

# La Grande Evening Observer

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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### CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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### DAILY BIBLE THOUGHT

GREAT THINGS—Fear the Lord, and serve him in truth; for consider how great things he hath done for you. 1 Samuel 12: 24.

## Looking Ahead

While the most profound respect belongs to those who laid out the cities and towns of today, it must be admitted that few there were who had vision; few there were who saw things as Jules Verne saw them. Take Portland's narrow streets for example—no one ever dreamed when the city of Portland was laid out that the street would be compelled to carry the traffic of today.

In La Grande the city fathers are now wrestling with the problem of parking automobiles, and it is probable that the center of the street must be used for at least a trial in avoiding congestion.

The sins of the fathers of American cities, towns and villages were municipal near-sightedness and penury. The users of streets and public buildings are the losers.

How often it is lamented today that the persons responsible for the breadth of the streets and highways and for the capacity of the public buildings did not value foresight above bonded indebtedness and taxation. It is easier and cheaper to build for the future than for the future to tear down to meet the demands of the present.

Fifty years ago, when the majority of the American communities had already been planned or long established, present traffic conditions were undreamed of. The most of our present business thoroughfares were staked off for two lines of wagon traffic, with hitching posts and watering troughs at either side. A 40-foot street was a boulevard and an extravagance not to be tolerated by the taxpayers, but to be remembered at subsequent councilmanic elections. In the same manner were public buildings erected with public funds for present needs.

There is probably no community in the United States, no matter how large or small, which is not now feeling the strangling influence of streets woefully too narrow and that has been forced, or soon will be, to enlarge or entirely rebuild one or more public buildings.

To right the traffic wrongs there have been many solutions suggested and employed. Some municipalities have expended millions in razing valuable buildings, condemning private land and slicing off business blocks to allow the widening of streets. Elevated sidewalks and roadways are being seriously contemplated in several of the large cities.

The price we pay for the blindness of our forefathers is immeasurable, but will the generations of tomorrow have the same charge to make against the community builders and planners of today?

## Our National Guard Unit

Commendable indeed is the spirit which prompted the organization of a national guard unit in La Grande. Those who are eligible should enroll at once as the maximum enrollment will be one hundred and it is expected that the unit in La Grande will be about eighty when completed.

This is an excellent thing for the young men of the city. It gives them training that is valuable in every way, and we are fortunate in having General White select this city as the first guard unit in Eastern Oregon. Other communities want the unit and under the regulations they can be installed only as the appropriations by the federal government justify. To be the first east of the mountains is in keeping with other advance movements of La Grande, and there is no doubt that we will have a unit that will be a top-notch.

The dividends that will accrue in health alone to those enlisting will be of great value to the individual and the community will enjoy a pride in the company that will assert itself as the members become proficient in their work.

It is a wise woman who asks for what she can't have so she can compromise on what she wants.

One job worse than being a wife is working in a restaurant where it is always meal time.

One nice thing about radio is the artists never worry over rain keeping the audience at home.

Be careful while spring cleaning. It takes a finger nearly five months to grow out again.

## THE OLD HOME TOWN

By Stanley



THE WATER COOLER AT THE CENTRAL HOTEL IS BEING REPAIRED AND PUT IN SHAPE FOR THE SUMMER. BOB PUTTERMAN THE MAIN STREET PLUMBER HAS UNDERGONE THE WORK.

## THE OPEN COURT

CORRESPONDENTS MUST SUBMIT THEIR NAMES TO THE EDITOR IF THEY DESIRE LETTERS PRINTED.

### HOMENICK!

To the Editor: On the third day of last July my thoughts were all busy at the "Top of Blue Mountain" and when the telephone rang this day morning, I answered it. The person on the other end of the line, I found, was a woman who said she would like to see me. I could hardly talk. The same rush of homeliness came over me today when I received a letter containing the clipping of the editorial "Have the Old Church."

The stories of pioneer days have always interested me, but it is only since I have been living in the East that I have fully realized the tremendous significance and greatness of our western history and the up-to-date progress of the records of those times. I am glad that some of those who have remained at home have awakened to the importance of this thing being it is too late.

By all means do save the old church. Nothing could be more appropriate to use as a memorial and a place to house plans, records and it would grow in interest and value every year. The Old Church itself is a gem of architecture and its building, however, may, which might be erected later could carry the same high associations.

When I was bracketed in history I was impressed by the reverence for old things, which was everywhere to be seen. Little old churches, old houses, old barns, have kept their places in the heart of the most valuable business section of the city and people who consider them as a part of their heritage.

Nothing is so common as to see a man who has lived in the North "Country" in the West, in the home of "The Village Housewife," his "old friends" and a hundred such relics. It is time for us in the West to realize that we have a background of an interesting and honorable past that is not to be forgotten. Let it be possible that our desire for progress has been a "all things" in the past, in a lot of things in the past, in a lot of things in the past.

For the sake of those who are gone and for the sake of those who are in contact with the Old Church, we should preserve it as a memorial to the Pioneer Association.

I hope to see the La Grande for Pioneer Day. The City of La Grande is the only one in the West that has a Pioneer Day. It is a day that is not to be forgotten. Let it be possible that our desire for progress has been a "all things" in the past, in a lot of things in the past, in a lot of things in the past.

Of Mountain Shores in Nevada. TEXAS. The city of La Grande is the only one in the West that has a Pioneer Day. It is a day that is not to be forgotten. Let it be possible that our desire for progress has been a "all things" in the past, in a lot of things in the past, in a lot of things in the past.

Contrary to popular belief, (apparently they take the idea very seriously) they will not be taken into the streets. They will be taken into the streets. They will be taken into the streets. They will be taken into the streets.

