

# La Grande Evening Observer

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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

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**A PENITENT PRAYER:**—Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions; and my sin ever before me.—Psalm 51: 2 and 3.

## Honoring Washington

Once a year, at least, Americans pay honor to the memory of a Washington. We recount his historic services and his magnificent qualities. We praise his patience, his tirelessness, his courage, his strength of will, his unselfishness, his calmness, his clear-mindedness.

In lauding them, his virtues, we mark ourselves as a people who know what is good and recognize merit when we see it.

How would it be, for a change, to honor Washington in deeds rather than in words? How would it be, for a change, instead of merely praising Washington's varied qualities of strength of mind, and heart, and soul, to emulate them?

If the list seems rather long, how would it be, for a start, to choose two or three—or even one—of the most easily attainable of the attributes that distinguish the founder.

We would be much happier and more useful if we were to pattern our conduct after Washington for a while.

## Agricultural Explorers

It is now 25 years since David Fairchild, the pioneer, paved the way for the establishment of the bureau of Foreign seed and plant introduction at Washington. This enterprise of the department of agriculture has been of inestimable value to American farmers and fruit growers. The bureau has sent its staff of "agricultural explorers" to every corner of the world to make useful discoveries and their work has been supplemented by correspondents in foreign countries and by practical demonstrations at the government's own experiment stations and in its botanic gardens, which are not maintained as the casual visitor might suppose, simply for "show."

During the past few years the bureau has brought into the United States more than 55,000 separate lots of seeds and plants, which have produced immensely valuable crops. For instance, "drum wheat," secured from Russia a couple of decades ago, now yields American farmers an annual return of \$50,000,000. Egyptian cotton and Japanese rice, now grown in this country, have proved most profitable crops. New fruits, shade trees, ornamental shrubs and countless "wild relatives" of cultivated plants have been brought here from their native soil and made to flourish.

This exploration service has produced many stories of romance and adventure. Off in the wilds of Bura and Siam an American expert is searching today for seeds of the precious chalmogra tree from which the oil is used in treating leprosy. Another journeyed overland from the cape of Good Hope to Cairo.

## Capital Punishment

Lewis E. Lawes, warden of Sing Sing prison, says he does not believe capital punishment is a deterrent of murder. "If it is," he asked a New York audience, "then why not have these executions in public and make persons who might commit murder fear execution?"

It is not unusual for persons employed by society to attend to the gruesome business of putting others to death, to be opposed to capital punishment. Warden Lawes has observed that such punishment comes quickly, lasts but a moment, and entails but little active suffering. Indeed, it has been said, the warden and witnesses at such affairs frequently are more severely punished than the victim, since the horrible event is engraved upon their minds.

It is true that mental turmoil resulting from anticipation of such a death often causes physical pain, but this is not always the case. Often, too, such suffering is no less when the sentence is life imprisonment. This is the punishment which conscience inflicts, not equally, but in inverse proportion to the desert and need of the individual. To the penitent, death may be the means of relief from torture. Were such executions held in public, as they were in more strenuous times, the institution would probably be abolished. The public conscience is not less sensitive than that of a hardened jailer. Conscience is the most implacable judge and jailer employed by society.

## Bobbed Hair

How, asks a woman critic, could a queen look queenly with bobbed hair sticking out from beneath her crown? This evidently is intended to be a poser for flappers who have yielded to the lure of the shears. But is it? It is not difficult to find queens who look queenly enough with bobbed hair—sans crown—to suit the average man.

Certainly to those who recall the fly-away headdress of past seasons bobbed hair sticking out from beneath a crown would not be less suggestive of queenliness than a crown sticking out from above the towering pompadour of the late nineties or the puffs of the first decade of 1900. Long-haired women may not rate bobbed hair as queenly, but the flapper with abbreviated locks seems to be holding her own in the business of reigning.

## Editorials From Over the Nation

### MURDER HAS BEEN DONE WORSE THAN THIS

Baltimore News: There is a genial fellow of our acquaintance who possesses a daughter—the lucky dog! This particular man is a queer sort of a cuss and he has always thought along with Barrie that there are only two great epochs in a girl's life: one, when she is first thought upon by the subject, marriage is not one of them. The first great event is when the initial recognizable smile ripples into baby laughter; the second when she puts up her hair.

