

La Grande Evening Observer

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BILL WHITE AND THE MORONS.

Under the heading "The Plague of Politicians and Morons," the Literary Digest reviews a recent editorial written by William Allen White on the subject as follows:

The majority of our citizens are morons, says William Allen White, lamenting what he believes to be the immoral state of the country, and supporting his statement by charging that the newspapers are filled with news of "banditry, thuggery, burglary, car stealing, murder and violence." He includes also in his category of evil, "tax-waste and inefficiency of the city government, paying contract robbery, stuffed payrolls," and "grafting public servants." Furthermore, declares the noted editor of the Emporia Gazette, in a recent number of Collier's Weekly, immigration is bringing more morons from the old world, and they are breeding faster than the good-old stock of the early settlers of America. To make matters worse, we teach them facts and "educational folderol and fudge," he complains, and then wonder why they are morally undernourished. We neglect the truth—the truth which every American should know—which is: "What is good conduct; what acts are social and what antisocial." America, we are told, "is an attempt to institutionalize the Pilgrim ideal," which implies equality, a brotherhood which makes the strong responsible for the weak. "It is dangerous biologically, but socially, economically and politically it may be made to work." The breakdown comes in the cities—the "spawning ground" of evil, where the "moran majority" outvotes those who believe in the Pilgrim ideal. "No form of democracy," continues the Kansas editor, "seems able to cope with the situation, for a bad majority may be assembled, and usually is assembled, at any election—State or municipal. And the State House is a replica of the city halls, with the little band of protesters recruited from the small towns and rural districts." As Mr. White sees it,

"The typical political situation in any American city is about like this: The forces in the community that stand for what is obviously good government in the old-fashioned sense, line up behind a candidate conspicuously honest and cold-nosed, often high-browed, and sometimes even a 'Christian gentleman.' All the newspapers support him. All the organizations devoted to orderly processes of government get behind him. It becomes evident, as the campaign grows warm, that around his opponent are gathered the evil influences of the town; the grafters, the underworld, the racial blockers, the devotees of special privilege in political grafting.

"During the campaign, disclosures * * come thick and fast. They are convincing to the mind and heart of the old-fashioned American, who is pained and surprised to discover that thousands of his fellow citizens are not even cynical about it. These care-free citizens accept the situation."

The successful candidate "generally exploits himself as a sort of he-Cinderella, who has come up from the ash-can," says Mr. White. "He is a smiler and hand-shaker, sometimes an orator, and occasionally a lawyer, who has graduated from the criminal courts into a decent practice among the more shady of the public service corporations. If he is not of that type, he is a partizan business man of the genus 'dub.' He can be depended upon to accept the dictum of the party leaders who control the machine that protects the underworld and the hoodlums, and he has illicit relations with the men who pay big money for franchises and the frills and fripperies of special privilege in public corporations." Not only all this, the successful candidate also attracts people of immature minds. He does not make them think—"he makes them hate, makes them laugh, and shows them their own advantage in his candidacy." And, pitiful to say,

"The child-mind is satisfied with childish things; pinks, playgrounds, parades, gambling, bootlegging, play-hatted politicians in shiny motor cars, who also are he-Cinderellas exemplifying America as a land of opportunity. The child's conception of the land of opportunity is satisfied with the opportunity to rise by grafting or by hoodlums or by cunning blackmail. As for the crime wave, well, boys will be boys." So the children citizens stand by the man who brings that he supported his poor old mother when he was five years old by selling papers, and always gave a penny to the orphan's home."

It was rather surprising that Representative Homer Hoch, who was one of the members of the house who created the Labor Board, should be the first to offer a bill in congress to kill this "prejudiced organization" and supplant it with a tribunal that is "fair to all sides." Guess the country will finally decide a few of us were not very badly off when we offered criticism of the Labor Board from the moment the recent strike was started.

The gradual growth of La Grande is reflected in her schools each year. It will be noticed that the number of children is always larger than the year previous. It is a sure indicator as to a community's growth, and is mighty fine to have even though it does require a new school house occasionally.

Union county is to have a county fair at Elgin this year, so don't overlook the fact. Elgin has a reputation for a certain brand of hospitality that is pleasant to behold and La Grande will be well represented to partake of it at the fair.

