

La Grande Evening Observer

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.
Published daily and weekly at La
Grande, Oregon, by La Grande Evening
Observer Publishing Company.
BRUCE PENNIS, Editor.

Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande,
Oregon, as Second Class Mail Matter.

Address all communications to THE
OBSERVER, 1416 Adams Ave., La
Grande, Oregon.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By Carrier.
Daily, per month \$2.00
Daily, per three months \$5.00
Daily, per six months \$9.00
Daily, single copy 10c

CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL
PAPER.

By Mail.

Daily, per year, in advance \$22.00
Daily, six months in advance \$12.00
Daily, three months in advance \$7.00
Weekly Observer-Star, by mail, \$1.50
per year in advance.
On sale in other cities—Oregon House
News Stand, Portland; Imperial News
Stand, Portland; Multnomah News
Stand, Portland.

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS.
The Associated Press is exclusively
entitled to use for publication of all
news dispatches credited to it or not
otherwise credited in this paper; and
also the local news published therein.
All rights of republication of special
dispatches herein also are reserved.

THE RESURRECTION: — Jesus
said unto her, I am the resurrection
and the life: he that believeth in me,
though he were dead, yet shall he live:
And whosoever liveth and believeth
in me shall never die.—John
11: 25.

Christmas

Christmas!

Not, truly, a time for philosophy; yet a time when many ask themselves "why do we celebrate Christmas?" The Churches have one answer, an answer that all Christians, at least, give to the question. But the celebration of Christmas has come to mean much to many whose religion does not cause them to rejoice at the birth of Jesus; it is celebrated with heartiness and gladness by those who do not believe in any religion; by those of alien faiths and strange; it is a time of joy and happiness to thousands of children who have little or no understanding of its religious significance; it is warm in the hearts of many men and women as a time of rejoicing, of neighborly love, of friendship, of kinship, quite apart from its being the natal day of the Carpenter of Nazareth.

Christmas means peace on earth, good will to men. It means an opening of hearts. It means thought for the poor and needy. It means bringing joy to children who otherwise and other times have little joy. It means love in the heart. It means brotherhood. There is no brotherhood without a fatherhood; there is no brotherhood of man without a Fatherhood of God, and so even those who know nothing—if there be such—of the day, 1,222 years ago, which Christmas celebrates; even such as these, in celebrating Christmas, in receiving or giving from the spirit of Christmas, are led in spite of themselves, back to the Creator.

Christmas—not a bad time for philosophy, but a beautiful time to prove that even philosophy must yield to the spirit of the Yule log, which brings to us all, Christian and Jew, Mohammedan and Buddhist, heathen and believer, just and unjust alike, the unification of that love which, alone of all forces of the world can ever make it wholly a place for brotherhood.

"Juvenile Crime Wave Appaling"

In a front page article with the above headline the Portland Oregonian recently told the story of high crime committed by the youth of Oregon, and in a frantic manner painted a picture of what is going on among many of the young people today.

It is no surprise when one stops to contemplate that the homes of the country are largely being run by the children instead of the parents; it is no surprise when one considers the lack of obedience the utter disregard for elders and the selfishness permitted to grow in the young mind; it is no surprise when one considers the breaking down of the home, the desire for all family members to merely sleep and eat there.

We have sown the wind; the whirlwind is upon us. We have in our desire to see that "Johnny or Mary does not have to work like we had to work," upset the general scheme of living. In our desire to nurse and foster an alleged form of education in order to endow our children with easy means of making a livelihood we have fixed them so they cannot make a living and in many cases have ruined the child to the extent that he has no desire to make a living. We have bestowed upon the children too much money for spending as they desire; we have showered them with automobiles we have treated them as royal guests instead of the coming men and women who have to hew the wood and draw the water. And we are all to blame.

The lure of easy living has so fastened itself upon the young mind that to work for anything is tedious and unnecessary. To wish for anything during childhood too often means its acquisition. Lavish habits have resulted. It takes more money to dress a boy or a girl today than it took to dress the mother when she was a young lady. Young married people beginning in life these days must start with the choicest house-furnishings, closed automobiles, diamond-finger rings, high-priced furs and everything else that harmonizes.

Plainly speaking, we as a people, are shooting the chutes to hell—not because the child is any better or any worse normally than previous generations, but because as parents we have not had the backbone and courage to do our duty.

The story in The Oregonian is but a chapter in juvenile crime. It is destined to double and treble, mostly because children are raised without restraint, because the little tree is not trained to grow straight, instead of crooked, through soundings and old-fashioned teachings of right and wrong, virtue, decency, respectability, obedience.

