

La Grande Evening Observer

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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BUT THOU, WHEN THOU PRAYEST, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. For your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.—Matt. 6:6, 7.

A Sickening Tragedy

When the shrill ring of La Grande's firebell echoed and re-echoed this morning there were few who heard it who thought for an instant that a toll of two lives was being taken by the flames.

It was only when the city bestirred itself for the day's work that men and women learned of the sickening tragedy that occurred on Second street which brought death by flames to Mr. and Mrs. Will Church. A fire started in the lower portion of the house and spreading to the upper floor where Mr. and Mrs. Church were sleeping cut them off from escape and they perished.

Horrible, indeed, is such an ending of two people in middle life whose usefulness would naturally have lasted over a period of years.

Will Church grew up in La Grande. His father, Joseph M. Church, was for years the leading spirit of Union and Wall streets. He was a banker and business man; a merchant of importance, and a man whose public spirit caused him to serve humanity each day that he lived. He served his district in the state legislature and helped shape the destiny of Oregon. An only son, Will, survived him, and Will grew up among La Grande people and while not taking an interest in affairs that his father took, he nevertheless had many good qualities and never harmed a fellowman. His wife was an exceptionally capable woman. Prior to her marriage to Mr. Church she devoted all of her time to business and was a thorough success as a business woman.

That their lives should have been snuffed out by the flames while neighbors and friends slept on unaware of the tragedy is something to ponder over, demonstrating that death, mysterious death may come to anyone at any time in a way that is least expected.

Those Tender Coils

These cold, crisp mornings demand a slight change in the habits of the man of the house who arises early to get the first rays of daylight as they appear over the Cove mountains. That individual can no longer with safety rattle down the ashes in the cook stove and immediately light a fire. No, no, he must use caution, for the coils in his stove may be frozen and with a fire kindled under them an explosion is very liable to follow. There have been three such explosions reported to the Evening Observer in the last few days, and we therefore believe it is, but timely advice to urge all cook stove owners to be very careful of the coils during the cold period. In Baker a cook stove exploded hurling lids, cooking utensils and stove top in all directions. None of the family was injured because all had rushed to the door to see the fire truck go by just an instant before the explosion took place.

An Able Jurist

Governor Pierce has just appointed William Ramsey of McMinnville to the position of circuit judge of that district. An excellent appointment. Judge Ramsey formerly lived in La Grande. He is a learned man, an attorney of the old school—one of the kind who guesses at nothing, for he uses a law library and always knows whereof he speaks. His standing among members of the Eastern Oregon bar was of the best. As a Christian citizen in this community he wielded an influence for good and it was with regret when he saw fit to seek a milder climate.

We consider his appointment by the governor one of the very best and the people of that district will have the law dispensed to them under Judge Ramsey in a most fearless and fair manner.

The headlines say, "Farmers' Return Best in Five Years," and this may be correct. But, we want to arise and remark that the past five years has been simply awful among the farmers, and a little further advancement will not hurt them a bit.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By Stanley



THE FIRE BELL RANG OUT RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FIREMEN'S ANNUAL BALL AND CYCLES SUPPLY. IT PRACTICALLY BROKE UP THE AFFAIR.



OFFICE CAT

By Junius

Men can master almost anything they start out to master unless, of course, they are married.

When a woman calls for a water wave at a beauty parlor, has she had a mud bath?

A La Grande visitor said to a little girl, "And what will you do, my dear, when you are as big as your mother?"

"Dad," said the modern girl.

Famous last words: I didn't know that she was married.

THE RESULT

Jack and Jill went up the hill To get a drink of liquor.

Jack fell down and broke his crown.

And Jill was a good deal sicker.

They had just kissed. She stood facing him, and her lips were trembling. He looked down at her, so naturally, she looked up at him.

"Well," he said, "this trembled some more." "Good Lord!" she cried. "I've slipped from many a cup—but never a mug like this."

GOOD TICKING

"Have you recovered the expensive silk umbrella you lost the other day?" we asked.

"No," replied Wm. Wolf, "but thus far I have recovered six that I did not lose, and if the recovering goes well I expect to make it a dozen by the end of the week. All I do is to growl about my stolen umbrellas and somebody promptly hands me one."

Woodrow Wilson arrived in Heaven, picked out the prettiest girl that St. Peter had left, and then started to make the rounds to meet some of the other celebrities listed in the Celestial Directory.

"I feel sorry for you, Woody," said Moses. "You must have had an awful time down there."

"Why, no," answered Woodrow Wilson. "I was a successful educator, governor, and president of the greatest nation on earth."

