

La Grande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

FRANK B. APPELBY, Editor and Publisher
HARVEY F. MATTHEWS, Business Manager

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

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited if published therein. All rights of republication of special dispatches in this paper, and also the local news here-in also are reserved.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Carrier

Daily, per month in advance.....75c
Daily, per six months in advance.....\$4.50
Daily, single copy.....10c

By Mail

Daily, per month in advance.....60c
Daily, per six months in advance.....\$3.50
Daily, per year in advance.....\$6.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year.....\$2.00

ADVERTISING RATES

Display, foreign, per column inch.....45c
Display, local, per column inch.....40c
Time contract rates on application.



GOD'S DEED—"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." 1 Chron. 16:29.

Merry Christmas!

Who have you forgotten?

"Twas the night before Christmas!"—and Eastern Oregon's weather measures up to the children's hopes with a proper setting.

Then, of course, another thing we might do with that big U. S. treasury surplus is, lend it to Europe.

Congress in session may not give the farmers any relief; but when the session ends, everybody will be relieved.

There is still time to find and properly remember some unfortunate children whom Santa Claus might otherwise miss. The cost would not be great, yet the joy in their hearts would be immeasurable.

The Observer will not be published tomorrow, Christmas Day, in accordance with our usual custom. We feel sure that its readers will gladly approve of the action that will permit twenty employees full enjoyment of the year's greatest and most sacred holiday.

Not content with insulting the intelligence and honesty of the Board of Normal School Regents, The East Oregonian, Pendleton's democratic newspaper, implies an almost similar insult to the state's new governor, I. L. Patterson, with the assumption that he will review the normal school location question. They are apparently not well acquainted with Mr. Patterson. They have obviously not been apprised of his fairness, his good business as well as political judgment. They were probably too busy giving heavy (?) support to the democratic candidate in the last election to discover that Mr. Patterson is too big a man to be drawn into such a petty squabble as the E. O. seeks to start. Mr. Patterson will give the state of Oregon a business, not a political, administration. He, at least, is a good sportsman. There is no danger of his starting off a most propitious administration by giving ear to prejudice and misstatement. The East Oregonian's tempest in a tea-pot will gradually subside.

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

"Christianity has failed," critics often say. But they overlook Christmas. This great Christian festival is in itself the most convincing demonstration of Christianity. It exemplifies Christian doctrine and realizes Christian ideals.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive," said Jesus. There was a new principle of human conduct. People were amazed when he uttered it. They could not believe it then. Most of us cannot believe it yet. We pretend to believe it, but we seldom accept it in our hearts or express it in action. Day in and day out, through the long year, society acts on the principle that it is more blessed to receive than to give.

This is a competitive civilization; and competition makes selfishness. Economic ideas affect moral ideas. We have to be thrifty, and make a profit, and get what we can in all ways not expressly declared dishonorable, in order to make a living. The hard necessity of "survival of the fittest" impels us to take rather than give. So taking or accepting becomes the rule of life, and giving or offering becomes the exception. When we do give, we are likely to do it from a sense of duty rather than pleasure. We feel self-righteous about it. Behold how generous we are!

Then comes December, with its perennial miracle—one of the most authentic and compelling of all miracles wrought in the spirit of man. Slowly, unconsciously, a subtle change appears. People start planning to give Christmas presents. At first they seem actuated by a sense of duty. But soon that phase passes. They come to feel a zest of enthusiasm for this strange business.

By the time Christmas arrives, hundreds of millions of supposedly selfish, practical, thrifty human beings are spending recklessly and giving with abandon, and finding in it keener enjoyment than they ever experienced from selfish acquisition. They are glad to receive gifts, but they are gladder to bestow them on others.

All at once they realize how much more blessed it is to give than to receive. And in this new spirit they find it easy to accept and practice those other cardinal precepts of Christian conduct. "Be ye kind to one another"—"Whatever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

For one day, at least, Christendom is Christian.

Isn't it about time for a symposium on why women marry Charlie Chaplin?