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## OFFICE CAT



PROVERBS THEY NEVER USE

The Tailor—"Clothes don't make the man."  
The Banker—"Money is the root of all evil."  
The Head Waiter—"One seldom regrets of having eaten too little."  
The Doctor—"An apple a day keeps the doctor away."  
The Bootlegger—"You can't put any wine in old bottles."  
The Barber—"Silence is golden."  
The Greeter—"Think twice before you speak."  
Most People—"It's better to give than to receive."

Of course men aren't vain—but just tell some bird over 50 he looks like a youngster of 20 years and watch his face.

The most hopeful man in La Grande has been found. To gain credit he put photograph developing powder in his bath.

MANY AN EGG BEATEN THIS MORNING WAS CRACKED OVER MONTHS AGO.

NOT A FOUL JOKE. Young lady telling her pal about her car.

Second lady says—"What kind of a car have you?"  
Reply—"Why it's an Ash."  
"You mean it's a Nash, don't you mean?"  
"No, indeed. I mean an Ash."  
"I never heard of that kind of a car."  
"Why it's a second hand Cole."

My girl said she loved me— she told me all about it! But since she married someone else, I've been inclined to doubt it.

The original dumb-bell is the man who believes that a clothespin is something the girls use to keep their draperies from falling off their beautiful frames.

TRUE STORY. 12:30 P. M. Goes to bed—Hired a taxi.

7:20 A. M. Alarm goes off. Haasberry.

7:45 A. M. While begins to get hostile. "Nobody loves me."

8:00 A. M. Finally gets up. 8:20 A. M. Arrives at work late. Tells him he had to see his cousin off on No. 17.

Polk Jail Overcrowded.

DALLAS, Ore. — Polk county's jail is again crowded beyond its normal capacity. Eight prisoners are confined there, while the accommodations are for only six. The latest to be incarcerated was Carl Logsdon, an Indian, who was taken into custody by Sheriff Orr after he had caused a reign of terror in the vicinity of his home near Grand Blaine. Logsdon has been bound over to the grand on a charge of threatening to commit a felony.

## Editorials From Over the Nation

### INDIAN CITIZENSHIP.

Newark News: One man asked another: "Why is not the American Indian qualified to be a citizen of the United States?"

"He isn't either white or black," was the answer. If there is no other answer, should not the need of asking the question be eliminated by giving the half million Indians in this country a share in the national entity?"

More Indians, proportionately, than of citizens, native and naturalized, fought under the national flag in the world war. Of the 17,000 red men enrolled, only fifteen in every 100 were drafted men, the rest volunteers. That was not true of the rest of us.

The fourth Friday in September is observed in some parts of this country as American Indian day, and in not a few states it is a legal holiday. The this-or-that-day habit which has grown upon us since the war's end is introduced. It is not a commendable one, even in results, as a general proposition.

But American Indian day is dedicated to honoring the American people — we strangers within the Indian's gates, who have arrogated that title to ourselves — to the stability of doing, 150 years later, an act of simple justice, the recognition of the Indian as quite as much a man as any of us, to be accorded his citizenship, its privileges and its obligations. He has most of the latter, but few of the former.

There are states which accord the Indian citizenship, and we have had for years a senator of the United States who is of that race and another who is partly so. The difficulty is that we insist that the Indian can not be an American and an Indian at the same time — in short, that he must dissolve his tribal relations if he would become a citizen and not a ward of the government. That is pretty nearly the same as insisting that an immigrant abandon his religious affiliation as well as his nationality as a condition of naturalization.

The important consideration is that the right to vote, to protect other rights, especially, the right to preserve his religion. An outstanding instance is the order recently issued by the Indian office, which practically taboo certain tribal dances of the southwestern tribes. Those dances are a religious ceremonial. We have no more inherent right to abolish them than to interfere by administrative edict with the ritual of a religious sect among ourselves.

### THE FEMININE TOUCH.

New York Tribune: Even in this day of equal opportunities for the sexes it is a bit startling to have a female officer in the police force. Apparently the school of genderity is educational.

Where did the bobbed-haired young woman who held up the bank in Potosi, Ohio, learn the business? She did not go about the job like a debutante, but with the coolness and deliberation of an old hand.

The chief of police, taking his cue from Mr. Borah, might suggest that she learned the use of firearms in the war, for the girl, clad in her uniform, looked like a soldier before I fill you with some hot lead."

One of the recent make things is reported to have given the order to "make it snappy," the soldier's phrase.

The old tags, "the weaker sex" and "the gentler sex," were given up because they were worn-out platitudes; but now it appears they hadn't the merit of truth. The feminine counterpart of the "hard man" seems to have arrived.

### THE SANDLOT MEANS SOMETHING.

Milwaukee Journal: The sandlot means in the life of the boy just what any city makes it mean. The old idea was that boys would be boys, and that the proper way was to let them go in gangs to any vacant lot, organize their games as best they could and there fight it out. And fight it out they did. Might made right in the loudest, roughest gang usually carried off the honors. All got some physical value out of the melee, but very few got any moral value.

Then someone conceived the idea of taking and directing the boys' natural inclination for sports. That was a real idea. It has made possible the city league system, through which these sports are now conducted in orderly method, under rules that both protect and train those engaging in them.

All this costs some time and of

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fort, of course. But the city has been paid many times over by the training it has given the young people in citizenship, by the health it has given them, by the creation in them of a recognition of the value of organization and moral leadership.

Washington Post: The president of the American Forestry association is quoted to the effect that under present practice the destruction of timber is four times greater than its growth. That is a statement which should be broadcast and filed for reference. At such a rate of depletion America's great timber resources are doomed. Something must be done, and done before, if the nation is to retain its heritage.

The situation calls for economy in logging operations and in the use of wood and labor for safeguards against destruction by fire and for widespread reforestation. The problem thus raised must be dealt with by governmental and

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