"Yes," replied Moses. "But look what they did to your Fourteen Points."

"That's nothing," said Wilson. "Just look what they did to your Ten Commandments."

Any young man knows it is more satisfactory to get a snub from a girl than to get the laugh.

"Schule always was lucky."

"Why do you say so?"

"He underwent an operation because he swallowed a pearl in an oyster, and the pearl proved to be valuable enough to cover the cost of the operation and the funeral."

What's a reporter going to do, when the smart citizen laughily and loftily hands over a slip of paper on which is written a personal item, with the remark: "I wish you would print this exactly as I have it written," and then the reporter finds four of the seven-teen words misspelled, five capital letters out of place, and no punctuation at all?

We once knew a man who was so absent minded that one night when it came time to retire he pulled down his trousers and laid the window shade on the chair.

You can't expect a mere man to understand a sex that thinks a three-cornered olive sandwich is a square meal.

A dime's worth of ice isn't always what it is cracked up to be.

ASHLAND SHAKUP TAILS

ASHLAND, Ore.—The wholesale dismissal of city officials which Mayor-elect Johnson had recently predicted did not materialize at the first official reorganization meeting of the recently elected city council here. Chief of Police McNabb will be superseded by J. W. Hatcher on January 1, and C. W. Malone will succeed Ollie Easterman as city electrician, the council decided.

Johnson's recommendation that Chief Houghton, fire chief, be dismissed, was unanimously rejected, and Houghton will remain in office. Recommendation by Johnson that C. W. Praley be appointed to succeed Frank Merrill as street commissioner was unanimously refused.

THE OPEN COURT

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

SHALL YOUR CHILD BECOME A CHATEL OF THE STATE?

The proposed 20th Amendment, a so-called Child Labor Law, confers to Congress the power to limit, regulate and prohibit the work of persons under 18 years of age.

If passed, it will, in fact, take from the parents all jurisdiction over children, including their education, and Congress may, under the Act, create bureaus and inspectors, at the expense of the taxpayers, who may invade the home at any time to harass and annoy, thus destroying the sanctity of the home and make chattels of your children.

The word employment does not appear, therefore, the purpose is not to regulate the employment of children, but goes far beyond the realm of childhood and prohibit the work of persons under 18, ignoring the fact that many of our youth are married and rearing children at this age.

In feeling the passage of the bill through Congress, the proponents said "The ignorant parents cannot be trusted with the welfare of the children," and openly stated that their aim was to reach persons in the homes and on the farms where they reside.

Had they used the term regulate employment of children, this would have been confined to mean commercial labor, hence the term work was used, and capital occupation is designated as any work that is regularly performed one day after another. For instance, if a girl of 17 washes the dishes each day, and a boy of like age milks the cow, or does certain chores regularly, it is gainful occupation, as it contributes to the aid of the parents.

This law would, in fact, legalize idleness, and incidentally place a premium on prostitution and bootlegging. This is a bold statement, but when you take into consideration the trend of this extremely rapid age, just picture to yourself what the youth of today would do if prevented from earning money legitimately. As it is, most of the crimes charged by the press of today are attributed to these under 21, and the cause is to get money without work, consequently a law that, in effect, says work is ignoble will not tend to uplift the honor and morals of our young men and women.

The 20th Amendment will not become operative unless ratified by three-fourths of the States.

Everybody admits that Oregon has a good child labor law, in that it protects the young children from exploitation and provides for the education of those under 18. The proponents of the 20th Amendment admit this, but argue that we should force recalcitrant states to pass child labor laws.

No necessity exists for this law, as every state now has a law prohibiting the employment of children under 14 in factories. Six states put the limit at 15, and two states at 16, consequently, the welfare of its citizens should be reserved to the several states, and no powers delegated to the government that could be used to the injury of such states.

Your duty should be to point out to the members of the legislature

from your respective districts the menace of this measure, and urge them to oppose ratification. There is no time to lose as the legislature convenes in January.

THOS. MCCUSKER.

Yesterday In Congress

(By the Associated Press)

The house resumed consideration of the navy appropriation bill.

A senate committee investigated the Washington Herald attack on Senator Underwood's Muscle Shoals bill.

A senate committee held hearings on the transfer of prohibition enforcement from the internal revenue bureau.

The Washington government bespoke an era of "the most cordial relations" between the United States and Japan.

The treasury predicted this government, like Great Britain, would insist on equal treatment in any settlement of French debts.

Vice Chairman Culbertson of the tariff commission indicated a desire for transfer to some other branch of government service.

