

KIND WORDS FROM OREGON'S PROMINENT MEN ON THE OLD OREGON TRAIL EDITION

It is with profound appreciation that the editor of the La Grande Evening Observer acknowledges the following kind letters from leading men of the state who appreciate earnest effort in helping to advance and people the great Oregon country. We also appreciate the comment of the press which has been generous and sincere.

Mr. Bruce Dennis, Editor, La Grande Evening Observer, La Grande, Oregon.—My dear Mr. Dennis: Have had an opportunity to read the "Oregon Trail Edition" of the La Grande Evening Observer which you sent me and wish to compliment you on the marvelous way it is gotten up and it compares very favorably with special editions of any paper in Oregon that I have seen.

The paper contains a fund of important information and certainly advertises the resources of Union County to the fullest extent and should do the County a whole lot of good. Yours very truly—J. P. O'Brien, (General Manager O. W. R. & N. Company, Portland.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Mr. Dennis: I wait for time to look over the wonderful Oregon Trail edition of the La Grande Evening Observer in order to express an intelligent and worthwhile opinion of it, that edition will long since have become ancient history. Won't you kindly relieve me from any such obligation. It is simply out of the question.

I observed with amazement the tremendous size of it and my personal knowledge of what is involved in such a stupendous effort causes me to marvel at your courage.

That it is a splendid contribution to the uplift of Eastern Oregon goes without saying, and you do not need my testimony to you that fact. Accept my hearty congratulations. Very truly yours—Wm. McMurray, (General Passenger Agent, O. W. R. & N. Co., Portland.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, Evening Observer, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Mr. Dennis: Upon my return from a trip into Central Oregon I find the Oregon Trail edition of the Observer, as published May 26th.

It is a marvel, reflecting as it does the current news, the settlement, growth and development of a vast country, the lack of facilities of the past and the conveniences and comforts of the present.

The issue is rendered more attractive in that it is flavored with the social and political life radiating in and through the communities that make up the important district in which you are so happily located. Very truly yours—A. C. Spencer, (General Attorney of O. W. R. & N., Portland.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, Care Observer, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Mr. Dennis: Permit me to say as chief executive of Oregon that your splendid Oregon Trail edition of the Evening Observer is a gem. I am keeping it on my desk in the state house to show visitors what a great country Eastern Oregon really is. I know the entire state appreciates this edition, and I congratulate you on its publication.—Walter M. Pierce, (Governor of Oregon.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Mr. Dennis: I wish to acknowledge receipt of the Oregon Trail Edition of the La Grande Evening Observer.

I must say that I was greatly surprised at the size of the paper, and particularly at the wonderful display features of the same. As you know, I have always been a great believer in advertising the advantages of Oregon from either a scenic, climatic or industrial standpoint, and I think that the Oregon Trail is one of the historic events that we should impress upon your doing the same.

With kind regards, I am, Yours respectfully, Herbert Gordon, (Representative, Multnomah County.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—My dear Mr. Dennis: I congratulate you on the recent edition. I have been interested in newspapers for more years than I care to count, and without doubt this is the best special edition I have ever seen anywhere in a community the size of La Grande. Your people can't help being proud of it. Sincerely—Tommy Maloney, (Vice-President Spokane and Eastern Trust Co.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—My dear Mr. Dennis: I received and have gone over the Oregon Trail edition of the Observer and it is a fine issue, worthy of a much larger city than La Grande, in fact, cities having a population as large as Portland have hardly exceeded it.

My first experience on the Old Oregon Trail was coming through from the mines in 1853, when the Grande Ronde Valley was new and Eastern Oregon was in the cedar land. All was a more entrancing sight than that valley presented as I looked over the hills at the eastern end; One circular plain of grass that was an emerald; here and there glimpses of clear water then unclouded by the effects of irrigation—these were saprophytic in the general. All was framed by the surrounding mountains and made a picture which lingers in my memory to this day, and always will. The Grande Ronde Valley has changed materially and prospered materially since then, but it will never be more beautiful than I saw it in the early states.

