

La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME XXVI

SECTION TWO

LA GRANDE, OREGON, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1923.

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 132

WARNING IS ISSUED TO WHEAT MEN

Roger Babson, Statistician, Visits Agricultural West

WHEAT CONSUMPTION IS ON A DECREASE

Wheat Men Are Confronted With Difficult Proposition; Consumption Per Capita Is Not Growing.

MINNEAPOLIS, Mar. 9.—Last week we quoted Roger W. Babson relative to conditions in the "Agricultural West." This week Mr. Babson treats of the "Agricultural West."

"The Agricultural West," he says, "is confronted with a fundamental law which is this: The consumption per capita of wheat decreases as a people becomes more prosperous. The business man eats less wheat than the chauffeur, the chauffeur eats less than the Italian gardener, and the gardener eats less than the immigrant who has just landed. Each generation of a given family eats less wheat than the preceding generation, and so it goes. This law does not apply to cotton, sugar, rubber and certain other products. It does not so much apply to corn, which is fed to live stock, because as people become more prosperous they eat more meat, and they consume more cotton, sugar, rubber, etc. This does not mean that there is no hope for the wheat growers; but it does mean that the wheat growers have a more difficult problem than the growers of most other products.

"So long as a million new immigrants were coming into this country every year, and so long as our birth rate remained high, there was an increase in the demand for wheat sufficient to take care of the excess supply. With the immigration practically cut off—the net gain in 1922 was only 25,000 people—and with the constant decline in our native birth rate, the wheat growers of the Agricultural West are up against a very difficult proposition.

"As a result of these conditions I found the small farmers of Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and even those of Missouri still in rather bad shape. It is true that conditions everywhere in the West are much better than two years ago. The banks are liquidating their frozen credits, and the farmers are making their debts; but with low prices for their products and high prices for labor and all they buy—with taxes rapidly increasing—the growers of wheat and other cereals have a real problem. Fundamentally, this is, under present immigration and better rate conditions, a problem which must be solved through exportation. But to increase exports, our farmers must compete with the Argentine and other cereal growing countries. This means that our only hope is in mass production. Wheat must be grown as automobiles are made—by the most efficient and intensive methods. In order to compete with the rest of the world in raising wheat, output per acre must be increased 25% or else the labor cost must be cut 25%. If the latter is to be accomplished, without reducing wages, it means that about 25% of the men now engaged in raising wheat should either raise other products or else become carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers and painters. In their own or nearby towns, the output of such cities as Minneapolis, St. Paul, Kansas City, Duluth, Des Moines,avenport, Sioux City, Omaha, Topeka, Wichita, and even St. Louis depends very largely upon a fearless recognition and solution of this problem. It cannot be solved by the politicians or by handing out gifts to the farmers. It can be solved only by intelligent leadership with the active co-operation of the newspapers.

"Of course, we should assume from these comments the idea that the Agricultural West is dependent upon wheat. The industries of this wonderful section of the United States are becoming more diversified every day. Moreover, these diversified industries are rapidly picking up. The lumber industry of Minnesota, the jewelry industry of this section, and the various other lines are improving. Fishing, which was flat on its back a year ago, is turning over onto its side preparatory to getting up. All the livestock business looks better and the farmers are confidently looking forward to higher prices. The improvement in the copper industry and the great improvement in the iron and steel industry is helping the northwestern states. Lower zinc and other non-ferrous metals will soon be better demanded as the great building boom develops further. This will help Missouri and certain other portions of that section. The people should be taught that diversification applies not only to the different crops which a farmer plants but the different lines which his boys enter. Let one or two of them continue in farming; but let one go into the building trades, and let another go into some manufacturing

third into merchandising, and the fourth into the military, medicine, banking, or law. This does not mean that such boys should go to the industrial centers of the East, or even to the large cities of the West. Statistics clearly show that the best opportunities today are in the smaller cities and towns. Moreover, most boys are better off to remain in their home town than to go to large cities. One of the great troubles with the boys of today is that disease known as "Green Pasture"—which a materia medica tells us means that to one afflicted with this disease "the pasture farthest away always looks the greenest."

"Still, notwithstanding these obstacles, I found the great Agricultural West in far better condition than a year ago. Manufacturers and merchants are well justified in looking for increased sales in this section during 1923. The improvement has contributed to the increase in the barometer of business for the entire country. The Babson chart today stands at 3% above normal compared with 1% below normal a year ago. This is a great improvement and the task before all of us now is to keep business up to its present figures. Statistically, President Harding has succeeded in bringing business back to normal, whether or not he can hold it there, only the future can tell. Much depends upon the Agricultural West and especially upon the railroads, bankers, merchants, newspapers and other leaders of public opinion in this section. In the end, the great Agricultural West goes, so goes the whole country. Hence, the problems of the West are the problems of all of us. As Jean de La Roche—the greatest economist who ever lived—taught his hearers: "The prosperity of each is dependent upon the prosperity of all and we can help ourselves only as we help one another."