Busiest Time for 'Phone Company Came When Normal Site Selected

A new record in handling calls over a period of two hours was chalked up at the office of the Home Independent Telephone company Monday afternoon, after it first became known that La Grande had been awarded the Eastern Oregon normal school.

About 15 minutes after the news was first reported the operating switchboard, already carrying its usual heavy load of pre-Christmas conversations, suddenly burst forth in glory like a well-lighted Christmas tree. And truly it was a Christmas tree bearing the news of La Grande's best gift, members of the company declare.

When a call comes in a little electric globe is lighted thus attracting the operator's attention, and with calls coming at a terrific rate, the switchboard was a blaze of illumination.

Others Lead Aid.

The operators worked frantically but still the board shone. It was necessary to call in employees from

other departments who stood between the operators, removing the plugs from the finished conversations in order to handle the traffic.

This super-busy period lasted about two hours, but, because of the company's facilities to handle calls and the well-trained operators, the telephoning public did not even know there was a rush at central. Of the thousands of calls that were plugged in, not a single complaint was received.

Had this rush occurred in former days, before the new switchboard was installed, it would have been impossible to take care of it. Officials of the company estimate that more calls passed through the switchboard in those two hours than ordinarily pass through it in one day although it was impossible, because of the startling beginning of the rush, to make a count. The normal load, taken several days before, however, recorded 1,771 calls in one hour.

GIFTS THAT LAST

Pure linen embroidered pieces at special low prices. A gift that will be appreciated by Mother, Sister, Friend or Sweet heart.



LINEN GUEST TOWELS.....98c
LINEN VANITY SETS.....\$1.19
LINEN SCARFS.....\$2.29
LINEN 36-IN. LUNCH SETS.....\$3.98
LINEN 45-IN. LUNCH SETS.....\$4.98
LINEN 54-IN. LUNCH SETS.....\$5.98

Pillow Cases

12-in. all hand embroidered, at Special Xmas prices—
\$1.98

Bed Spreads

Regular \$18 values in full sized hand embroidered K r i n k e y weave, at—
\$9.98

Norton's
Kiddy Shop

After 6 o'clock today all Dolls and Toys left in stock will be sold at 25% Discount.

NO TIME TO QUIT

There is much about college life and life in normal schools that many people do not know. Thoughtless people who get their impressions from funny papers think it is a business of jazz, money spending and little study.

What such people do not know about the subject would fill a book. The majority of students in Oregon schools are self-supporting. Two-thirds of them must make their own way wholly or in part. Many a home and many a farm is under mortgage that children must go to school. This is more common today than in the olden days.

because an education is now a necessity, not a luxury.

Many a mother weeps because her daughter may go to normal school and thereby squip herself to earn a decent living. Most of the students who drop out of school do so because they run out of funds. Stories of his sort are not sporadic. They are common for they occur by the hundreds every year in this fair state of Oregon.

Nearly school president knows the problems of the student's pocket book. So do the deans of men, the deans of women and most of the agents. There are few people in such positions who have not heard

tales that would almost melt the heart of a wooden Indian. They were not denied, nor can they be denied.

It is not the part of sportsman-ship to accept a decision when there is ground for the belief that improper influences turned the tide. It is not incumbent upon any man or any newspaper to acquiesce in a proposed settlement against the people. It is time to fight, for the wrong can still be righted.

A new governor assumes office in January and he will then have control. It will be his privilege if he desires to review the situation of the Eastern Oregon district and if he looks at the facts squarely another matter entirely. That justice will occur if the school is free acting—Pendleton East Oregonian at La Grande has been going.

Merry Christmas

THE CHRISTMAS shopping season is past. A wonderful one for us. Once again the populace of La Grande has given us their overwhelming support. It is with feelings of most grateful thanks that we extend our greetings in unlimited measure—to the La Grande public—to our patrons—to our employees.

That this Christmastide be marked with Happiness and Good Cheer is the sincere wish of—

N. K. West & Co., Inc.

La Grande's Leading Store
For Over Twenty-Five Years

May the coming of Santa Claus find Christmas joy in your heart, Christmas happiness in your home. May he bring you promise of peace, contentment, and prosperity for the NEW YEAR!

La Grande National Bank

Resources Over Two Million.