La Grande Evening Observer

An Independent Newspaper

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AND JESUS WENT ABOUT GALILEE, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.—Matthew 4:23.

There is one telephone for every six Americans. When it comes to talking, we have the facilities.

When a man feels ashamed to tell his banker what he is considering buying in stocks he had better let them alone.

Of course there are a lot of tourists use the La Grande Tourist Camp every season but we are inclined to believe it is because they are trained by long experience to find isolated spots with poor directions. There is compensation, at least, in the beauty of the place when they finally arrive.

INSANITY CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.

Perhaps you saw a recent cartoon in a humorous publication in which two thugs were talking over their business, one of them saying, "I'm layin' off these murders 'til I finish my correspondence course in insanity." And so successful are defense cases when insanity is the plea that the American brand of justice is propagating just that attitude among our criminal classes.

We have no doubt that every murderer, from one point of view, suffers from mental derangement that can easily be branded insanity if one is inclined to be sentimental and silly. Certainly the taking of human life is not a normal, natural thing for anyone to do. To kill is to experience some abnormal and degenerate mental state that is below the average and contrary to the established scheme of life. But irresponsibility should not become the basis for the operation of justice in every instance.

The murderer in Germany who was hanged the other day for the taking of twenty-five lives was, without question, a degenerate in some way. Men do not kill scores of their fellows and go to the gallows "joyfully" and still remain normal and sane. Yet the German court did not concern itself with the question of sanity in dealing justice to this man. He was a murderer, a menace to society, and he paid the penalty provided by law. He may have been insane—probably was, according to our present court standards—but he got the hangman's noose just the same. And with his death the German nation escapes any possibility of his being declared sane and normal at some future time and set free to perpetrate similar crimes on a defenseless people. England's method of handling murder cases is equally effective and equally swift—so much so, as a matter of fact, that the murders in that country are few and far between. They are not bothered there either with frequent hangings or with over-populated insane institutions.

America has two courses open for the curtailment of crime: first, the enactment of laws that will prevent the propagation of the diseased and the degenerate; second, swift justice that fails to recognize petty insanity as an excuse for murder. Although we are not an ardent exponent of capital punishment, we believe that fast and furious convictions and equally rapid hangings for the crime of murder would do much to maintain the sanity of those inclined toward crime. It's getting too easy for a murderer to go insane after the deed is done, especially if there is a keen criminal lawyer at hand to tell him how. Neither the Great War, the extreme complexities of American social life, nor any other such excuses can rightly be blamed for the spread of crime in this country. As long as our courts and the people who should hold these courts responsible retain their present attitude toward crime and criminals, then so long will we be burdened with an increasing number of murderers.

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THE OLD HOME TOWN • • By Stanley

OFFICE CAT

By Junius

News items are getting to be fearfully abbreviated. An obituary published in an exchange reads: "Mose Smith, 45, died Thursday. Pint of Wichita whisky."

* * *

HABIT

I fell for a shop girl
And she was a queen
As lovely a maiden
As my eyes have seen.
But now that we're married,
I think I was rash
Whenever she sees me,
She always yells, "Cash!"

* * *

The young ladies who are determined not to marry a man until they find their exact opposite, are destined to live and die old maids. There are no men so perfect.

* * *

Beads of prespiration stood out on the forehead of the shoe clerk as he rose to his feet after trying on practically every No. 5 shoe in the store.

"Shall I wrap up a pair for you lady?" he asked.

"No, thanks," replied the lady shopper. "I was just trying them on for a friend."

* * *

A Union farmer hung out a sign: "Honey for sale." A passer-by went in and asked, "How much do you want for her?"

* * *

The woman who doesn't begin to use rouge until she is forty years old is making up for lost time.

* * *

Irate Diner: "Loot here waiter! There's a fly in my butter."

Waiter: "That isn't a fly—it's a moth, and that isn't butter that's margerine otherwise your assertion is correct."

* * *

Brazilian voters are now engaged in casting their ballots for a new president.

* * *

If worry makes people thin, how can we explain the continued obesity of the fat people who are constantly worrying about reducing their size.