Let's Have the Whipping Post Again.

There was wisdom in those old fellows who used the legal whipping post to punish naughty curs in the shape of men who desert wife and babies and refuse to support them. Let's have its return.

If we had the public whipping post now there would be one or two men in La Grande who would get a Christmas flogging for their crimes are of such a nature as would insure whipping post treatment.

To think of a man deserting a good woman who is the mother of his children makes the red blood tingle. And to think of him openly boasting that he will not support those youngsters makes a citizen want to go gunning.

We need the whipping post and need it badly.

Stopping road building in Oregon will be a regrettable thing to do, but a state is like an individual—when out of money a lot of things must be stopped.

FORUM

AND A LIGHT SHOWN IN THE EAST.

Christmas or "Christ's mass," the day when we throw aside our own worldly cares and take the word of Jesus—"It is more blessed to give than receive."

At this time of joy and giving I think of a boy I know and of the thought in his heart at this Christmas time.

The aunt has been on her death-bed for months. She was left several minutes too long under an X-ray while taking treatment, and now science has no cure for her burn.

A young woman, wife and mother, one of those rare persons whose life has always been to help others, and whose beautiful soul is pulled down in its widest glory, she does not know how ill she is, and fights the plucky fight with a smile on her face, her chief thought still the welfare of others.

Her little boy comes in from school, he has long ago learned to moderate his careless shout into a courteous whisper: "See mummy, I made a Santa Claus," and he holds up a painted picture of the old Saint. She smiles at him, and he peers up at her and says, "Mummy, you are going to get better, aren't you?" "Of course, son," came the answer.

Her husband, relatives, friends, try to think of her as well. They make the fight of hope against death.

The "Christ's Mass." The promise of hope to every living being.

Let us temper our Christmas by giving a prayer to those who with their thoughts also on Jesus, have not any measure of happiness on this Christmas day.

ALMOST A STRANGER.

Thirty Years Ago

The Summer House was opened for business last Sunday morning.

A large number of scholars have been taken from school by their parents on account of the scarlet fever epidemic.

Victor Cooper has the material on his ground for the erection of a residence on the east side of 4th street, just west.

The French Tom's Cabin company will appear in La Grande Saturday evening, December 24.

Windows are being cut in the east end of the Fair building to supply the needs of the second floor on that side of the building with necessary light and ventilation.

La Grande's amateur theatrical company will appear before the public two weeks from tonight and present the interesting drama entitled "The Commercial Traveller."

The play is a good one and will afford the various members of the company an opportunity to win new laurels. Following in list of characters: John Dudley, W. Knowles; Joe, a negro, and Ole Johnson, G. M. Riches; Jacob Asther, V. P. Sandberg; Deacon Fode, Thos. Jones. The accompanying farce, "Ten Minutes for Refreshments," will also be given as part of the evening's entertainment.

At 10:15 last Friday night the few people who had not retired to the various places of abode were startled by the always exciting cry of fire! The fire was soon located in the Rogers block and it was found that the second partition between the rooms was built to fall, and the flames were rapidly spreading along the ceiling, and along walls. The fire was put out with little difficulty by a few members of the fire department assisted by willing hands from the outside. The loss was almost all covered by insurance.

The coming legislature will be asked to pass a bill providing for a special election next June on the location of the county seat. Petitions to that effect were put in circulation this week and every voter in the county will have an opportunity to sign one.

Dr. McDonald and several others were the recipients of a shower bath of the hands of the hose company last Friday night. The pressure was too great for the men at the nozzle and the way the crowd scattered reminded me of a champagne foot-ball game.

A cigarette was killed on the streets of Pendleton last week.

The framework of the elevator at the Alliance Flouring Mill is now completed and La Grande has better facilities for handling grain than any other in Oregon outside of Portland.

A RAT'S SOUL

Philadelphia Public Ledger: Dr. Carrington of the American Payette Institute proposes to inclose in a sealed flask a rat and a wad of wool steeped in chloroform. He will take the weight before and after the passing of the rat's "soul" or vital principle, and thus determine the difference due to the presence of the animating spirit.

The idea is not novel, though primitive mankind made no such line of demarcation between body and soul as that which occurred to the sophisticated minds of Greek philosophers or to church councils apart in the Middle Ages.

But no attempt to register on the most delicate balances the weight of what "passes" when the soul departs has been convincing to sound-minded metaphysicians. Nothing material is actually and absolutely destructible, and we safely may assume that the same law of indestructibility applies in the realm of the spiritual. Yet to assay the immaterial by the gross material apparatus of test tubes and balances is quite beyond our human powers. Sometimes there seems little to choose between the soul of a rat and that of a man. Yet there is a difference, and it cannot be measured in terms of grams, or even scruples, like an apothecary's prescription.

