

La Grande Evening Observer

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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HE THAT IS SLOW TO ANGER is better than the mighty; and he that reith his own spirit than he that taketh a city. —Proverbs 16:32

Christmas

Christmas day in 1924 may well be an occasion for retrospection upon what it is in which we rejoice. As the clatter of the debate between theological disputants dies down it is possible to take inventory of values. And if we do so we shall probably come to realize how comparatively unimportant is this raging tempest of doctrinaires. If Christ were to return what would He think of the proceedings?

After all, what is the important thing about the life and work of Jesus Christ that makes millions upon millions of human beings the world over observe His natal day as an occasion for good will and friendliness? Why do we account Christ greatest of all spirits that trod this earth in form of man?

Is it because we believe He was immaculately conceived, divine son of God and therefore we ought to worship Him?

And why do we believe that He was divine? Because the book says so? Because He proved His power in miracles?

Or do we observe this Christmaside fundamentally because of the stainless life that Jesus led, because of the good deeds that Jesus did, and—above all—because of the great thoughts and noble aspirations that Jesus proclaimed? Is it not true that if we were to read the words of Jesus today, never before having heard His name, we would feel the surge of a new and cleansing spiritual fire sweep through our hearts?

Indeed, can we not say that the thought, the teaching, the nobility of Jesus are so transcendently the overpowering facts of His life—challenging, ennobling, convincing—that no one need be disturbed in his heart by these latter-day quibblings.

Let misdirected minds debate over physical divinity, over the inspiration of the scripture, the humblest of us knows that the code of Jesus inspires divinity within the soul of man. And that is enough, and all that really matters.

In that realization, let this Christmas day be a day of spiritual exaltation, thanksgiving and great joy.

Stories Of The Day

There are certain critics of newspapers who apparently have little conception of the work that the newspapers are doing in the world. There was a time (our grandfathers can recall it) when there was comparatively little in the average newspaper to rouse a man from his dreams, make him look with a wideawake and seeing eye at the world around him, and—think.

This is what the real newspaper does today. It is not greatly bothered by the persons who say that most of the news should be suppressed because it is so "awful." The newspaper which believes in mirroring life as life really is shows greater faith in human nature than the critics—that is all. When they call this or that piece of news "awful," they often mean seductive rather than awful. They wrongly fear that human nature instinctively craves rottenness and that the exposure of a vile career will prove enticing.

It is no more enticing than the picture of an insane asylum is enticing. It shows as nothing else can show how terrible a thing sin is.

Every line of the picture thunders with a power denied to speech. The memory of it is burned into the soul with a quenchless fire. The reader, old or young, serious or gay, can never misunderstand, can never forget. It is a lesson that lasts. It is the truth in flesh and blood—the truth acting itself out before our very eyes in real life.

In speaking of the bank in Portland in which Charles R. Harding of La Grande occupies the position of assistant cashier, the Oregon Voter in its last issue says: Growth of newly established banks clearly indicates the increase in the community's wealth. There is nothing of spectacular interest in the steady and satisfying accumulating growth of a long established institution. But the ability of a bank only one year old, the West Coast National for instance, to attract \$3,000,000 in deposits in twelve months, indicates that the public's initial confidence in its management offsets its lack of venerable tradition.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By Stanley



FIRE CHIEF OTLEY WALKER PLAYED SANTA CLAUS AT THE CHURCH—HOLDING A FIREMAN CAME IN HANDS WHEN HIS COFFIN WAS CAUGHT FIRE, HE KNEW EXACTLY WHAT TO DO.



OFFICE CAT
By Junius

CHRISTMAS LAMENTS.
Eighty-nine million persons will give away better and more expensive gifts than those they received.

More energy will be used in erasing price marks than the potential power of Niagara.

So many people will receive handkerchiefs that they will begin to feel ashamed of their nose.

Janus already knows one man to whom Santa Claus is going to bring a complete set of dishes, the gift of the Mrs.

Do your Christmas drinking early so the family can have the funeral all over before the holiday season ends.

The meanest man has been discovered in La Grande. He bought a revolver today and told the clerk he was going into his backyard tonight, fire two shots into the air, and then come into the house and tell the children that Santa Claus has committed suicide.

This is the season of the year when a young lady can tell which one, if any, of her suitors, really means business.

All we have to do now is to worry over what we will get for Christmas tonight—and what we will give.

I hate to say it just because it sounds so mean and shocking but nature hates you, Santa Claus. At filling Popsy's stockings.

A La Grande sheik solved a delicate problem the other day by giving his sister a \$5 bill for Christmas and then borrowing it back before the end of the day to buy a gift for his girl.

DAD'S CHRISTMAS.

BILLS.
rotten cigars.
BILLS, BILLS.
socks.
BILLS, BILLS, BILLS.
neckties.
BILLS, BILLS.
handkerchiefs.
BILLS.

Poultry Prizes Are Won.

EUGENE, who—County Assessor Kenney won five first prizes, several special prizes and a silver cup on his flock of Barred Plymouth Rock chickens at the annual show of the Puget Sound Poultry association in Seattle last week. The cup was given for the best collective exhibit of Barred Rocks in the show and has been won by Mr. Kenney three successive years.

J. O. Watts, also of this city, was given one first prize and several runner-up prizes on his Plymouth Rocks.

Fatal Print?



