

# La Grande Evening Observer

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**CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER**

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**KEEP THE WORDS**—Whose lips they are, in him verily is the love of God perfected; hereby know ye that we are in Him, and He abides in us.

## Fine Stand of Hughes

The ordeal is over. The theorists have had their inning and now it could seem that common sense has once more perched upon the national banner.

Secretary Hughes in his recent speech on the Monroe Doctrine sounded the keynote of Americanism. He had to buck up on some of his former program, but he backed up gracefully and firmly.

Let the world now know where America stands—right where George Washington stood—on European matters.

We have had an awful siege of this "save the world to democracy" bunk; the milk and water boys have been almost predominating, but it is over.

Henceforth this country will stand where our forefathers in their wisdom placed her. She will be a friend to all, but will not cater to any of the Old World powers.

That was a fine stand taken by Secretary Hughes, and it clarifies the air and puts Uncle Sam's house in order.

Judge R. R. Butler of The Dalles, who delivered the Elks' memorial address Sunday afternoon, is one of those old fashioned Tennesseans who enjoy sitting around in the evening "swapping" stories with the boys. Following his excellent talk Sunday a number of La Grande men spent a very pleasant evening with the southerner who has been adopted by Oregon.

Senator who says he is a close personal friend of one announced candidate for the presidency, but favors another, does not believe in letting friendship cut too much figure in politics.

From the manner in which the Spanish dictator treats it he is of the opinion the constitution should not stand between friends or enemies either.

Porto Ricans are preparing to send a delegation to Washington to plead for statehood. Outside Alaska, new states will have to come from the islands of the sea.

Mrs. Caruso married the second time. Even the voice of the great singer could not hold her to single-blessedness.

What? More recall talk? Oh, this direct legislation continues to be the best of sport.

## Editorials From Over the Nation

### PROHIBITION 200 YEARS AGO

Detroit News: Edmund Spencer, the poet who saw Queen Elizabeth's sunrise, had a vision of the Eighteenth amendment more than 200 years before it was enacted. The second book of "The Eberic Quene" is devoted to the story of how St. Guyon, the knight of temperance, overthrew Acrey, or Intemperance.

Spencer was fully aware of the divinity of the struggle. St. Guyon was exposed to all sorts of temptations. When he resisted them, he was heart by various monsters, including scoldbrained ministers and the huge affluence—and the poet might have mentioned the lard pig. But St. Guyon—a corruption of Gifford—overcame all obstacles and managed to fling a net over Acrey, and the her hand and foot. Finally he proceeded to wreck the beer-house taverns.

Their groves he felled, their gardens did destroy. Their stoves he spoiled, their cabinets he suppressed. Their banqueting houses burned, their buildings rased. And, of the tavern late, now made the lowest place.

Beasts held under a spell by Acrey, St. Guyon charged back into their den, some of whom were ashamed, while others were angry at the overthrow of their former mistress.

So Mr. Spencer, three centuries ago, forecast the working of the prohibition amendment with almost as great accuracy as if he had lived to see it come into operation.

### VALUE OF MENTAL TEST.

Prof. Frank N. Freeman in the Century Magazine: Order has been brought forth out of the chaos of widely divergent and contradictory opinions on the value of mental tests. I draw up a series of fifteen fundamental statements regarding the nature and significance of the mental tests which were sent to twelve men, prominent in the testing movement, including Dr. J. McK. Cattell, Dr. H. M. Yerkes, Dr. L. M. Terman, Dr. E. L. Thorndike, Dr. Charles H. Judd and Dr. G. M. Whitely.

The interpretation of the army tests as indicating brightness or mental age has been based on a comparison of the scores which are made by children and by adults on the same tests. Profoundly a comparison the army scores are translated into terms of mental age.

But if we returned the adult scores in mental-age terms, we should have to accept the astounding conclusion that the percentage of persons who have an ultimate mental age of twelve years increases from 2.5 to 10 per cent in childhood to over 20 per cent in adulthood. This, of course, cannot be, making any allowance that is thinkable for an influx of dull adults through immigration, conclusions, therefore, that are drawn from the interpretation of adult scores in terms of mental age of children must be scrutinized with the greatest caution, and the scare-head announcement that nearly half of us are stupid must be taken strictly for what it is worth.

### COUNTY COURT ENDS TWO-DAY MEET THURSDAY

County court adjourned late yesterday after a two-day session. In addition to the acceptance of Hugh McCall's resignation as county treasurer and the appointment of Mrs. Florence Bacon to the position, several other matters were attended to, including routine work of auditing bills, etc., and the receiving of a petition asking for the opening of a new road in the High Valley section near Union.

### VIEWS GIVEN ON COOLIDGE SPEECH MANY

(Continued from page 1)

and his flat opposition to a soldier's bonus, contrary to the league of nations, tariff revision and reduction of the army and navy.

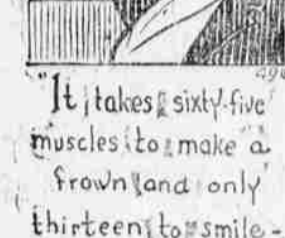
Opposes Johnson's ideas. Some of his adopted policies placed him squarely in opposition to Senator Johnson of California, the only avowed Republican candidate for the presidency. Senator Johnson has declared against the world court and for the soldiers' bonus. He has not given his approval to the Mellon tax plan but has indicated objection to some of its principal features.

Democratic leaders generally criticized various features of the address but Senator Fordwood of Alabama, the only avowed Democratic presidential candidate who sits in congress, was not present at the joint session and made no comment. He has declared for the world court plan and files Mr. Coolidge's name as a vote out in favor of both.

William G. McAdoo has come out in favor of both.

**LaFollette Group Critical.**  
The LaFollette group of Republicans also criticized features of the president's program but Senator LaFollette himself was confined in time by illness. From the Farmer-Labor side came criticism of the president's agricultural relief program but commendation of his stand regarding Russia. Disapproval with the Mellon tax program disapproval given by Mr. Coolidge also was expressed by the LaFollette and Farmer-Labor elements.

"The reaction of the country" to the president's recommendations will be watched carefully by all party leaders. In his address Thursday were many political figures. Chairman Axtell of the Republican national committee, several national committeemen and Chairman Hull of the Democratic national committee were among those who listened with evident interest.



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## Concentration

An early English philosopher and chronicler once drew a distinction between "a man who is absent-minded because he thinks of something else and a man who is absent-minded because he thinks of nothing at all."

The world has known of chronic cases of absent-mindedness where the victim not through deep thought, but through absence of all thought, is habitually unconscious of all that happens about him. There is another form of wakeful unconsciousness most often called absent-mindedness but which more truly comes under the name of concentration.

The ability to concentrate is acquired by few but coveted by all. It is the power to fix the mind upon one thing to the exclusion of all else. The student who can concentrate and does learn more rapidly and thoroughly than his less fortunate fellow. Concentration solves the problems of the businessman more wisely and with economy of time. Great inventions, immortal thoughts and inspired thoughts have all been the fruits of concentration.

Association of the word "concentration" with education implies the instruction of the student in the intricacies of thinking and reasoning. There can be no "pure" reasoning without concentration. The criticism is often heard that modern methods of education are not conducive to reasoning and concentration. Time only will tell whether the study of the classic languages and mental arithmetic or the less romantic languages and manual training develop the most thinkers and supply humanity with the attribute of concentration and reasoning.

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