this season. He has associated with him men and women who have been disciples of this educational form of entertainment for many years, one way or another.

The list of directors, with the year of their terms' expiration, follow:

Expiring in 1922—Mrs. Anna Polack, A. W. Nelson, Geo. T. Cochran and Carl Helm.

Expiring 1923—Mrs. J. K. Wright Mrs. Ed. Kiddle, Ray F. Murphy, M. L. Carter and Floyd McKennon.

Expiring 1924 — Chas. Reynolds, Chas. Bingner, C. H. Shoup, C. J. Black and Mrs. T. A. Scroggin.

Of this group of people the officers have been chosen as follows:

President, Ray F. Murphy.

Treasurer, Geo. T. Cochran.

Secretary, A. W. Nelson.

The directors are subdivided into two groups for the handling of routine business that may come before it, and these standing committees include the following:

Ticket sales — Geo. T. Cochran, Mrs. Kiddle and Mr. Carter.

Publicity — A. W. Nelson, Carl Helm.

Program and Advisory—Dr. Murphy, Nelson, Cochran.

Grounds—Mrs. Polack, Mrs. Scroggin and Mr. Black.

Transportation — Mr. Reynolds, Floyd McKennon and Mr. Bingner.

Directors are busy people but none of them shirk their duties on the Grande Ronde Chautauqua association. From this date on they are called together in frequent meetings and willingly give their time and attention to making the assembly a success in every way. Their only remuneration is the satisfaction of having done something toward making La Grande and Union county a better place to live in and to die in. Each member of the board pays his own way into the chautauqua even as the one who has only a passing interest in the success of the venture.

During the years this institution has been in existence, there have been ups and downs, adversity of various kinds and deceptions, but never discouragement.

The La Grande institution was a pioneer in the movement in eastern Oregon, having regular assemblies long before the present-day method of the Ellison-White chautauqua. In those early days the sand was especially a heavy one because there was the pioneering to be done against great odds. But loyalty persevered and now chautauqua is part of the education and entertainment of the education and entertainment of every community because the institution as an institution, has grown in this day of rapid transportation, until there is scarcely a community even ever so remote, but what can in some way or another get into the chautauqua game.

Transporation Problem is Adequately Solved

Slow progress with the construction of the new grade to the city park will spell some inconveniences with vehicle transportation and those who walk to and from the grounds this year. Victory Way is progressing slowly and there will be no adequate sidewalk facilities nor will the streets be in the best of shape.

However the city is co-operating with the Chautauqua management in making the very best possible arrangement under the conditions. The streets will be sprinkled freely, and the sidewalk, or what will be a sidewalk when it is finished, will be given attention for temporary use. At the present time the street is rough and dusty, but much of this can be overcome.

When Victory Way is realized in full, as it will be in due time, there will be a connecting link of well-built streets and sidewalks between La Grande proper and the city park. The natural setting of the park is, of course, well known and appreciated, and once out there one can have nothing to complain of. This year's handicaps are but temporary and must be made the best of. The future is more promising.

Transportation is itself a serious problem and has always been so. The new state vehicle laws have complicated matters even more than usual, and while the committee in charge of that department cannot do all that it would like to do in providing cheap transportation to and from the park, it will make every possible effort to help this knotty problem to a solution that will be the best possible under the circumstances.

Get Your Tickets Early

Season membership tickets provide you 7 days of entertainment at $2.50 per ticket.

Watch for Announcements

Many important details about chautauqua will be announced from time to time. Be on the alert for them. They mean much to you.

Opie Read Heads List of Unusual Lecturers

The lecturers this year are above the average it is felt, judging from advance notices and from what those in touch with such things have to say.

Opie Read heads the list, principally because he is the best known of the group. This famous sage has been in La Grande twice before, but so long ago that there is no color of repeat about his coming. Many patrons of the old Steward Opera House, where Box hall now is, will recall the delightful lecture he gave there, and upon another occasion he spoke at the high school auditorium. Opie has a message always and everywhere.

GREAT ATHLETE HAS GRADUATED

(By Associated Press)

BERKELEY, Cal., July 8. — Jack Merchant, one of the greatest all-round athletes ever registered at the University of California here graduated this spring and will not return to college in the fall.

Observers have declared that Merchant is the last of the great western college hammer throwers. In recent years the hammer throw has been barred by th Pacific Coast Conference so Merchant has been able to display his prowess in the throw only in dual meets or eastern contests.

Merchant came to California in 1917 and from the start devoted his spare hours to working on the track and field under direction of Walter Christie, the veteran Blue and Gold coach.

In several events, the broadjump, hammer throw, sprints, shot, javelin and discus, Merchant became a real star. His best form was displayed in the spring of 1920 when he was jumping close to 24 feet and lifting the hammer out around 165 feet. In the summer of 1920 Merchant went to the Olympic games but his many activities had slowed him down a bit and he did not show at his best form. He rested a year, nursed several injuries and came back to the campus this season.

After making many points in coast meets for California this spring, Merchant went east with his team and finished his career in a blaze of glory by ending up highest point winner at the two great national college meets, one held at Harvard and the other at Chicago.

Etiquette of Sealing Wax.

In the days when all correspondence was sealed, there was etiquette about the use of sealing wax. Royalty would give some favorite courtier the sole right to use a certain colored wax, and officers of the state would each have distinguished colors, in much the same way as staff officers of the army wear colored "tabs" nowadays.

