

La Grande Evening Observer

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

A Contrast

The most reliable estimate of what Germany has paid to France in the way of reparations, both in money and kind, places the figures at \$2,400,000,000. This is said to be generous to the Germans.

It is a balance sheet which shows the falsity of the claims made that German yis exhausted. It abundantly proves bad faith. France may have adopted an unwise policy of collection—some of her loyal friends while sympathizing with her, fear she has—but under the circumstances she seems justified in taking any steps which will produce tangible results.

When in 1871 Germany quartered an army on France to remain until the indemnity should be paid Frenchmen went to work to discharge the obligation as quickly as possible in order to have the Prussians out of their sight. If the Germans had possessed a spirit of patriotism similar to France much of the reparations would have been paid ere this.

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The Flag and the Germans

In the great war American troops helped to win a mighty victory over the Germans. Since then American troops that have been in occupation of German border territory have won another great victory. Those troops found the Germans bitter; they leave them friendly.

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The foreign minister at Berlin is quoted as regretting the hauling down of the American flag as the passing of a symbol that during the years which it floated in German winds served as a reminder of democratic ideals. It can still so serve.

The Germans know that the America whose flag so recently floated over portions of their country is still holding to democratic ideals and can find inspiration in that fact—though the flag has been withdrawn from their soil.

A New Problem

There are enough doctors being graduated from the medical schools of the country to supply the entire need. Take it on the authority of Dean William Darrach of the Columbia university medical school. Yet many communities are without physicians, and in most sizable cities there are more than enough to care for the people's needs.

The medical profession pays well, and certainly it pays quick returns to the brilliant young physician in the city field. But the profession always has been looked on as humanitarian, its members as humanity's servants, and the ideals have not been lowered in the present generation.

Just how to solve the problem can be answered in no glib and easy fashion. But it ought to be faced, it ought to be brought forcibly to the attention of the physicians and the medical schools, and an effort should be made to make the rural and small town field inviting for the doctors.

One Harvard professor recommends that men wear nightcaps, but there are some men who prefer to drink them.

It would seem like wasted effort to adopt the Coue formula and continue to patronize bootleggers.

The time may come when farmers will have to park their cars two miles out and come to town on a boat.

Editorials From Over the Nation

LUNCHING WITH DAD

Boston Herald: Lawrence Abbott in his eulogy of his father, the late Dr. Lyman Abbott, said the famous preacher and editor was the "most delightful luncheon companion" the son had ever known, and he did not intend the tribute to apply only to the years of maturity of both.

That is almost unique as a filial tribute. How many sons would like nothing better than to take luncheon with dad? That is a pointed way of putting the fact that the father and son relationship is not made the most of under the existing conditions of American life, that what might be a fine and uplifting intimacy is not promoted sufficiently.

The son said Dr. Abbott was a good mixer and in that connection he made another striking remark. He referred to St. Francis of Assisi as having written centuries ago in colloquial Latin a precept which Mr. Abbott translated thus: "Let the brothers take care not to appear long-faced, gloomy or overcast; but let them be joyous about their faith in God, laughing and good mixers." Everybody who has read that remarkable life of St. Francis by Paul Sabatier will be grateful to Lawrence Abbott for that translation, for of all the saints of the Middle Ages he presents in many ways the most attractive figure, and here he is offered to us in very modern terms as a "good mixer."

ARE MODERNS TOO TOUCHY?

Pittsburg Leader: The time was—and not so long ago—when sweet-heart or lover, bride or groom, had the sweet privilege of dancing on his or her partner's feet if he or she desired or couldn't do any better dancing. Not now. Then it was one of the proofs of that fearless love through which lovers from the time men began to use spoken language perjured themselves to penetrate further into the sanctity of a woman's affection. Not now.

Whether men have been cured of the perjury habit in their amorous adventures, or whether they have just got plain fed up on the endless brand of love, is not entirely clear. But when a groom tells his beaming bride that she almost trampled his foot off with her "original dancing" and that he is through dancing with her, why is the human-born inference? Isn't it perfectly clear that a nitichy change has entered when no one was looking?

The bride cried with a broken heart and took poison. She has a fighting chance to get well. What hurt her so much was that she knew her groom was "the best dancer in Brooklyn," so she took dancing lessons for some time before her marriage in order to be a dutiful wife. And she was a dutiful wife. "As up and told me my dancing was plain lumm," could any bride only three days old stand for that?

COURTESY

Milwaukee Journal: "Life is not so short but that there is always time enough for courtesy."—Emerson. We all find the interesting, engaging, gracious quality of courteousness easily is first. It is the perfect flower of consideration of one toward another. Yet every day we bump into occurrences that make us wonder why it is so rare.

It is Emerson is right there is always time enough to express our courtesy. But another writer tells us that courtesy cannot dwell with selfishness, and we suspect that therein lies the rub. It isn't that we haven't time, but that when we want things we are willing to tread on another's rights or feelings to get them.

Courtesy in the absence of it is made up of our decisions in the little things of life. A long line of automobiles is going down the street. The last driver wishes to go a little faster. As he pulls out he sees that it is impossible for him to go ahead of the white line, but he could edge up in front of the man ahead of him. That would be merely taking another man's place and he retreats.

This instance illustrates one of the essential qualities of true courtesy. It is negative, not positive. We do not see it expressed, but its opposite, rudeness, is. The refusal of the man behind to take the place of the man ahead because he cannot go on will never be known to the other. Yet it was a courteous act.

MAY HAVE BEEN A COINCIDENCE

A paper that prints a good many alleged photographs of unusual people had three all on one page, and all three were of men who wore those grotesque, deformed, dwarfish apologies for a real mustache, consisting of a tuft of hair on the upper lip. It might have been a coincidence, but one was a fellow who served ten years in a German prison for murder, one claims to have made a cannon that will shoot around a corner and the third was a man who paid \$50,000 for a strawberry plant.