Fourteen youngsters born under the August sun in Grande Ronde valley is not such a bad showing. There may be those who think race suicide prevails but they are mistaken about this valley.

Appointing federal judges by the dozen will not help the present administration standing among the people. Most of us have seen that we are loaded now with federal judges, well as the present office holders.

THE OFFICE CAT

—BY JUNIUS—



Bible Thought for Today

HOW TO OVERCOME EVIL.—Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; recompening to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.—Romans 12:10, 17, 21.

In this weather a man is justified in wearing his whiskers long enough to keep a kiss from skidding.

CLOSE OBSERVER.

"Say, did you ever kiss a girl in a quiet spot?"
"Yes, but the spot was quiet only when I was kissing it."

The reason so many persons' minds wander is because their bodies can't.

A teacher was explaining to her class about the different seasons of the year, and she asked Rachel Cohen how many there were. Rachel answered: "Two—black and busy."

For a man who does not do much sleeping, Thomas Edison has some wonderful dreams.

Blake—Why is Jim so popular at the club? Why everybody knows that he can't speak.
Flake—Yes, and he knows it, too.

Everyone admires good people, but it is hard to enjoy their company long.

First Farmer—"How much did you get for your potatoes?"
Second Farmer—"Well, I didn't get as much as I expected but then I didn't reckon I would."

In a paper we read that a western man wants a "milk and drive a Ford truck" while in another section a farmer wants to buy a "cow with three pigs and a gas tank."

The great silence you hear is boys cheering because school has started.

The best vacation book is the pocketbook. But it isn't interesting unless it is full.

What has become of the instrument of sudden death, the folding bed? Anyway it sometimes served to shut a man's wife up when nothing else could.

NO NEED TO WORRY.
I'm only just a little little Ford. But, oh! Ye walk-out thousands, heed this furbie.
If the pressure trains quit running, on my word,
I'll be the busiest "breaker" in the bunch.

BEWARE.
Son—"Daddy, what is a bigamist?"
Father—"A bigamist, sonny, is a man who makes the same mistake twice."

HOW WOMEN SHOULD DRESS.
Mary Roberts Rinehart in a recent interview on the subject of clothes and present day fashions said, "A woman is well dressed when she can stand the the sharpest scrutiny, but when not one turns to look." Isn't that the truth?

SHUCKS.
"Say, Doc, did you hear about Mrs. Smithkins giving Bill the dickens when he caught him with his typewriter in his lap?"
"No! Nuh don't say!"
"Yeah! He was cleaning it with her toothbrush."

IT ISN'T THE CHURCH, IT'S YOU.
It isn't the preacher's flowery prayer
Or the way the choir sings,
Or the size of the coin your neighbor gives,
Or the help your brother brings.
It isn't the size of your favorite church
Or the cost of your favorite pew,
Or the style of the clothes the members wear;
For it isn't the church, it's you.

It isn't the way the work is done,
Or the way the money's spent,
Or whether the gospel's all brought in,
Or whether there's some that's sent.
It isn't the kind of creed they love,
Or peculiar things they do,
Or whether the doctrine suits your taste;
For it isn't the church, it's you.

For a chain's as strong as the weakest link,
And it breaks with a heavy load,
For a church that's full of the links that pull
Can lead the roughest road.
If you get in tune with the Master's will,
With your heart and your labors true,
You will love your church, though it has its faults,
For it isn't the church, it's you.
—R. H. Newberry, in Christian Herald.

Red Cross Conference

(Special to the Observer)
Representatives from 12 Red Cross chapters in Western Oregon are being called together for a Regional Conference in Corvallis, Benton county, September 12 and 13. This is the second of a series of Red Cross chapter conferences planned by Colonel George Palmer, manager of the Pacific Division of the American Red Cross, to provide the South West with November 11-14. Manager Palmer, Assistant Manager R. C. Cronin, Miss Mary Cronin, Division Director at the Junior Red Cross, and Miss Grace Harrington, R. N. Assistant Division Director of Public Health Nursing and Miss Katherine Egan, Division Director of Public Health Nursing, will be in attendance. The conference will be held at the Hotel Corvallis, Corvallis, Oregon. The first conference was held at Portland, Oregon, in November 1921.