Camp on the Ground

If you want the best from chautauqua, plan to camp at the grounds.

BABSON TELLS OF OUTLOOK FOR THE CROPS

Famous Financier Sees Considerable Optimisin for Farmers in next few years.

WELLESLEY HILLS, Mass., July 8.—In discussing the general situation for the week Roger W. Babson, the statistician today made the following analysis of the crop outlook.

"Today interest is centered around the prospective 1922 crop output. I cannot over-estimate the importance of agricultural products at this time not only as a business barometer, but as the means of restoring confidence and a higher spending power in those sections that suffered most acutely during this depression period. I have traveled through the grain and cotton areas and know the farmer carried more than his share of the readjustment responsibilities. Yet this is history, and the farmer is looking forward with considerable optimism to probable developments during the next few years.

"The outstanding feature of the June Government Report is that acreage of all wheat, oats, and rye is 2.2 per cent less than a year ago, but the estimated yield is 17.1 per cent greater. This means that growing conditions are comparatively favorable. I have yet to witness a year where crop scares and marked price fluctuations did not materialize. Weather and insect ravages cannot be forecast, but as conditions now stand, the total grain output should about equal normal proportions. The winter wheat crop is now being harvested, the yield estimated at 3.4 per cent over 1921.

"Spring wheat figures are placed at 18.8 per cent more than a year ago, with the total considerably in excess of the ten-year average. Nevertheless, wheat is statistically strong. Our exportable surplus for

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Gilvan Opera Company Coming Soon

Five Brilliant Artists, Each With a Record of Eastern Concert Successes, to Present "Ruddygore" and Gems From Other Light Operas

[illegible] standard operatic gems feature the concert of the Gilvan Light Opera Company, to be heard at Chautauqua in [illegible] afternoon [illegible] in a full evening program on the closing day. This clever organization [illegible] with an enviable record of concert successes in the East, has won popular [illegible] organization. The personnel: Hazel Huntley, contralto [illegible] was for several [illegible] Church of Evanston; Martha Cook, soprano, who [illegible] but a year ago [illegible] Orchestra Hall, Chicago [illegible] that won unstinted praise from Chicago musical critics; [illegible] S. Jobe, brilliant tenor, well known in [illegible] musical circles; Tom Morris, brilliant concert baritone of Pittsburgh, and Harrison Burch, one of the best [illegible] of the younger artists of the piano throughout the Middle West. The evening program features the presentation of "Ruddygore," Gilbert & Sullivan's delightful comic [illegible]. The miscellaneous offerings include the famous [illegible] standard operatic and concert works—familiar scenes from the old operas that you long to [illegible] hear again.

Tented City to Arise Again at the City Park

An especial effort to increase the customary population of "The Tented City" at Riverside park during chautauqua, has been undertaken by the grounds committee, and the entire board, for that matter. It is this feature that makes chautauqua pay the greatest returns. While there is one slight drawback to camping, it is not one around which there is no route. This particular is the lack of electric wires sufficiently heavy to carry the load of electric cookers in tents. At this time the board has under consideration the construction of a complete underground heating and lighting system in the park, but these are matters for the immediate future. The finances of the association will not permit the construction of the system [illegible] this year. The policy adopted, however, is to first determine upon a definite policy and then build, section by section until it is complete.

The most feasible plan for cooking at the present moment is to give up oil stoves.

The [illegible] not been [illegible] but some of these inconveniences are being remedied this year and it is hoped to have the new system built within a very few years.

But with ample light available, and plenty of ground to camp on, with telephone service on the grounds, and delivery service from town provided, there is no reason why campers cannot live in complete comfort at the park. Absence of automobiles in a family is no drawback, for the walk is a good exhilerating one for the office man.

Tents in limited numbers can be rented from the association by conferring with any member of the grounds committee or by notifying Caretaker Thomas at the park in plenty of time. Several reservations have already been made. Those who prefer to use their own tents [illegible] take out their selections, free of charge. Such parties should also [illegible] to their own wiring arrangements [illegible].

The essential thought [illegible] to camp on the ground and make the [illegible] of chautauqua [illegible] that pay social dividends.

Financial Part of the Program is Arranged

Costs of operating the Grande Ronde Chautauqua association are heavy and during the past few years an occasional deficit has developed until there is now about $1000.00 against the association. The plan evolved last year of having a large number of people guarantee the sale of the 1922 tickets is expected to not pay out the current expenses, which run close to $2500.00, but to materially reduce the outstanding indebtedness. A meeting of these underwriters was held Friday evening and plans matured for carrying out the financial part of the program this year.

The usual membership plan will prevail by which four season tickets are sold for $10.00 and the purchaser of such a ticket becomes a member of the association with full voting power.

Families often club together to take advantage of this opportunity.

In all other places except La Grande there has been a varying price for [illegible] the [illegible] the proposed [illegible]. There has been some discussion of adopting that plan for this season but the finance committee headed by Mr. Cochran has not announced its definite program. Mr. Cochran is now in Portland and immediately upon his return from a conference with the Ellison-White people, from whom the talent is purchased as a block, the exact daily admission charges will be fixed.

The institution is wholly a non-profit making one. Every cent over and above current expenses [illegible] into the treasury, none is [illegible] paid to any one. The greater the patronage this year, the better will next year's program be, because there will be the necessary funds to buy more talent and features.

The directors and the [illegible] score of people who underwrote the 1922 expense account, [illegible] city [illegible] [illegible] that the [illegible] in the [illegible].