

# LaGrande 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 3, 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 reproduction 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.....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.



OUR HONOR—"But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? For all things come to Thee, and of Thine own have we given Thee."  
1 Chron. 29-14.

People marry later now than they used to. But once started, they marry oftener.

### HOW TO AVOID EFFICIENCY

A communication to the Oregonian from an Albany citizen gives plain, straightforward instructions to the members of the legislature about to convene. It tells them what to do and what not to do. The problem is solved, there is no need for our house and senate to work and worry for forty days and forty nights. The author of this outburst shows them a way out.

Fortunately for the state of Oregon, however, the legislature will not take it. The responsibility of its members is real to them, at least, and that responsibility is not merely to spend as little state money as possible but to do so while sending the state forward to new heights of progress and development. As an example of how some voters view legislative duty we quote some extracts from this Albany man's letter:

"It is to be hoped that the members of approaching legislature of Oregon will turn a deaf ear to all requests for creation of new offices or bills having in them the creation of new officials or commissions; that they will refuse the petition of a comparatively small crowd who are asking for old-age pensions without sufficient reasons, as the poor of each county are now being provided for by taxpayers; that they will be oblivious to the petitions of individuals or organizations asking for state aid to construct this or accomplish that or those who desire some humanitarian legislation because some other state has such a law; that they will turn down all new projects or improvements at state expense for two years at least, and, if any state buildings are necessary, leave it to a direct vote of the people two years hence, to the end that the taxpayers may feel kindly at what is done.

"If any new legislation be enacted let it be to cut down salaries, increasing none; let there be abolishment of state commissions or curtailing of the number of employees used in their operations, and if any officials resign, other competent men will gladly take their places.

"Every employe of the state or county should be required to put in actually eight hours at work each day, and for time idled or used for his private purposes docked for such time proportionately, as thousands of dollars are being paid out without the state and counties obtaining full benefit of the money spent. Any state employe or state or county official using state or county cars for private use or idling time and putting in a bill for full time is taking that which is not his own, and which is forbidden by divine as well as civil law."

We do not know the author of the communication but it reads as though he was well within the class of those citizens who are wonderfully penny-wise and pound-foolish. If he resides within the corporate limits of Albany and is a taxpayer, about 50 per cent of his great burden of taxes comes from the school district, about 35 per cent from the municipality and county, and about eight per cent from the approval of a majority of the people of Oregon at the polls. The remaining seven per cent is the occasion for his great concern—and we would be almost willing to wager that as a citizen he takes little interest in who is elected to county and city offices and seldom votes at school elections. That's usually true of that kind.

Oregon has had a prosperous year. It has grown. Like a big business enterprise whose facilities were designed for a certain volume of business and a certain maximum number of customers, it has exceeded the limit. It must grow in proportions to the demand made on it and to its opportunity for service to its customers, or it must fall back. To follow the advice of the Albany citizen is business suicide.

If he is a business man employing people for their intelligence, energy, and honesty, the last paragraph quoted is not, we are confident, followed in his private business affairs. Efficiency is not secured by watching the clock on employes, not by docking for every few minutes of missed time. Too many of our public offices are poorly handled for opposite reasons—because the officials are poorly paid, little encouraged, and seldom appreciated. Working under such conditions it is a wonder that we have as much competency as we have.

Efficiency in business or in government is not a question of spending the least that is possible. Rather is it a question of spending wisely and well. That's the legislature's job. Its members are the chosen representatives of the people of Oregon. They are not sent to Salem to decide what the state needs and then turn around, delay the activity two years, and ask the voters to approve it at the polls. Their job is to do the deciding and do the work. If it is unsatisfactory, voters can say so two years hence by electing other legislators. Oregon can well afford progress. If it can't, we cannot well afford any of the things that go to make this a good place to live, things of which we are justly proud.

## GENERAL BUTLER SCORES DRY ACT

Former Foe of Illicit Alcohol Traffic Changes His Opinion

OAKLAND, Cal., Jan. 6 (AP)—Brigadier General Smedley D. Butler, distinguished soldier and foe of illicit alcohol, who spent many months fighting graft and bootleggers as director of public safety of Philadelphia, has changed his mind about the Volstead law. Speaking before a luncheon club here, the commander of the marines on the Pacific coast denounced the prohibition statutes as class legislation, saying it reacted against the poor man and favored the rich one. Its principal demerit, he indicated, is the manner in which enforcement has grown out of it.

General Butler, who won much publicity for having the late Colonel Alexander S. Williams, of the San Diego marine base, court-martialed for serving cocktails at a party at which the general was the guest of honor, declared in his address, which was delivered yesterday, that he originally believed the Volstead act was written to apply to everybody, but that he has discovered that such is not the case.

"There is plenty to supply the demand for vice and corruption in the 'upper crust' but the poor man is left with nothing," the general asserted. "When the American people give a man the task of enforcing a law, I, as a dyed-in-the-wool marine, conceive it that they mean it shall be enforced. Maybe I didn't finish learning to read before I got into the marine corps but I have read this fool Volstead Act as intended to apply to everybody.