* * *

Health hint: Never laugh at your wife when she cries.

* * *

One way to run across someone you know in a strange city, is to indulge in something naughty.

* * *

"Well, do you sell these shoes?" yelled the prospective customer.

"Well," said the dismal clerk, "I often wonder that too."

* * *

Barber: "How do you wish your hair cut?"

Customer: "Without one word about radio, please."

* * *

There are only two times in the life of a male that he is friendly towards whiskers. The first time is when he is a smoothfaced lad and the second time is when his best girl complains he wasn't shaved close enough.

* * *

THE OLD GAME

As Eve remarked to Adam: "You're so original."

JASON LEE IS HONORED.

THE DALLES, Ore. — Nearly 1500 persons greeted Easter morn in a community religious service at Pulpit Rock, the historic spot from which Jason Lee preached the gospel of the white man to the Indians 87 years ago. Trumpeters sounded the call to awaken at 4:30 o'clock, going through the residence district in cars. At 5:27 the services began with the speakers occupying the same natural rock pulpit as did the famed missionary of early days.

The community service was participated in by virtually all local churches and was sponsored by local Knights Templar, who were out in full regalia. Additional religious services were held in local churches during the day.

School Fight Starts.

MARSHFIELD, Ore.—A school row has broken out in the Beach school district, which is Charleston and the surrounding territory, near the coast guard station and the government works on Coos bay. Complaint was made of the teacher, Mrs. Lillian Hines, by M. T. Bartholomew, a resident of the district, charging inefficiency. Mr. Bartholomew is a director and essayed to have the board discharge Mrs. Hines. The action aroused a partisanship fight in the district and it was said she had the support of other patrons of the school.

Yesterday In Washington

The supreme court heard further argument in the newspaper income tax list publication cases.

* * *

President-elect Machado of Cuba visited the tombs of George Washington and the Unknown Soldier.

* * *

The Nickel Plate merger hearing was recessed until Thursday by the interstate commerce commission.

* * *

The shipping board filed in district supreme court a defense of its award of five President ships to the Dollar interests.

* * *

A subcommittee of the senate land committee prepared for an investigation this summer of administration of the public domain.

* * *

The Rumanian legation announced a settlement with the Standard Oil interests dispute resulting from Rumania's new mining law.

* * *

The interstate commerce commission ordered railroads to reduce rates on iron and steel articles from Pittsburg to St. Louis and points in Illinois and Indiana.

Prosper Mill Closed.

MARSHFIELD, Ore.—What appears to mean the death knell of Prosper, in the minds of its inhabitants, was the announcement by the Sudden & Christenson company of San Francisco that its mill in Prosper, two miles from Bandon on the Coquille river, was closed until the lumber market recovers. The announcement was posted about the premises of the company and said that the lumber market did not warrant operation of the company mill, which had been the most constantly operated of any sawmill in Coos county for years.

HARRISBURG, Ore. — The city council has issued an order that the city shall lay four blocks of pavement. Three of these will be on Third street, beginning at the corner of Main street and extending south; the fourth block will be on Main street. The stretch of three blocks are along the route of the Pacific highway through town.

School News

The following students succeeded in making over forty words a minute in typewriting: Lucille Gardner, Freda Dahlstrom, George Barbeau and Lila Bean.

The reward for this is a bronze medal.

Those who made over fifty words and received a silver emblem are: Helen Williams, Etta Belle Kitchen, Lucille Black and Othello Gray.

These medals are in the form of sorority pins and are presented by the Underwood Typewriter company.

* * *

The cyclone which is reported as having passed over the town Wednesday afternoon caused a great deal of excitement around the building. For a few minutes studying was forgotten as everyone watched the rain and the havoc the wind was making. After the storm some of the students reported that they had seen hurdles and boys being blown about the track. Several wrecked hurdles were found but no boys have reported their injuries.

* * *

During the past week, the high school has at all hours of the day been overrun with girls busy preparing for the annual April Antics. Odd strains of music were often heard coming from different parts of the building, greatly whetting the curiosity of those uninitiated into the mysteries of the stunt show.