Again congratulating you on your success with the Oregon Trail Edition and wishing you the continued prosperity which your energy deserves, I remain, Your friend, Thomas A. McBride, (Chief Justice Supreme Court of the State of Oregon.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Mr. Dennis: I have looked over the Oregon Trail Edition of the La Grande Evening Observer, and although I expected something good, I found the edition even better than my expectations.

read the paper very carefully and congratulate you upon having gotten out such a splendid edition. It shows a great deal of preparation, much hard work, and best of all, it has not been selfishly confined to your own county, but gives a very good boost to the whole of Eastern Oregon and particularly to your neighboring counties, Baker and Wallowa.

In my opinion nothing can do more than the press toward building up a community and I heartily commend the attitude of the owners of your paper in choosing and furthering a policy so helpful to the people it serves.

With very best personal regards and kindest wishes.—Chas. J. Shelton, (Representative, Baker County.)

Hon. Bruce Dennis, Editor La Grande Evening Observer.—My dear Mr. Dennis: The Old Oregon Trail edition of the Observer is at hand and I want to compliment you on the best issue of any new paper that has come to my notice in Oregon outside of special issues of the Portland dailies. The people of Union and adjoining counties are to be congratulated on having a plant that can produce such an issue, together with such an enterprising editor.

The issue of eight sections containing sixty-two pages depicting the resources of La Grande and Union County is a real revelation, of which you may well feel proud.—J. S. May, (Senator, Lane County, Eugene.)

Hon. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Senator: Received your edition of the Observer with your write-up of the Oregon Trail. I have read them over carefully and must say that you deserve a great deal of credit for the issue, and the write-up of the Oregon Trail that is soon to be dedicated; of the progress that has been made since the first train of Oregon pioneers made their way across the Blue mountains almost a century ago.

Little did they dream that there would be built a road over these mountains that would be one of the wonders of the world. A road that is almost finished, and it will be a pleasure to the auto driver, as he can start from here in high gear and without changing gears can in a few hours be over in the beautiful Grande Ronde valley and just as easily cross over to the west side of the Blue mountains where he can view the Umatilla valley, the garden spot of the world for wheat.

Again, I commend you Senator Dennis, for your write-up of the Oregon Trail.—H. J. Taylor, (Senator, Union, Umatilla and Morrow Counties.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, Editor The Observer, La Grande, Oregon.—My dear Mr. Bruce: Congratulations on your splendid Oregon Trail number of the Observer. This seems to me a wonderful undertaking for your organization. The paper is extremely interesting, well designed, and admirably printed. We consider it very valuable as a reference work, and a breadth of vision which did not prompt you to confine its scope to your own locality but which makes the edition valuable as a resource textbook for our entire northwest.

First, that your confidence, unalloyed by doubts and fears, should have carried you into and so successfully through such a venture, an edition so elaborate, so complete, that it does no word unsaid or thought unexpressed concerning the resources of your section, a breadth of vision which did not prompt you to confine its scope to your own locality but which makes the edition valuable as a resource textbook for our entire northwest.

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made the Oregon Trail historical give your special edition a permanency not only as to the days of the pioneer, but as to contemporary times.—You, whose whole section of the State being covered during the period most important to us, our own.

The mechanical force were entitled to their holiday. I expect to be in La Grande before long and will want to go through your plant and see how such a large and comprehensive special edition was handled.

With very kindest regards, I remain Sincerely yours—Charles W. Ellis, (Senator from Harney County.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—Friend Bruce: I read with great interest your "Old Oregon Trail" edition of the La Grande Evening Observer. It certainly is a "humdinger" and a credit to La Grande and Union County—in fact would be credit to any of the big papers of Portland. Sincerely yours—Roy W. Ritter, (Senator, Umatilla County.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, Editor La Grande Observer, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Bruce: I have just finished reading the Old Oregon Trail edition of the La Grande Evening Observer and I wish to congratulate you upon this special issue ever published by your newspaper.