DESERT SANDS BURY ARMIES

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Mar. 10.—"Covered by the shifting sands of the desert," is the unflattering verdict of the late Col. Francis Marshall and Lieut. Charles Webster, army aviators who have been missing since December 7, 1922, according to members of a searching party headed by Major Theodore Macauley of Rockwell Field here, who have just ended a fruitless search for the two men.

Major Macauley says that since Jan. 12 he and his party have thoroughly explored the mountain fastnesses and desert wastes of northern Sonora, Mexico, and southwestern Arizona. No trace of the army aviators was found by the government party.

Major Macauley says his search revealed the fact that Col. Marshall and Lieut. Webster never topped the Growler mountain in their intended flight from San Diego to Fort Huachuca, near Tucson, Ariz. Their flight was traced from Rockwell field to a point near the Growler mountain range, but beyond this point the party could elicit no information from the ranchmen and cowboys that would tend to show the plane had proceeded further eastward. Major Macauley said:

"The government searching party was unanimous in stating that the fate of the two army officers probably will remain forever a mystery. The shifting sands of the Ariz desert probably has covered them and plane forever, the army searchers stated.

The final chapter to the tragedy was written in Washington, D. C., last week, according to word received here, when memorial services were held for the two army officers. Many prominent officials of the Legislative branch attended, including the secretary of war, General Pershing and Mrs. Francis Marshall, widow of the lost colonel, who traveled from her home in Wisconsin to attend the memorial exercises.

ITALY IS OUT TO SUPPRESS GAMBLING

ROME, Feb. 7. (By Mail).—Gambling has found no friends in the government of Premier Mussolini, which, by a recent decision, has authorized the repression of the practice on the grounds that it does not promote a healthy morality in the nation and that Italian cities must find better means than "parasitism and vice" for their prosperity.

The Minister of the Interior, the portfolio of which is held by Premier Mussolini, has given power to adopt severe measures to run down the gamblers and to abolish the traffic in any quarters where it may be found.

CO-ED ROOTERS ARE BEING ORGANIZED

OAKLAND, Calif., Mar. 10.—Wild-eyed Brownie, Norma Kessen, Miss Benedict and Janet Wilson, co-eds of the University of California, have been elected leaders to direct rally activities among women students.

Geraldine Farrar Tells Her Marital Troubles



Geraldine Farrar, star of opera and screen, is shown here testifying before a referee in her divorce action against Lou Tellegen. On the right, is her attorney, Alvin Testimony. Stenographer at left.

OCEAN BOTTOM BEING MAPPED

(By Associated Press.) SAN DIEGO, Cal., Mar. 10.—Submarine mountains and valleys, plains and plateaus, every geographical form, in fact, except perhaps submarine deserts, are being mapped out on the floor of the Pacific from Cordova, Alaska, to Mexico, in hydrographic surveys by the United States government. Later the ocean bed in the vicinity of the Hawaiian islands will also be surveyed.

Three steamers, the Pioneer, the Discoverer and the Guide, are engaged in the work, which will probably not be completed before 1925. For the past four months the Pioneer and the Discoverer have been working along the southern California coast, but are now en route to Alaskan waters, via San Francisco. On June 1, they will be joined by the Guide, now at New York having a sounding device installed.

One of the interesting discoveries made by the Pioneer is that surveys made in 1863 of Cortes bank 90 miles west of here, were so accurate that few changes, if any, will be needed for present day charts. On the other hand, it was found that Bishop rock, a rock and clay projection at the center of the Cortes bank, on which a four-masted ship was wrecked in the early fifties, is approximately one and one-half miles off position.

TRADE OUTLOOK IS ENCOURAGING

Car Loadings Continue to Add Testimony of Improvement; Labor Shortage Feared.

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, Mar. 10.—Railroad carloadings continue to add testimony as to the better state of business. The first 52 roads to report for January show a net of over 14,000,000, which is nearly double the amount earned by these roads in January a year ago, when net tonnage came to 2,600,000.

A consideration which is causing concern in some quarters is the possibility of a shortage of labor when out of doors work increases in the spring. Labor supplies already are short in the iron and steel industry, a talk of further increases in wages, nor is this condition limited to the steel industry. Following the modern rise in interest rates which preceded and followed the lifting of the federal reserve bank rate at New York, the money market has settled down on the new basis.