* * *

An assembly was held Friday morning for the purpose of working up pep for the Baker track meet Saturday. A number of the boys spoke and a few yells were given. Mr. Towler announced that the Junior-Senior mascot fight would be held Monday noon.

* * *

A senior class meeting was held Friday morning, in the interest of that high school "classic," the mascot fight. Everyone of the upperclassmen is determined to make the best possible showing for his class and is resolved to have the mascot in his possession next Monday or die in the attempt. Many of the boys are practicing deep breathing, so that in case they happen to be at the bottom of the pile, they will be able to hold their breath for the five minutes.

* * *

The Junior boys also held a meeting Friday afternoon, in order to find out how they could most easily and painlessly exterminate the seniors. After the meeting several boys came up to the Junior president and each pleaded earnestly and sincerely that he might be the one allotted to handle Kramer and Hughes. Although the Juniors are sure that they can master the Seniors, they are taking every precaution against their plans going astray.

* * *

The many friends of Ann Stange will be glad to know that she will be home tomorrow to spend spring vacation. She is now attending St. Helens in Portland. She will probably be in La Grande a week or ten days.

* * *

The students in the English VI class breathed a sigh of relief when Mrs. Lindgren announced that the Clippinger would be studied instead of the classic, Lamb's Essay of Elia, which had been studied a few days. It seemed that before this time, the students did not welcome the Clippinger, but as the essays seemed very difficult, the students now gave this book a hearty welcome.

* * *

In spite of the bad weather which has been prevailing for the past few days, the baseball girls have missed but very few practices.

* * *

Tryouts for girls class baseball teams will be in order for the coming week if the weather permits.

* * *

The Spanish IV class is enjoying its story El Capitan Veneo very much. About half of the book has been translated by the students.

* * *

The time for the Junior-Senior banquet is hastily approaching. The banquet will be held May 2.

Airplanes Cost Little But Carriers Expensive

(Continued from Page One.)

versely, they all seem to come from scofflaw, rather than from cellar smeller sources. The unit refuses to make them public, declaring them silly at best, and in some cases downright outrageous.

The Justice Department is getting stacks of appeals for mercy for poor old Doc Cook. His arrival at Leavenworth, penniless, broken down and pitiful, with his pathetic bundle of fancywork under his arm, just as the oil indictments against Albert B. Fall, the Dohenys and Harry Sinclair were being quashed, seems to have struck a good many people as a little too raw a coincidence.

* * *

In connection with the dismissal of the indictments against the ex-secretary of the interior and the multimillionaire oil men accused with him, some rather unkind things are being said about the Justice Department.

These true bills were thrown out because O. E. Pagan, departmental indictment expert, was in the grand jury room when they were voted on, despite the fact that the oil inquiry had been taken out of the department's hands and turned over to special counsel. Now, if Pagan's presence invalidated the indictments why was he there? Didn't he, as an indictment expert, know any better? Or did somebody deliberately want the indictment to be invalid?

* * *

One or the other of these two surmises must fit the situation.

In John Hays Hammond's chateau in Washington is a room known as the "den"— about 30 by 50 feet square, with a high ceiling, and all four walls completely lined with the autographed photographs of celebrities the famous mining engineer has known personally.

