

# La Grande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)

An Independent Newspaper

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF UNION COUNTY AND THE CITY OF LA GRANDE

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FAMILY REJOICINGS—"And ye shall rejoice before the Lord your God, and your sons, and your daughters, and your menservants, and your maidservants"—Deut. 12:12.

The valley's wheat crop is not up to normal this year, but one farmer talks sense by saying that ten to fifteen bushels an acre is better than no crop at all.

For the benefit of our readers who are moved to express themselves through the Open Court column of this paper, we wish to say that communications are welcomed by The Observer if kept to a reasonable length. The writer must, however, sign his or her name and address, whether or implied charges against, or statements about, individuals or corporations based on rumors, hearsay, or prejudice that could be considered libelous in nature. Private opinions or statements accepted as facts dealing purely with the public aspect of various questions will be given space gladly. Matter of an objectionable nature, or that tends in any way to effect the equal responsibility of a newspaper for what it publishes—signed communication, paid advertisement, or otherwise—will be deleted. It has a place in the columns of a newspaper only when it becomes a matter of court record. And it has been the experience of The Observer that out of the great mass of rumor, gossip, and prejudice that always exists, very little of it ever gets that far.

### QUESTIONS ABOUT WATER

A communication to The Observer, dealing with water restriction questions, asks for information, part of which we may be able to supply. According to old residents, seldom in the history of the valley has there been such a season as this when the rivers and streams were so low in water, and it is perfectly natural that we all be confronted at times with emergencies that cannot be reasonably foretold.

No citizens of La Grande, prominent or otherwise, are entitled to special water privileges of course. That any citizens assume such rights is regrettable. As the water regulation is understood by The Observer in this instance, cooperation was put squarely up to the people of the city—their help being requested rather than being absolutely ordered. The excellent way in which they responded is most gratifying. Also it has been the practice for many years, whether lawful or not, for the city to supply water to people living outside the city limits, though now a very much higher rate is charged these users in addition to installation costs. With corporate limits as comparatively small as ours are, several hundred homes that are now just outside would be denied water if water service were restricted to the city limits.

After all, it is the opinion of The Observer that these matters are irrelevant. The problem faced by the community was one of keeping a large number of its citizens properly employed. To at least make that possible, the emergency required that water be conserved and diverted to industrial purposes. This has been accomplished, thanks to the broad-mindedness of our citizenry. What should or should not have been done previous to the existence of the emergency could not be of assistance in solving the present problem. As a community we are interested primarily in the profitable employment of our people, in the getting and keeping of businesses and industries that make such employment possible. That is the crux of the thing. The emergency is not permanent and, we imagine, will not again be possible.

## THE OPEN COURT

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

Editor of La Grande Evening Observer:

Permit me to use the columns of the "Forum" of your paper to ask you a few questions in regard to the present water situation. The writer has lived in many communities in Oregon and this is the first city that has had the kind of city commissioners and citizens to see far ahead enough in advance to prepare for a water shortage by sinking a well or two. But now that the city has overcome the water shortage permit me to ask a few questions in regard to present water being diverted for industrial purposes.

Why should many prominent citizens be entitled to use water for hours during the day while others deny themselves the water? Why is it lawful for the city to divert the water to be used outside of the city limits?

Since when has the old law that prior waterrights on the Grande Ronde river purchased for industrial purposes are null and void been cancelled? Many years ago it was ruled that water rights could not be transferred from farm lands to industries.

However be it what it may many taxpayers of the city are willing to assist should there be an emergency, but where is the emergency? Who is to blame?

Hope someone can explain why. Yours truly, A water user and a taxpayer.

### CITY OF KALGAN EVACUATED BY PEOPLES' ARMY

PEKING, Aug. 20. (AP)—The city of Kalgan has been completely evacuated by the Kuomintang (nationalist) army which has continued its retreat from Nankow toward Peking. Chen, roughly 100 miles westward, following its recent defeat at the hands of the allied forces of Marshal Wu Pei-fu and Chang Tso-lin.

Non-Chinese advisers report that the evacuation has been proceeding since August 7 and was practically completed by the thirteenth.

Two brigades of Feng Tien troops (part of the allied army) entered Kalgan yesterday noon and was followed throughout the day other units of Feng Tien and Chihli forces.

Less than 100 men are reported to have held the Nankow pass, a key position covering the retreat of the main Kuomintang position and where the Shanais forces, cooperating with the Kuomintang, also is reported to have been evacuated following the surrender of Nankow.

### Primary Election Plan Scored by Mr. Roosevelt

NEW YORK, Aug. 20. (AP)—Theodore Roosevelt estimates that election expenses in the United States amounted to \$40,000,000 in a presidential year, and is convinced that the convention system has been proved superior to the primary system in nominating candidates.

"Oracles of expenditure," such as were revealed in the recent Pennsylvania primaries in last night, New York republican club last night, are a "learning disgrace."

"As things stand, a poor man has no chance whatsoever in the primaries," he said.

### TO FIGHT DIVORCE

NEW YORK, Aug. 20. (AP)—Mrs. Doris Mercer Kroeger arrived from abroad today to fight the divorce suit filed in Detroit last month by her husband, Sebastian S. Kroeger, millionaire operator of Rice and Rice department store. She said the suit was "entirely unwarranted."

### Enough Gas?

The speedometer is a very valuable piece of equipment, but never depend upon its odometer reading to tell when the gasoline supply needs replenishing.



Reverend Nelson Knight, the lumberjack evangelist, is getting his sickle sharpened to mow into the harvest field next Sunday night. Some people may get behind. A great revival is expected. Most everybody likes Reverend Knight even though he does make them mad sometimes. After he skins them, then he throws on a handful of salt and rubs it in with sandpaper. Curses of X and Scurvy. Come early and get a seat. If you come a little late, just bring a camp chair with you.

## TRAIL-TO-RAIL PARADE TODAY

EUGENE, Ore., Aug. 20. (AP)—The civic and industrial parade, with more than 100 entries listed, will feature Eugene's Trail-to-Rail celebration here this morning. Hand concerts on downtown street corners are being held throughout

the morning, until the time of the parade.

This afternoon at 2 o'clock on the University of Oregon campus will take place the formal inaugural ceremonies of the Cascade route of the Southern Pacific railroad. More band concerts, public dances, festivities at railhead the frontier celebration town built for the celebration and a flying circus from Pearson field will be added attractions on the afternoon program. At 5:30 o'clock there will also be a 34-round list of boxing events at the open air pavilion.

To Report Klatawa

Tonight the pageant Klatawa will be repeated, and at the same

time the night shift at Railhead will get under way. More public dances are on the program and the queen's ball will be held at the woman's building on the university campus.

Last night the pageant Klatawa received an even greater ovation than on the previous evening.

Governor Walter M. Pierce, of Oregon; Mayor George L. Baker,

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A FEW OF OUR MANY MONEY-SAVING VALUES

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In browns, greys and blue in both single and double-breasted models.

A selection that will warrant your inspection before you buy.

\$13.85 to \$33



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In black and tan, built upon lasts that will appeal to you in style and fit.

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These shirts are made by Greenhood and Phillips Jones.

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Black and brown.  
2 pair for  
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FANCY HOSE  
In tans, grey and browns, 3 for  
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Moccasin style with full paracord sole and rubber heel.  
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Men's white hem-stitched hdks.  
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KNIT UNDERWEAR  
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98c

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Another shipment just received of our famous triple stitched two pocket shirt  
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