Here's a horse's hoof print and the man it may send to the gallows. The print was found on the road leading from the home of Warren A. Lindy, 74-year-old Pueblo (Col.) rancher, who was murdered with an axe for the sake of his flock of 100 white chickens. The print is said to be the same as that of the horse owned by L. W. Smith, alleged convict, shown above. Smith is charged with the killing.

King & Son Are New Owners of Holt Co. Agency in Pendleton

PENDLETON, Ore. (Special)—The agency for Holt harvesting and farm machinery in the Pendleton district has been secured by F. E. King and Everett King by a deal made through the Holt Manufacturing company with Sturgis & Storie, according to a statement made today by F. E. King. The change in ownership will go into effect January 1.

"We will carry the Holt line, the interplating, harrow, extra parts, bolting, oil and the needed accessories," F. E. King said today.

The new firm will be known as King & Son and Everett King will be actively in charge. F. E. King will also give a part of his time to the business. The store will be in the west half of the building now occupied by Sturgis & Storie. The other half of the building will be occupied by the Bowman-Nash Co. William Kraft will continue with the firm. He has been a member of the Holt personnel in Pendleton for many years and knows the line of the Holt company.

An invoice of the stock on hand is now being made by A. O. Barth and M. N. Reims of Spokane. After the invoice is completed the deal will be formally closed.

They claim a Chicago man stole \$2,000,000. And that's almost enough to keep up a broken-down auto.

The Dawes plan agent will not get \$47,500 a year. Why? That's even more than some Illinois bank robbers get.



To our many patrons and friends we wish a MERRY CHRISTMAS

Red Cross Drug Store

INFANT DEAD AT WALLOWA

WALLOWA, Ore. (Special)—A small child of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Southwick's passed away here Saturday morning. The child was born December 15th, 1924, being only about a day old. Burial was made at the local cemetery Saturday afternoon.

The extreme cold spell, which has held away over the northwest since the early part of the week, was broken here the latter part of the week, when the thermometer began to rise some Saturday morning, and continued to travel upward during the day. About three inches of light snow fell here Saturday night. The ground is frozen to a considerable depth, and the roads are in excellent condition for good sleighing, with a little additional snow.

Miss Ernestine Harmon arrived home the latter part of the week from over the mountains, where she is attending school this year. She expects to spend a few days at home during her vacation, which lasts only a week. She was accompanied from Dayton, Wash., by her grandfather, R. C. Dunlap. Bruce Fisher and family of Leap spent the latter part of the week visiting relatives in the upper part of the valley.

Irvin Gaslin, who is trapping for muskrats in the valley, has been successful in catching a number of the fur-bearers.

Emily Burns, 106, Dies.

MARSHFIELD, Ore. — Emily Burns, who was a resident long before any whites came to the Coos Bay country, died at Coquille Sunday. Mrs. Burns' age although not exactly established, had been set at from 102 to 104 years by old-timers who were here in the early days. Indians in few instances kept records of their ages. According to investigation made by early settlers, she was about 35 years old when the Jacksonville colony came here in 1853.

Mrs. Burns had a distinguishing mark, a "117" tattooed on her chin of which there is no definite information. It had been there since before white people settled here. Mrs. Baker of Empire, another Indian who was here before the whites also has the same marks, but will not tell what they mean.

Mrs. Burns will be buried at Sunset cemetery near Marshfield. She leaves some property on Coos Bay and a grandson at Reedsport.

Stage Not Heard From.

BEND, Ore. — The stage from Burns due in Bend, had not been heard from today, according to the local office of the stage company. The temperature dropped to 14 below zero last night, the lowest since last Wednesday morning, when it reached 17 below zero.

BUY SOMETHING FOR THE Car THIS CHRISTMAS

Perkins Motor Co.

Merry Christmas To All

THE L & L DRUG CO.

WHOLESALE TO DISCONTINUE BUSINESS JAN. 1

PENDLETON, Ore. (Special)—The Sylvan G. Cohn Co., a wholesale men's furnishing concern, will discontinue its business January 1, according to a statement by Sylvan G. Cohn. The business was established in 1917.

"Our field is just a little too small and we have been unable to get a big enough volume to make the business a profitable one," Mr. Cohn said. "We have not lost any money, have in fact made some money, but not enough to justify us remaining in the business. So

the company will be discontinued."

Mr. Cohn will continue to make

Pendleton his home. He will be in

the merchandise brokerage business

and has secured several eastern

lines of goods which he will

distribute here. He states, also, that

he has closed a deal with the Pendleton

Woolen mills whereby he

will become salesman for the concern

in Oregon, outside of Portland,

and Idaho. Products of the com-

pany's three mills in Washougal,

Eureka and Pendleton will be sold

by him.

"The Sylvan G. Cohn Co. will re-

tain its location until March 1 in

the Ellis building, and it is planned

to have the office open until that

date, though January 1 is the date

set for suspending the business.

If he advertises it, he knows

it's good!

MARKET **JOEL'S GROCERIES**
PHONE MAIN 759



A Merry Merry Christmas
TO OUR MANY FRIENDS AND PATRONS

We Wish You A Merry Christmas

La Grande NATIONAL BANK
SOUND-RELIABLE-PROGRESSIVE



HAL BOHNENKAMP
Funeral Director

FIFTH AT SPRING STREET

Main 42



This institution has led in the development of modern funeral service in La Grande.

The arrangement of our chapel is a feature which has been gratefully welcomed by relatives who have used this mortuary.

It is by such a completeness of service, anticipating every need, and desire that our chapel has made residential and church services unnecessary.