Income Tax Facts

By Clyde G. Huntley Collector.

While the exemptions for married persons are \$2,500 for persons whose net income for 1922 was \$5,000 or less, and \$2,000 for persons whose net income was more than \$5,000, there is inserted in the income tax law a qualifying clause in justice to the taxpayer whose net income just exceeds \$5,000. The law provides that the reduction in the amount of the exemption from \$2,500 to \$2,000 shall not operate to increase the tax which would be payable if the exemption were \$2,500 by more than the amount of net income in excess of \$5,000. For example, Mr. and Mrs. John Jones had a net income for 1922 of \$5,510. Without the benefit of the above provision, their tax would be \$159.45 (\$5,510 less \$2,500 equaling \$3,010 at 4 per cent). Their actual tax is \$110.10 (\$5,510 less \$2,500 equaling \$3,010 at 4 per cent plus \$19, the amount by which the net income exceeds \$5,000.

For the year 1922 there is no change in the normal tax, which is 4 per cent on the first \$4,000 of net income in excess of the exemptions and 8 per cent on the remaining net income. The surtax rates, which apply only to income in excess of \$6,000 are lowered. For the year 1922 the surtax rates range from 1 per cent on the amount of net income between \$6,000 and \$10,000 to 24 per cent on the amount by which the net income exceeds \$200,000. For the taxable year 1921 the surtax rates ranged from 1 per cent on the amount of net income between \$5,000 and \$5,000 to 65 per cent on the amount by which the net income exceeded \$1,000,000. The tax may be paid in full at the time of filing the return or in quarterly installments, due on or before March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15, 1922.

THE OFFICE CAT

ALAS! Two old maids went for a tramp in the woods. The tramp died.

It certainly is fortunate for the average man that brains are not on exhibition.

The best kind of a banquet to go to is one where there is plenty of turkey and the other good things to eat, with no after-dinner vocal agony, to listen to.

My Braw says it was probably a fish that started the superstition that Friday is an unlucky day.

After you have done something particularly hard it is astonishing to note the number who assure you that they would have helped you if you had only asked them, says a La Grande man.

A little rain, plus muddy highways, always equals changes in plans.

What we would like to see is a real cure for baldness that can't get pushed over on one ear when you take your hat off.

Amos Tash says all the filling station man knows about the different days of the week is that on Sunday he sells more gasoline.

Any style hat will look good on a woman if she only has the right style of face.

An Eastern Oregon man, who was recently defendant in a damage suit, says tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth—and make a lot of trouble.

THE ADVANTAGE OF WISDOM [Even wise men have their faults, but being wise they endeavor to hide them.]

An Observer employee sounds off with "one point of law which has been cleared up lately is that it is illegal for one lady to kill another with a hammer."

Pearls come from oysters but diamonds usually come from some poor fish.

No royal road leads to knowledge, but several lead away from it.

"Winter wouldn't be so bad," comments Cy Kology frigidly, "if it wasn't for the cold weather."

Lie in bed as long as you can, urges a La Grande man. Expenses start as soon as you get up.

30 Years Ago Today

Shortly after one o'clock last Tuesday morning fire was discovered in the rear of the two-story building on Adams avenue owned by the Masonic Order and occupied as a lodge room on the second floor and by the grocery firm of Messner & Company on the ground floor. An alarm sounded and both hose companies responded with promptness. The fire had gained considerable headway on the rear of the building but in an incredibly short time after arrival of the hose teams not a spark of fire could be seen. Messner's stock of goods was damaged to some extent by water, while the fixtures of the Masonic lodge room were principally affected by smoke. The damage to the building will amount to but very little, fully covered by insurance. The fire had the appearance of having started on the outside of the building and its origin is shrouded in mystery. Among the arrivals recorded on the register of the Golden Rule hotel last Sunday were Mrs. J. W. Foley, Miss Kate Foley, and Lorena Foley of Kansas City. The necktie party given at U-

Advertisement for Mack West & Co. featuring Spring Coats, Knickers, and Pumps. Includes images of a woman in a coat and a high-heeled shoe. Text: 'MORE THAN A HUNDRED NEW Spring Coats', 'New Colored Sateen KNICKERS \$1-75 Pair', 'TUSCA NETS For Your Windows', 'New Yard-wide PERCALES 29c', 'Several Very New PUMPS AND OXFORDS'.

Advertisement for the ANNUAL MILK CONVENTION. Text: 'The seventh Pacific northwest milk convention, arranged jointly by the Pacific Northwest Association of Dairy and Milk Importers and the Pacific Northwest Milk Dealers Association, is to be held in Tacoma, February 15, 16 and 17, and the committee in charge has sent out a broad invitation to the men of all units of the dairy industry to be present.' Includes a small illustration of a milk can.

Advertisement for PROFIT insurance. Text: 'If you work for a salary your time is your working capital. Your profit is represented by what you save. If your operating expense is as much as you earn, you have suffered a loss by reason of having impaired your working capital to the extent of the time lost.' Includes the La Grande National Bank logo and contact information for Chas. H. Reynolds.

Advertisement for Olympia Oyster Cocktails. Text: 'Olympia Oyster Cocktails in Season at THE LOTTES 1118 Jefferson Ave.'

Advertisement for Security Insurance Agency. Text: 'The cigarette-carelessness Disaster! Through carelessness, the lighted cigarette topples to the floor, starting a little blaze in the rug. There is no one in the room — and the time grows from the lamp to a roaring furnace.' Includes an illustration of a cigarette and a fire.