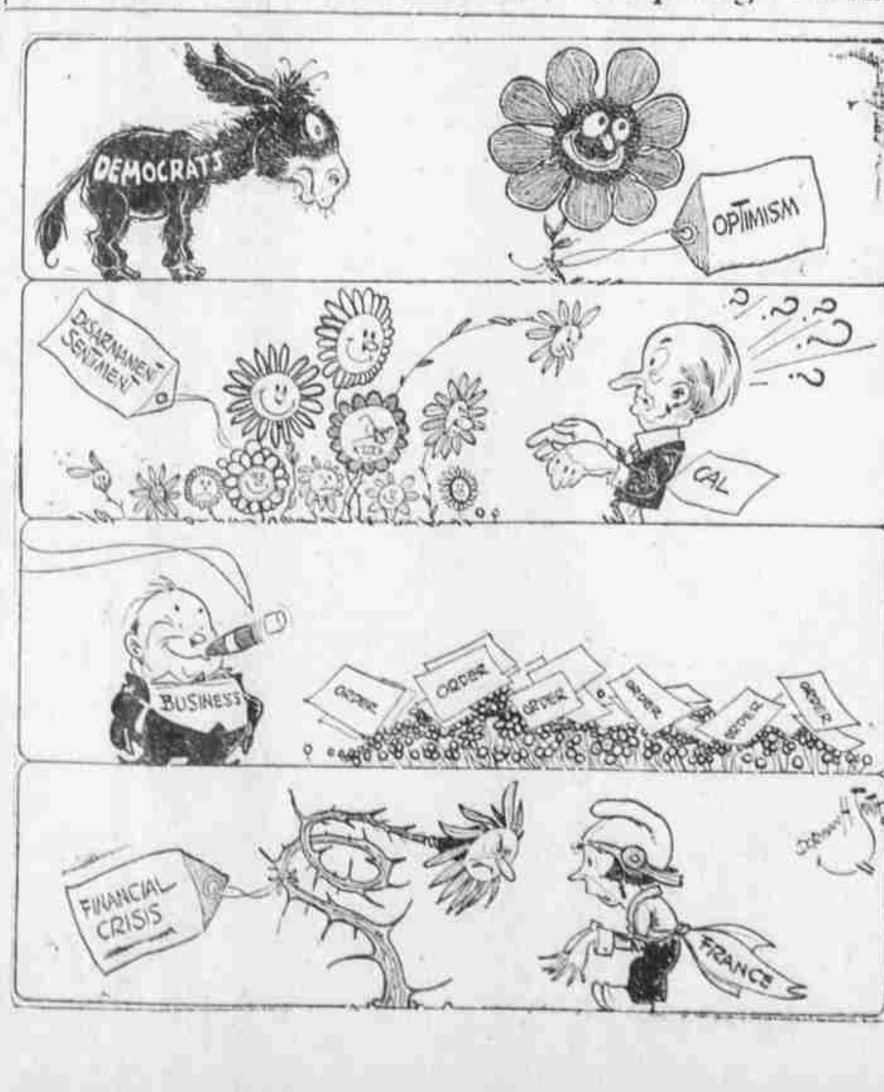
It probably is the most remarkable collection of its kind in existence, ranging all the way from the world's foremost men of affairs to the world's foremost men of letters, from kings and queens and presidents to bewhiskered frontiersmen of the old days when the west was wild and woolly. But right in the middle of the east wall is a blank space—a picture missing. The visitor stares at the place curiously.

"Albert B. Fall's portrait hung there, explains John Hays Hammond. "Nobody was more surprised than I when the oil scandal broke. I could hardly believe it. In fact, I didn't believe it when Doheny's name alone was mentioned in connection with Fall's. Doheny is just the man who really would slip an old partner a $100,000 present, as he says he did. But when Sinclair's name began to figure, too, then down came the picture. "Nothing for nothing" is Sinclair's motto."

COURT SITS IN CEMETERY

HOOD RIVER, Ore.—Justice of the Peace Blagg, who administers fines to local violators of traffic laws, is also sexton at Idlewilde cemetery. Several times since spring weather has attracted numerous motorists to valley highways, Justice Blagg has been engaged in supervising the digging of a grave when violators were apprehended.

The Flowers That Bloom in the Spring Tra-La



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Obituary

MARCHETA ARDETH GROUPE

Little Marcheta Ardeth Groupe, 10-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Alfred Groupe, died here yesterday morning at about 6:30 o'clock. The funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Snodgrass and Zimmerman chapel. Interment will take place in the Odd Fellows cemetery. The cause of death was whooping cough complicated with pneumonia.

Ferry Changes Dock.

CASCADE LOCKS, Ore.—On account of high water in the Columbia river, the Cascade-Stevenson ferry has been forced to change the dock, making it about one and one-fourth miles up the river, above Cascade Locks.

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Ladies' Silk Bloomers at $2.00
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