Mrs. Edna T. Hawley, executive secretary of the Benton County Chapter, will be the conference secretary.

FIRST FOOTBALL PRACTICE HELD

Turnout Not as Large as Expected; Fundamentals the Order of the Day; Prospects Look Bright with Several Yet to Join Squad.

Football practice, the first of the year, was held yesterday afternoon. About twenty men, mostly last year's first and second squad men, turned out. Not such an imposing turnout as was expected but by Friday night this number is expected to be doubled. Several more will join the squad today as they were unable to get out on account of scholastic preparations and several others who will attempt to make the first team squad will not start to school until the latter part of the week or next week.

The afternoon was ideal for a first practice. Hot sun, that brought the sweat from the boys as they raced down the field endeavoring to catch a pass or as they accumulated a nice red "strawberry" in falling on the ball, meant that the players are not going to be as stiff and sore today as they would have been if the practice had been conducted on a day when Old Sid was hiding behind the clouds. And "Steve" Reynolds "knows his stuff."

The first day found the squad down to the fundamentals, such as the correct way to hold a ball, the correct way to fall upon a ball, and catching passes, etc. "None of the intricate points of the game for awhile" is Reynolds' idea. "Wait until the boys have some real football knowledge tucked away beneath their headpieces, before we go to branching out." In other words, the L. H. S. team this year is going to learn straight football first and then, when they know the fundamentals of the game—how to hit and hit hard, how to tackle so that their victim knows that he is down, and how to grab a pass and hold on to it—then the old trick plays that are good for lots of yardage will be sprung.

Four Men Needed.
"I need just four men to mold my team about," says Reynolds. "Give me two fast, hard hitting tackles, an aggressive, speedy center and a heavy quarterback and the rest of the team can always be found." Three or four men look like they would qualify as the tackles and two or three are trying out for center and with about six men working hard for the job of general of the team, sufficient competition to insure good men for the four places and substitutes nearly as good to back them up and be ready to step into their shoes if need be, prospects look anything but dark and dismal.

Unless something special, such as blackboard work or such, is in order, Reynolds will have his husky pigskin chasers out every night getting ready for the first association game with Imbler, which will probably be played about the last week of this month. Not long to prepare, especially as Baker and Pendleton will be but a few weeks further away, but hopes are high for a Blue and White gridiron representation that will bring back memories of the days when the La Grande players mopped the ground with their opponents and won, not one, but several championships.

BIG HAT BOYS READY FOR FRAY

PENDLETON, Sept. 12.—Pendleton is in Round-Up dress.

Her citizens have discarded the sober attire of the hum-drum business world and are gay in the fancy vests, loud shirts and broad-brimmed sombreros of the cowboy. Local business houses are showing cards proclaiming that their employees are dressed "100 per cent for the Round-Up."

Nor is the "biggest little city in the world" lacking in gala attire. Street decorations are being put in place and vari-colored banners and pennants are floating in the clear air of September. At the Round-Up grounds the shiny-coated rears are easily being put through their paces. They have won honors on tracks throughout the United States and give promise of some breathless races at this year's show. Mexican steers aplenty and many a buck are well.

There is a coyness in the eyes of Winnemucca and Fortfoot, two of the wildest buckers that present a ill for would-be riders. Both are acclaimed by the cowboys as "a couple wild 'uns," and have already spoiled a score of horsemen in the try-outs.

DRUGS

Now things are constantly being discovered in pharmacy. Some of these developments are in the form of improved remedies, while others are newly discovered uses for the better known preparations.

We keep abreast with all of these advances and offer our customers the best service which modern pharmacy makes possible.

The fall season will create special drug store needs—so we solicit your patronage on the promise of serving you scientifically and well.
"It's New and Worthwhile."
We Have It First.

Conklin Drug Company

Our School Shoes All Have Best Welt Soles

nan West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

Boys' Two - Knicker SCHOOL SUITS

BIGGEST VALUES WE'VE EVER OFFERED
\$10.00 \$11.50 \$12.00 and \$13.00

We know without exception that we are now offering you the greatest values in boys' clothing in La Grande and surrounding community. Not since pre-war times have we ever been able to sell boys' all wool school suits at these prices.