Continued strength in commodity and security prices and additional indications of great industrial activity have featured the past week in finance and commerce. Firmness in commodity prices was the main reflection of the strong industrial situation, steel prices again moving toward higher levels and metals, particularly copper, making a material advance.

In steel, buyers still are anxious to obtain places on the manufacturer's books and the makers have now raised their rates of operations close to 20 per cent of capacity while prices of finished steel products have risen so that the Iron Age's index stands at \$27.19 as compared with \$18.10 a year ago. There now seems to be a healthy disposition on the part of the producers to eliminate orders which appear to be of speculative character. Some observers believe that the rise in prices is likely to halt in the future.

Cotton is another commodity which displayed remarkable strength during the past week. New bid records were achieved, the May futures reaching 23.84 cents. It is estimated that a crop of something like 12,000,000 bales, which is 2,000,000 more than that of the last year, will be needed to restore the usual situation to an approximately normal basis.

THE INSURANCE IS LATEST SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 10.—You may now be insured against the loss of sight, damage to hearing, taste and loss of those things drinking "Smack," according to the terms of an "accidental" health insurance policy issued by S. F. Foster, financial consultation director of California

"Mayflower" Is To Be Reproduced By Cinema

(By The Associated Press.) LOS ANGELES, Mar. 10.—An exact duplicate of the ship Mayflower, constructed by motion picture technicians for use in a film production depicting events centered about Plymouth, Rock in 1620, will be one of the features of the American Historical Revue and Motion Picture Exposition scheduled to be held here next July, providing the ship can be moved intact from its "anchorage" in Hollywood to the exposition grounds.

As the ship is 102 feet long and weighs 94 tons, its proposed voyage through city streets for a distance of ten miles is expected to be a difficult problem in navigation as any ever faced by the skipper of the original Mayflower. However, with a hull built of structural steel and modern machinery, it is believed that the ship will be prepared, perhaps better than was its famous prototype, for a laborious and jolting sea voyage.

ATHEISM THEME OF RUSS YOUTH

(By The Associated Press.) MOSCOW, Mar. 10.—Christmas day on the Russian calendar, January 7, the day on which this year the young communists all over Russia staged grotesque anti-religious demonstrations, is to be entered on the official records as "The Day of the Depositing of the Gods." In addition to the great procession of communist students in Moscow on January 7, reports from the provinces indicate that in virtually every city and village of Russia these atheist youths held mock celebrations in the churches.

The government, which in some ways has expressed the churches from the very beginning of the Bolshevik revolution, did not, however, take any steps to ban these mock celebrations until this year.

In Moscow several of the smaller atheist clubs before the holidays staged a "protest" against the mock celebrations, which are now to be closed, it is announced. Workmen at the town of Brainsk have just passed a resolution to deport all of the local clergymen, and the official press, particularly the smaller papers intended for the workmen now contain attacks on religion in general.

One of them has inaugurated a campaign against heretics. Most of the young communists who are directing the anti-religious campaign declare they are sincere atheists, even though most of them have as parents persons who cross themselves before every shrine, and who even now consider their children as anti-Christ, surely bound for hell and damnation.

An amusing story is told in Moscow of one of these youths who, to please himself of the idea of having scoffed at God during the celebration, went to church the next day, confessed his sin, and accepted a heavy penance.

Space is relatively, of course. The places that are the best advertising space have the most parking space. Correct this sentence: "It's only eight blocks," said the flapper, "and I'd love rather walk than have you sell a taxi!"

WOMAN'S LIFE SAVED BY DOG

(By The Associated Press.) ELY, Nev., Mar. 10.—The story of a dog that refused to let his mistress sleep, and thereby saved her life, has been revealed as one of the almost tragic incidents growing out of the recent heavy snow storms here. Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Dugan, residents near here, were caught in the hills 12 miles from here while driving to Ely recently. The roads became impassable and the couple, accompanied by a dog, started to walk to a telephone station to call for help.

They walked for an entire day and on arriving at the telephone station, found the line out of order. They were unable to start a fire because of the lack of dry matches and again started to walk, hoping to reach Ely. The snow was above the man's waist.

Mrs. Dugan gave out and was left behind wrapped in her husband's overcoat with the dog inside of it to keep her warm. Mr. Dugan reached this city after daylight of the third morning, having taken eleven hours to walk the last 200 miles. He was barely able to explain what happened. Rescue parties found the woman alive, with her feet badly frozen. She said that when she grew drowsy, the dog would bark and pull at her clothing. Sleep, the doctors stated, would have been fatal.