Leah C. Palmer, president of the emergency fleet corporation, testified before the house shipping board investigating committee.

The department of agriculture estimated winter wheat was sown this fall on 42,317,000 acres, 4.5 per cent more than in the fall of 1923.

Representative Britten, Republican, Illinois, proposed a conference of white nations bordering the Pacific over the protest of Pacific coast members.

Letters urging support of Representative Madden of Illinois for the home speakership were sent out and the New Jersey delegation put forward Representative Lohbach for Republican leader.

The department of justice began an investigation into charges that an employe of a senate committee accepted money to use his influence for legislation.

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NEGRO BATTLES OMAHA POLICE

Wounds Two Detectives in Resisting Arrest; Is Killed Later by Officers.

OMAHA, Neb. (AP).—Sought on a serious statutory charge as a result of his alleged assault on a negro, Frank Myler, a negro, barricaded himself in his small frame shack, shot and seriously wounded Chief of Detectives Ben Banbaum and slightly wounded Detective Tom Ryan and was killed after being hit with shotgun and rifle bullets from guns of police who surrounded the house.

So effective was the work of the police and the fire department which set the shack on fire that no demonstration was noticed despite the fact that the scene occurred in the thickly populated negro district.

Danbaum's Wounds Serious. Danbaum fell, shot several times about the head and face when he was leading a squad of reinforcements to capture the crazed negro. He was rushed to a local hospital where his condition was pronounced as serious. Detective Ryan was hit by a glancing shot when he ran to his fallen chief's side.

The attack on the fugitive resulted in a barrage. Police, detectives and others armed with shotguns, revolvers and rifles perched themselves at any vantage point and opened fire. Myler returned the fire, keeping up a fusillade despite the fact that his home was rapidly being destroyed by flames. Tear bombs were also used but he did not surrender until one detective hit him the full contents of his shotgun which lodged in the negro's face. The large police squad then moved cautiously up to the house and found him dead.

Myler was wanted on complaint of Lennie Walker, 17-year-old negro high school student. The girl claimed the alleged attack took place a week ago, but the warrant for Myler's arrest was not issued until Thursday.

If he advertises it, he knows it's good!

MARKET JOEL'S GROCERIES

PHONE MAIN 759

CHICKENS

For roasting, stewing and frying

ROLLED ROASTS

Our meat business is growing every day.

GOOD MEAT

Is the Reason.

BUY SOMETHING FOR THE Car THIS CHRISTMAS

EATON'S HIGHLAND LINEN

Selecting a gift can be made as pleasant an experience as receiving one. Particularly when you choose from our stock of holiday writing paper. There is no gift more acceptable than Eaton's Highland Linen.

Red Cross Drug Store

Perkins Motor Co.

CHILDREN'S WOOL HOSE AND THREE-QUARTER WOOL HOSE

Boys' Jersey Suits, sizes 2 to 6 years \$1.00 to \$6.00

New shipment of all kinds of Ribbon Novelties, Hand-made Handkerchiefs, Pillow Cases, Lunch Sets, Buffet Sets, Dresser Covers, Centers, Bath Towels, Ready-made House Dresses, Special, \$1.00.

Baby Wear of all kinds; also Blankets and Robes. Ladies' Princess Slips, \$3.00 to \$3.50

NORTON'S KIDDY SHOP

Button Holes Stamping Buttons Covered HEMSTITCHING PLEATING

GIFTS

Can you think of a more valuable present for your child's Christmas than a Certificate of Deposit or a Savings Passbook showing a deposit in this bank drawing interest at four per cent compounded every six months?

Would it not be wise to start an educational fund in this way now and thereby insure a college education for your boy or girl?

The investment is sound and can be converted into cash at any time.

THINK IT OVER.

Quality Blankets For Winter Nights



Cotton Blankets

Good quality Cotton Blankets, large assortment of sizes and colors. Plaids, stripes and fancy borders. \$1.60 to \$4.50

Wool-Mixed Blankets

Over half wool in a variety of plaids and stripes with bound edges, in grays and tans. \$6.25 and \$6.90

ALL-WOOL Blankets of the equally famous Oregon City and Pendleton Woolen Mills. In beautiful colors with and without satin bound edges. Very attractive patterns in plaids and stripes.

\$7.25 to \$16.50

N.W. West & Co.

THE QUALITY STORE

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Boys' Jersey Suits, sizes 2 to 6 years \$1.00 to \$6.00

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La Grande NATIONAL BANK

SOUND-RELIABLE-PROGRESSIVE