The special articles and illustrations will appeal to the Oregon tourist as well as to the prospective homeseeker wherever located. Agriculture, small fruit raising, sheep, game, cattle, mining and industrial opportunities of Union, Baker and Wallowa counties are described fully.

I am glad to see that good space has been devoted to schools, churches, sports and industrial life of La Grande and also that the neighboring communities of Cove, Union, Elgin, North Powder, Joseph, Wallowa, Enterprise and others are given good mention.

The historical background of the Old Oregon Trail has a fascination for any loyal Oregonian and I find the stories, written by the pioneers themselves, and printed in this edition, to be of absorbing interest.

After all is said and done the era of the western migrations was the most important of all in our history. Those brave men and women saved the west for the nation and in honoring them in issuing this magnificent special edition, you have conferred an obligation upon all.

With kindest personal regards, I beg to remain, Yours very truly—Julius L. Meier, (of Meier & Frank Co., Portland.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, Editor La Grande Observer, La Grande, Oregon.—My dear Mr. Dennis: Returning home after an absence of several days, I find the copy of the Oregon Trail edition of the Observer on my desk. Please accept my hearty congratulations on the magnificent edition which you have issued. It is of truly cosmopolitan size and quality. I wish you the fullest measure of success in the work which you are doing for the Oregon Trail, and also in the fine contribution which you are making to the best type of journalism in Oregon.

With kindest personal regards, Sincerely yours—P. L. Campbell, (President University of Oregon, Eugene.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Senator and Friend: I did finally get a chance to run hurriedly over this special issue and I wish to congratulate you upon a most complete and elaborate presentation of the present wonderful resources of the fertile valleys of Union and Wallowa counties, as well as the splendid historical references to the early day pioneers who opened up Oregon and particularly those of the Oregon Trail connection.

It is a splendid edition and will reflect great credit on your section of our great state, as well as upon yourself as the Editor. I am only surprised that you had the pep left in you to undertake it so soon following the grind of the 44 days of toll and turmoil at Salem. Again congratulations, Sincerely yours—A. J. Johnson, (Senator from Benton County.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, Editor The La Grande Evening Observer, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Mr. Dennis: I want to look over the opportunity given me to look over the "Old Oregon Trail" edition of the Observer. This edition is most creditable, indeed, and contains a mass of material of real interest and value, not only to the people of La Grande, Union County, and adjoining counties, but throughout Eastern Oregon. Indeed, it is a good thing for the people of the entire State to know more of the industries, resources, and opportunities in that section. The Old Oregon Trail edition impresses me as being comparable with the best special editions ever issued in the State.

With sincere congratulations upon your success, and kindest personal regards, Very truly yours—W. J. Lee, (President Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—Dear Mr. Dennis: I received your issue of the "Old Oregon Trail" edition of the Observer. I think that what a fine edition. I hope to meet you at Meacham on July 3 and 4. Yours sincerely—L. L. Mann, (Representative, Umatilla County.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—Friend Dennis: I am in receipt of a copy of "The Oregon Trail" edition of your paper and have taken great pleasure in looking it over.

You write-up of La Grande, Union County and other parts of Eastern Oregon is the best that I have seen and the information that you give should be of great benefit to your section from an advertising standpoint.

The general make-up and size of the edition would be a credit to any publisher and the people of your city are to be congratulated on having an editor capable of turning out such a paper.

Thanking you for remembering me with a copy and with kind regards, I remain, Rept. yours—T. R. Kay, (Representative, Marion County, Salem.)

Mr. Bruce Dennis, La Grande, Oregon.—My dear Mr. Dennis: I arrived at your office this morning to find a copy of the Oregon Trail edition of the Observer.

I have examined the pamphlet with much interest and pleasure. In so far as a cursory examination can disclose, the information is historically accurate, well organized and most readable. I believe that you are to be congratulated on putting within reach of so many persons, this splendid material, acquainting them with much of the early history of our own state, that for many is not in their fund of information. I wish that it were possible to put a copy of this little pamphlet into every school house in Oregon. Very truly yours—J. A. Churchill, (State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Salem.)

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