AND EVERY SUIT HAS TWO PAIR PANTS
Every suit is guaranteed all wool; it is tailored, tacked and sewn with every precaution; the coat and pants are both fully lined which adds to their wear. The buttons are well sewn on, and they are guaranteed in every respect, the same as our other clothing.

The extra pair of trousers is worth considerable as they practically double the life of the suit.
Bring in the boy now while selections are good and let him try them on. They're belted models too—just what the boys want. And there are many other suits besides those at \$8.00 and \$9.00, with single pair of pants.

FOR SALE

Four room house, new, \$150.00 and balance like rent.

New modern 5 room house, lot 6x110, lawn, trees, shrubbery, located close to school. This is a good buy.

For Utmost Corset Satisfaction be Fitted to

La Camille



Notary Public
PYRAMID LAND
F. N. Ford

FOR SALE

Four room modern home, street, large lot, lawn, shrubbery. Price \$1,500. \$625.00 balance on monthly install \$15.00 per month, 7% int.

Four room modern home, finished, on Jackson avenue, lots, nice shade trees, shrubbery. Fenced with room. Price \$2,000.00. cash, balance easy terms.

A good confectionery business.

School Equipment

FOUNTAIN PENS
\$1.50 to \$8.00

WATERMAN CONKLIN PARKER

Eversharp and Conklin Pencils 60c to \$1.00

Red Cross Drug Store

FARM LOANS

This Bank is pleased to announce that it has formed a connection by stock ownership through its officers with the Pacific Coast Joint Stock Land Banks of Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Salt Lake City, forming the Association of Pacific Coast Joint Stock Land Banks.

These institutions are organized for the purpose of promoting the general welfare of the Pacific Slope and providing capital for the development of its agricultural resources.

The Land Banks are allied with strong commercial banking institutions in the four cities. The Portland Bank, to which applications will be sent through this bank from Southwestern Oregon, is headed by A. L. Mills, President of the First National Bank of Portland.

First mortgage loans will be made on farm lands in amounts up to \$10,000.00 to any one borrower for long terms of years at low rates of interest, the present rate being 6 per cent.

All mortgages will be made on the amortization plan, which means that the loan is paid off by equal semi-annual installments of a fixed amount, which includes interest and a sufficient amount of the principal so that at the end of the term the entire debt, principal and interest, will be wiped out. For example, on a loan of \$10,000.00 made for a period of 33 years at 6 per cent the payment of a semi-annual installment of \$25.00 will cover interest charges and completely liquidate the loan at the end of the period. Any amount may be figured on the same basis.

Under this plan the borrower escapes the annoyance, expense and dangers of short term mortgage loans which do not provide for reduction of the principal, for if the covenants of the mortgage are observed and the payments promptly met, the question of renewals or possible foreclosure is eliminated.

Privilege of prepayment of principal is granted after five years. The proceeds of a loan may be used for any agricultural development, purposes such as paying off mortgages on farm lands, improvements, purchase of land, equipment, livestock, etc., but not for speculation in enterprises clearly outside of the realm of agriculture.

All loans are made direct to the borrower and no commissions can be charged against him by joint stock land banks, any agent or representative. Borrower must bear the expense of appraisal of his property and the determination of title. This expense will be relatively small. It is not a continuing charge, but once paid is good for the term of the loan.

The borrower is not required to purchase stock in the Land Bank, to join an association, nor incur any other obligation beyond that to the joint stock land bank making his loan. It is not required that he live on or personally operate the property mortgaged.

On approved farm and ranch property the Land Bank will loan 50 per cent of the land value plus 20 per cent of the value of the insured improvements, such value to be determined by Federal appraisers and the Loan Committee of the Land Bank.

As the purpose of these banks is to take care of loans not available from the Federal Farm Loan Banks and the State School Funds, applications will not be received for the present for loans of less than \$5,000.00. Each application must be accompanied by a fee of \$20.00 as evidence of good faith. If the loan is not considered, fee will be returned to applicant. If, after appraisal is made, the application is rejected, the fee will be retained to apply on the expense of the appraisal. If the loan is made the fee will be credited to the applicant as part payment of the loan expense.

Application blanks and further information will be gladly furnished by the La Grande National Bank of La Grande, Oregon, which is authorized to receive applications from Union and Walla Walla counties.

La Grande National Bank