

La Grande Evening Observer

An Independent Newspaper
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Published evenings, except Sunday, at 1416 Adams Avenue, La Grande, Oregon. The Observer-Star published every Friday. Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as Second Class Mail Matter under act of March 2, 1879.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF UNION COUNTY AND THE CITY OF LA GRANDE

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Carrier	
Daily, per month in advance	75c
Daily, six months in advance	\$4.50
Daily, single copy	5c
By Mail	
Daily, per month in advance	50c
Daily, per six months in advance	\$2.50
Daily, per year in advance	\$5.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year	\$2.00

ADVERTISING RATES

Display, foreign, per column inch	42c
Display, local, per column inch	40c
Time contract rates on application.	

HOW EXCELLENT is thy loving kindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.—Psalm 36:7, 8.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By Stanley



OFFICE CAT

By Junius
Nothing can rest the tired business man like good returns from his effort.

SERVICE
There's a poor man outside who wants something to eat! Give him some bread and potatoes. But he seems to have even better luck.
All right; give him a napkin, too.
A man with common sense must get lonesome in this old world.
Every farmer wishes to be rich enough to live in town and spend his time at a country club.

EMPLOYEES' DANCE DECLARED OFF
"Thirty women employees were vaccinated, three on the arm."—(From Indiana Daily.)
It may be all right to scrap the navy so long as we are not called upon to scrap anybody else.

He's an honest man who has a plug mink for sale and advertises him as such.

A BAD BET
"It's ten to one you're always late!" Spoke angry Mrs. Brown—
"Twenty-three — yes, I got you straight—
You'd meet me here in town! You made me stand around and wait—
You need a calling down!"
"And when did you get here, my dear?"
Asked Mr. Brown in fun.
Said Mrs. Brown: "When I got here
The clock read 'ten to one!'"

The savage tribes of the deserts have no taxes to pay. Why, then, are they savage?

Eat more grapefruit, it's a good eye wash.

First Villain: I'll be there at midnight.
Second Villain: All right, but don't forget the papers.
First Villain: No, and you bring the tobacco.

A 500-year-old lawsuit has just been settled in Switzerland. They must have good lawyers over there, too.

The situation with regard to personal liberty is pretty bad, but so far no foot legislator has proposed a law compelling all men to wear bell-bottom trousers.

Judging from the stuff they found in old Kink Tut's tomb, he must have thought he was going to keep a store in the next world.

Opportunity may knock but it has never been known to turn the knob and walk in.

"I'm not going to stock any flat-keys," the greenhorn who had just gone into the hardware business said to the traveling salesman. "You won't better put your samples away. There's no demand for flat-keys in this town. There isn't a flat in the whole place."

The allies are taking their own sweet time in leaving Cologne.

Yesterday In Congress

(By the Associated Press)
The senate confirmed the nomination of Postmaster General New.

Frank B. Kellogg was sworn in as secretary of state and William M. Jardine as secretary of agriculture.

Senator Swanson, Virginia, introduced in the special session of the senate his world court resolution.

Senator George H. M. Moses, New Hampshire, was selected as Republican candidate for president pro tem of the senate.

Representative Tilson, Connecticut, Republican floor leader, was chosen chairman of the Republican house committee on committees.

The senate, after two sessions, decided whatever was done Wednesday in violation of senate rules when Vice President Dawes took the chair should be considered legal and proper.

President Coolidge returned to the senate the nomination of Charles E. Warren to be attorney general, but omitted the nomination of Thomas F. Woodlock for the interstate commerce commission.

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They Make You Money
One of the best blocks of Vrooman Franquette in the state, select type, well grown. All other stocks—Elberts, Apple, Pear, Cherry, Prune, Plum, Peach, Apricot, etc. Small Fruits, etc.

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FAME COMES TO CONVICT VIA RADIO

Harry M. Snodgrass, Known to Thousands as "King of the Ivories," Gains First Big-Time Contract Through Prison Recitals.

When the grim gates swung open to let Harry Snodgrass, convict number 1211, back into the world again, he had the salt and pepper suit the state gives all released "guests" and a five dollar bill.

But he reckoned without his many friends to whom his fame had been broadcast by radio. They had sent him gifts totaling over \$10,000, in cash, a new touring car, and many gifts of appreciation which did much to dispel the gloom that years of incarceration had put on the shy little man. But one of the best presents that awaited him was a contract for the Keith-Albee Orpheum Circuit—"big time." And another was an invitation to play for Brunswick records.

Station WOS, located in the dome of the state capitol—a few blocks from the grey prison on the Missouri river—called for talent to broadcast to the thousands who nightly tuned in for their program. Warden Crawford, the humanitarian boss of the prison, organized a band among the prisoners. Soon the first program was sent out into the darkness by the ethereal waves.

Radio fans began to ask for solos by the band's pianist. Modestly enough, Snodgrass, who, previous to going to the cell had been a splendid pianist, gave his first program. WOS was picked up by radio-lovers who recognized the singing in and off signal of the station.

The "Missouri Waltz" and other solos played by "The King of the Ivories" from WOS soon made him famous. His technique is perfect.

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Fashion dictators say men's hats will be gaudy this year. And no doubt they will be—on the men who wear that sort of hat.

The grafters in any community or state are usually the fellows who steal what the rest of us would have liked to have ourselves.

Some people think higher education will take a distinct step upward when it begins taking as much pains to get the boy into the right niche in life as it does to put him into the proper position on the gridiron. The truth of the matter is that it will do the world very little good to put him in the right niche in life if he's so poorly equipped physically that he can't fill it.

SPENDING WELL BUT NOT WISELY

The Oregon Highway Commission will have something over five million dollars to spend this year for highway development, improvement and repairs. Three million of this is the amount still due to complete the state original schedule of forty million, and an additional two million will be available from other sources.

What's going to be done with the money? Senator Dennis is authority for the statement that the commission is planning to let contracts this spring for a half million dollar job on the lower Columbia highway to cut out the twists and curves on the road to Astoria. An expense of \$500,000 to straighten and pave the new right-of-way of a road that is already excellently paved and supremely adequate for everyone except the speed maniacs who can't negotiate the turns.

If you have ever driven over that road to Astoria, you'll agree, as we do, that the highway is unnecessarily crooked at some points over the last twenty or thirty miles. It's full of curves and turns that could easily have been eliminated in the first place, or at least as easily as now, but that's all the matter with that particular highway all the way from Portland to Astoria. It's paved; it's smooth; it's fast enough for those who observe the state speed law. And it doesn't need a half million dollars of the state's highway money this year just to take out a few curves. Such an expenditure, if made, cannot be classed as either efficient or economical—but it can be classed as foolish and absurd when Oregon's highways have many and varied needs far more primary.

Here in Eastern Oregon, where we are naturally more acquainted with highway conditions and needs, the stretch of highway between La Grande and Baker is the most heavily travelled of any other macadem mileage in the state. This portion of the Old Oregon Trail receives so much heavy traffic that three resurfacings of gravel each season is required to keep it in proper shape. There is no stretch of main highway in Oregon that needs paving and deserves paving as does the Oregon Trail here. It would be an economy to the commission and an important link in the state's highway system.

The Observer cannot conceive of a better place for a half million dollars than to pave half of such a project—especially when that half million might otherwise be spent in taking a few simple curves out of the Astoria highway. Eastern Oregon should get busy on the situation and see that our share of the five million this year is spent both wisely and well.

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