This man we have in mind had made a sort of dream ritual of this latter and had planned a thousand ways in turning the matter over to his inner consciousness how he would invest the ceremony with a thousand little graces. They would talk about it ever so much beforehand and as the day drew near there would be many little backward flights and timorous fears of how it would all turn out. In her childhood days he would often toss her little mane up backward to get a prevision of the inevitable, and she, the little miss, would tantalize him in turn by parading before him with a mountain of fifteen-pun gold bunched on her dainty little head. It was to be a momentary occasion and the poor fellow huggled the thought to himself. They would plan for it as for a lord mayor's ceremonial.

The blow fell as most blows fall, suddenly, unexpectedly. He went home of an evening, carefree, joyous, to romp with this girl child as of old. She was going to a party and she was 15 going on 18, and her mother, without a word of preparation for the shock, with a thoughtless almost sublime, had borne her off to a hairdresser where all the ingenuous rites of that diabolical institution were perpetrated. We don't very much mind whether this genial fellow will ever be quite the same, the deepest, the most poignant hurt, somehow or other always seem to come out of thoughtlessness and the failure to grasp even faintly the other fellow's point of view. Even fathers have a few temples where they make prayer.

### YOUR BOY

Omaha World Herald: Is there a young man rising in your home, father, growing day by day into greater life who is "slipping" along without your aid?

Is there a boy in your home who is crowing far away from you in the hurry and hustle of your own busy affairs?

Do you stick too closely to your work to give time to your boy and to help him understand life as he should? Do you know that he needs you, that boy of yours, and do you know that you are failing in your duty as a parent if you do not give him time and counsel and love?

Don't let it continue, father. Sit down with your boy tonight, and learn from his lips about his play, his school, his joys and his sorrows. Laugh with him, if he wants laughter. Sympathize with him if he's sad. Give him words of advice and cheer, and show him the love that he longs for and needs. Give him a lift that will help him along toward the pathway of happiness—give him the lift that you missed, perhaps, when you needed it years ago.

There isn't an investment, father, that'll bring greater returns in this world. Cherish your boy and love and help him—make just a little investment of each, every day and in the years to come and the world will clip from it the coupons of love and contentment and service.

## Income Tax Facts

By Clyde G. Huntley Collector.

By a corporation or partnership. Pension paid to an individual to retired employees for services rendered are taxable. Pensions paid by the Federal government to retired civil employees also are taxable, except as provided by the revenue act of 1921, which exempts "amounts received as compensation, family allotments and allowances under the provision of the war risk insurance and vocational rehabilitation acts, or as pensions from the United States for services of the beneficiary or another in the military or naval service of the United States in time of war." Under prior acts all pensions paid in recognition of services rendered by the pensioner were taxable.

Allowances, whether paid by the government or private individuals to one who performed no duties, as, for example, to a widow in recognition of services performed by her husband, are regarded as gifts, and are not taxable as income.

Pensions and bonuses paid by a state or political subdivision thereof to its residents who served in the military or naval forces during the war with Germany do not constitute taxable income.

Benefits paid by a labor union to members while on strike are to be included in the income, subject to tax, of such members.

Annuities paid retired employees of the Federal government under the act of May 22, 1920, are subject to the tax to the extent that the aggregate amount of payments exceeds the amount withheld from the salary of the employees. If an employee leaves the civil service before becoming eligible for retirement and receives the amount of salary withheld, together with interest, he should report as income only the amount of interest for the year in which received.

Philadelphia North American: Perhaps it's because oil and water don't mix that so much of the oil stock has so little oil back of it.

## THE OFFICE CAT

**A CROOKED STORY**  
He was a bow legged beau, And she was a knock-kneed swain. They went to a pigeon-toed preacher, Who quickly made them twain.

Their children grew up together, As crooked as could be— They went with a club-footed sheriff To the penitentiary.

"And I'm not in favor of whiskers that take the place of a bib," snorts a La Grande man.

**A GOOD REASON**  
"Jimmy," said the teacher, "why is it that lightning never strikes in the same place?"  
"Because," said Jimmy confidently, "after it hits once, the same place ain't there any more."