ENTERPRISE MAN IN TOWN

Among the well-known guests in La Grande today at the Mason are F. S. Post and Clarence Westfall, both of Enterprise. They arrived in the city last evening and are here.

Fear No One.

Never be afraid of the crowd. Just look it over and see what queer individuals so often compose it.

THE OFFICE CAT

TO SANTA CLAUS

Following is a carefully planned list made up by The Office Cat for members of the Observer force:

Operator No. 1—Box Tinker Toys.

Operator No. 2—New Tune.

Operator No. 3—Jar Stacomb and an order of sauer kraut.

Ad. Man—Round trip ticket to Union.

Editor—Box La Flor de Ropes.

Advertising Manager—More room for ads.

Office Girls—Some New National curls, (the old ones are fading).

Our Newsboy—Pair roller skates to visit fires on.

Pressman—Assistant to help him rest.

Asst. Pressman—\$50,000 accident policy.

A Useful Demonstration

A temperance lecturer displayed to his audience two geraniums. The first had been watered in the usual way. The other had been dosed with alcohol, and its foliage was shriveled and sparse, its stem twisted and its vitality decayed.

"Now, ladies and gentlemen," cried the lecturer, "what can you say to a demonstration like that?"

"It's all right, and if I were a geranium," said a shabby man at the back of the hall, "I'd stick to water, but you see, I'm not a geranium."

He—"You know I could die dancing with you."

She—"If it weren't for the notoriety, I wish you would."

If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him.

RATTLING ALONG

Teacher—"Define trickle."

Boy—"To run slowly."

Teacher—"Define anecdote."

Boy—"A short, funny tale."

Teacher—"Use both words in a sentence."

The dog tricked down the street with a can tied to his anecdote."

Ex-President Wilson was like a glacier, said Mr. Lane. But he slid.

For a perfectly balanced ration for the household, we recommend as an offering, a cantaloupe, and as a doxology a peach cobbler.

A political plank is usually a gang plank.

Professor—"Doesn't it make you sad to see women wearing feathers of the poor little birds on their hats?"

Married Man—"It isn't the feathers that make me sad, it's their bills."

Maybe calf-love is caused by the skirts the girls wear now-a-days.

TIME TO GET 'ER OUT

When the frost is on the pumpkin

And the fodder's in the shock,

Then dad redeem his overcoat

And puts the Ford in lock.

We Extend to All the Season's Greetings

WITH OUR APPRECIATION OF YOUR

GOOD WILL

0000000000

Harris Grocery

"The Accommodation Store"

Eleventh Hour Suggestions

Silk Petticoats — Wool Scarfs — Silk Sweaters	
Bedroom Slippers for the whole family	98c to \$1.89
Stationery, per box	15c to \$4.75
Perfume, in fancy bottles	25c and 50c
Aluminum Roasters	\$1.23
Steel Roasters	89c to \$2.69
Enamel Roasters	\$3.50 to \$3.98

Andrew's Variety Store

The Spirit of Christmas!

A spirit that marks the great growth between savagery and civilization—between good will and ill.

Noble, unselfish customs born in the shadows of the cross—sublime legacy bequeathed by a tragedy divine.

Today it is a spirit of a free nation, the same spirit of peace on earth, good will to man. Christmas brings us the Yuletide cheer, the fragrance of love and friendship, the happy impulse of giving.

Let the spirit of Christmas gleam as of old, shining with holy light on a new world. May the spirit of Christmas be with you, and may we extend to all a most joyous Christmas greeting.



Satisfaction and Wants.

Wants may be needs but generally any desire, satisfaction of which may or may not promote happiness. But satisfaction always costs, and frequently the expenditure could be more advantageously devoted to needs. It's a wise man who distinguishes between them.

Guide to Visitors.

A busy literary man lacked the following announcement on the door of his residence: "No admission except on business. No business transacted here." The legend on the back door was like unto it: "Please do not enter without knocking. Please do not knock."

Peace on Earth—
Good Will to Men

We wish you all the Joys and Happiness
of Christmas

La Grande National Bank
SOUND—RELIABLE—PROGRESSIVEThe Straight Last
Combination

Men's straight last combination comes in black and brown kid, Goodyear welt sole and rubber heels. If you have trouble with your feet, come in and try this shoe on and you will get relief at once.

Open Evenings the Rest of This Week

The Bootery Inc.

206 Depot Street

Phone Main 118

A Paradise for Tired Feet.
Grover Smith, Mgr.