LABOR SWAMPS ASTORIA

ASTORIA, Ore., Mar. 10.—Chief of Police Dehrides says that as a result of misleading reports published in eastern papers, that scores of laboring men are wanted in Astoria, he is compelled to furnish lodgings for an increased number of new arrivals every night.

"There is no demand for additional workmen here," said the chief. "In fact, we have numbers of men residing here who are unable to obtain employment."

When Better Automobiles Are Built Buick Will Build Them—See—Southard & Shinn Cor. Adams and Fir

When In Pendleton Stop With Your Old Friend, J. M. STALLEY, Former Owner of the Savoy In La Grande.

He now owns the Dorton hotel in Pendleton, which is a thoroughly modern home for the traveling public and he looks after his patrons with the usual "Star" hospitality.

When in Pendleton Stop With Your Old Friend, J. M. STALLEY, Former Owner of the Savoy In La Grande. He now owns the Dorton hotel in Pendleton, which is a thoroughly modern home for the traveling public and he looks after his patrons with the usual "Star" hospitality.

Monuments ORDER THAT MONUMENT NOW

Gen. Carr's Memorial, Troy, N.Y. —We have made a profound study of monument building, and an order placed in our hands is sure to receive faithful, intelligent execution.

We Will Gladly Furnish Estimates

Blue Mountain Marble & Granite Company

1502 S. Ave., La Grande, Or.

Indigent Immigrants Will Be Refused Entry

(By Associated Press.) SYDNEY, N. S. W., Feb. 14. (By Mail).—The federal government has decided to communicate with the Italian government and make it known that Australia cannot permit the entry of indigent immigrants, as the result of the concern caused by the recent unexpected arrival of a shipload of Italians and the announcement that many of their countrymen, led here by false prospects, were likely to become charges upon the state.

The federal government has the power under the immigration laws to control the influx of aliens and this authority is to be exercised as is necessary to protect the Australian public, it has been announced.

Although the New South Wales government refused to aid the large number of aliens who have just arrived, the grave fears as to their future have proved unjustified, as most of them found employment within a day or two after landing. Each state has a fairly large Italian population and those who were in a position to do so, have come to the assistance of their countrymen.

FAMOUS STATION IS SOLD FOR \$205,000

(By Associated Press.) TONOPAH, Nev., Mar. 10.—Competing against two other bidders who intended to demolish the structure for its materials, Mrs. G. E. Foss, one of the pioneers of Rhyolite, Nev., purchased the Rhyolite station of the former Las Vegas & Tonopah railroad for \$205,000. She stated the old station would be retained as a memorial to the men who established Rhyolite at the threshold of Death Valley.

The depot, which cost approximately \$20,000, was erected when Rhyolite seemed certain to rank among the foremost mining camps of Nevada, but the failure of the ore bodies in the Montserrat-shoshone and other mines forced eventual abandonment of the town.

College: A few class rooms adjacent to a stadium.

WANT ADS ARE RESULT GETTERS

(By Associated Press.) SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 10.—Want ads do bring results, although sometimes thirty-six years may be required for these results to materialize. Thirty-six years ago H. F. Adams, Los Angeles, read the following advertisement in a San Francisco newspaper:

"Any information concerning Dr. A. Goodenough, a pioneer of San Francisco, will be appreciated by the undersigned. Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco."

Last week Adams answered the ad. He stated that Dr. Goodenough had been his family physician and that he had died at Post Oak, Tex., in 1866, a year before the advertisement appeared.

"I have been too busy to answer the ad before," he wrote.

STRIKE LEADER TO BE EXECUTED SOON

HANKOW, Feb. 12. (By Mail).—One of the railroad strike leaders was decapitated on the railroad station platform here recently, and Shih Yang, a prominent agitator, has been arrested. It is understood he will be executed.

FRANK R. SUYDAM
General Repair Shop
Furniture Repaired and Refinished
Household Repairing of All Kinds
106 Fir St. Phone 513-J

Linoleum Week

This is Linoleum Week. When You Think of Linoleum Think Of **Armstrong's Linoleum** for Every Floor in the House

We Have a Wonderful Display of This High Grade LINOLEUM

W. H. Bohnenkamp Co.

Electrical

WIRING, REPAIRING, APPLIANCES and SUPPLIES

H & S Electric

Agents for Edison Mazda Lamps
105 Depot St. Phone 393-W

LA GRANDE CONCRETE PIPE COMPANY

"PERMANENT AS THE PYRAMIDS"

Manufacturers of

Pipe Blocks

WELL CURBING—SEPTIC TANKS
Phone Main 120 Factory Island City