You can't get around it, kindness always says. Pat a stray dog and he will follow you a mile. Lend some La Grande men a quarter and they will come back tomorrow to borrow a dollar.

If you are a hooch drinker, just keep at it long enough and sooner or later you will get some dope that will blind or kill you.

**HOME**—the place where we are treated best and grumbled most.

In Germany the people have reformed in at least one way. They do not gamble for money any more. In Germany there isn't any.

Oh, wad some power the giftie gie us To see ourselves as others see us, Methinks 'twould so reduce our chests.

That we could wear our little vests, Wrapped twine around and still go slack That they could button in the back.

When the book agent confesses that few families have sufficient culture to appreciate the work, the set is sold.

Keep out of ruts! A rut is something which if traveled in too much, becomes a ditch.

**JUST LIKE US HUMANS**  
"I've noticed few people say 'thank you' for the second glass of water," says a La Grande waiter.

Orange face powder and orange rouge is the latest fad among the girls. A rare combination of nuts and fruit, thinks the Observer.

A lot of persons come to settle in the city who are not able to settle up after they get settled down.

Babies when they are born accept their parents without protest. When the babies get older, though, they make up for it.

George Carpentier is practically through, and there's one more idle idol.

**'TIS MIGHTY STRANGE**  
"It's queer," remarked Jinks. "What is?" asked Blinks. "That with all the people looking for and borrowing trouble I can't get rid of mine," replied Jinks.

One thing certain success has a chance to spoil few people.

### TEACHER JOB DEMANDED

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Feb. 22.—Mrs. Yvonne K. Navas today served formal notice upon the school board that she expected to carry out the terms of the contract under which she was brought here to teach French and Spanish in the high school. Mrs. Navas was dismissed last week because the state superintendent would not certify her as a qualified high school teacher.

## Conveniences for the Country Home

A modern drug shop like ours provides many things which will add to the comfort of any home. Don't do without the things you need just because it isn't convenient for you to come to town.

WRITE OR PHONE MAIN 48 and we'll deliver the goods at your door at the earliest possible moment. A few suggestions—

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Let's Prepare Your Statement and Income Tax Return. We Will Save You Money. Bookkeeping System Installed. Books Kept By the Year. MALONEY & PEARSON CO. La Grande, Ore.—Phone M-713. In Oregon 1919—Imp. 1923.

**N. K. West & Co.**  
THE QUALITY STORE

# FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>



George Washington's Birthday—a long ways to look back—yet, in George's day men's dress was just as important as today. Style, quality and service was then the uppermost word, even as this day.

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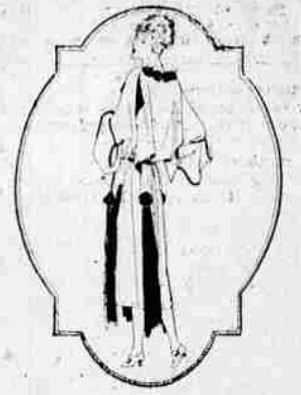
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### READ OBSERVER WANT ADS

On the ground that she does not hold a B. A. degree. Mrs. Navas said today she had sent to Paris for a certified copy of her certificate and for a statement from the United States ambassador that B. A. degrees are not given by the universities in France.

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### U.B. Thrifty says—



My name is U.B. Thrifty folks, and every week I am going to have a real message for you.

I have been engaged to work for the liveest Bank in this town. WATCH FOR MY MESSAGE

La Grande National Bank

Let's Prepare Your Statement and Income Tax Return. We Will Save You Money. Bookkeeping System Installed. Books Kept By the Year. MALONEY & PEARSON CO. La Grande, Ore.—Phone M-713. In Oregon 1919—Imp. 1923.

### SILVER ORE VALUED

HAINES, Or., Feb. 22.—A party of mining men from Seattle have returned from a visit to the West-Union mine 12 miles west of Haines, with samples from a new lead yielding silver ore to the value of \$86 per ton, according to the report from the assayer's office to

John Lang and A. A. Fidler, principal owners of the mine.

MARKET NEWS (By Associated Press) PORTLAND, Feb. 22.—Cattle steady; hogs 50 cents lower; prime light, \$10.00 to \$10.25; sheep, eggs and butter steady.

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