"It appears, however, that all it is supposed to do is to keep liquor away from persons without influence, and doesn't apply at all to those with influence and the money to pay for it. It's a case of enforcing the law in some places and blurring it in enforcement in others."

### Today in Washington

Congress meets at noon.

Naval bill continues before the house.

Senate resumes secret discussion of Lathrop treaty.

Goold case continues before an elections sub-committee.

Citizens committee of one thousand meets to consider law observance, delay.

### Fined \$100, Costs On Wine Charge

Leon Harris was fined \$100 and costs by Judge Hugh E. Brady yesterday on a charge of possession of wine.

Harris was arrested, Dec. 25 by prohibition officer, Pierce, and his trial was held in the justice court Dec. 29. However, the sentence was not given until yesterday when Judge Brady returned from Portland.

### House Adds Item To Supply Measure

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (AP)—Overriding the budget, the house today adopted an amendment to the naval supply bill which would provide \$200,000 for beginning work on a dirigible to replace the wrecked Shenandoah.

### COTTON QUEEN



—NEA, New Orleans Bureau. Heading out 100 boys, Miss Ellen Daniels, 18, with the one-acre cotton contest sponsored by the State agricultural extension service in Nacogdoches county, Texas, by producing two and one-half bales of cotton on one acre of land. She's attending high school on the prize money.

La Grande's Leading Store

# N. K. West & Co., Inc.

For Over Twenty-five Years

## 29th Annual January

# Clearance Sale

## Hart, Schaffner & Marx Suits and Overcoats

Regrouping and rearranging of stocks after the first days of furious selling, make buying easier now. Service is better, too; lessening crowds afford a better chance to make selections. These clearance offers include the cream of our stock and a great many suits which you'll find appropriate for wear next spring as well as now.

Copyright 1926 Hart Schaffner & Marx

\$35.00	OVERCOAT SUIT	\$26.25	\$50.00	OVERCOAT SUIT	\$37.50
\$40.00	OVERCOAT SUIT	\$30.00	\$55.00	OVERCOAT SUIT	\$41.25
\$45.00	OVERCOAT SUIT	\$33.75	\$57.50	OVERCOAT SUIT	\$43.13
\$47.50	OVERCOAT SUIT	\$35.65	\$60.00	OVERCOAT SUIT	\$45.00

## Boy's Apparel Radically Reduced

"Wool Wear" Boys' Suits  
"Classmate" Students' Suits

### Reduced One-Fourth

EVERY boy's Suit and Overcoat at a saving of One-Fourth. Boys' clothes made by manufacturers of boys' clothing. The styles and materials are up-to-the-minute in every detail. These are real clothes for real boys, priced 25% LESS for Clearance at.....

CLASSMATE

#### Boys' Suit Special

One group of boys' Knickerbocker Suits with one and two pair of trousers, in sizes from 6 to 16 years. Made of pure virgin wool from Oregon City Woolen Mills, at—

Half Price

#### Corduroy Longies

Boys' tan and gray corduroy Long Trousers of extra quality corduroy. These are full cut and made with belt loops for wide belts. Priced specially for January Clearance at—

\$3.00

CLASSMATE

## EVERY ARTICLE IN THE STORE REDUCED!

### Mt. Fanny Grange Installs Officers

COVE, Ore., Jan. 5 (Special)—Mt. Fanny grange celebrated New Year's with the annual dinner on that day and the installation of officers for 1927. About 20 persons were present for the meeting, which was held at the grange hall.

J. A. Nice, worthy master of the Pomona grange, with his assistant, Miss Nice, installed the new officers, as follows:  
Worthy master, Ralph Hunt; overseer, J. B. Tallent; lecturer, Mrs. E. Hunt; steward, R. W. Sorensen; assistant steward, L. J. Chudwick; chaplain, Mrs. George Miller; secretary, Mrs. Lydia M. Loring; lady steward, Margery Miller; gate keeper, John Miller; extras, Mary Daron; pomona, Ruth Baker and Flora, Georgianna Chudwick.

### Execute Three For Death of One

BOSTON, Jan. 5 (AP)—Three men were electrocuted at the state prison today for a single murder. Edward J. Elmeto, John L. Desereaux and John J. McLaughlin, each about 28 years old, went to the chair for the murder of James H. Fenead, aged night watchman during a holdup in a Wallham car barn on Oct. 25, 1925.

### COVE PERSONALS

COVE, (Special)—Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Stackland and G. G. and K. J. Stackland attended the reception at Hot Lake on New Year's day.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Miller and family, of Union, and Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Anderson and family, of Cove, were dinner guests of G. G. Stackland and his sister, Mrs. Prillman, Sunday, Jan. 2.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Miller and family, of Union, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Stackland, G. F. Stackland, Mrs. Paulina Prillman and K. J. Stackland, were Christmas dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Anderson.

Gordon Mills, a student of Occidental college of Los Angeles, Cal., who came home for the holidays, has returned to Los Angeles to resume his study.

### high school teachers, who spent the holidays in Salem, returned home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller entertained at dinner on New Year's day. Mrs. Mae Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Orton, Wanda Betty Orton, Boss and F. B. Kelly and Mrs. Kelly's sister, Miss Amelia Hildebrand were the guests.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Orin Robinson, of Cove, at the Grande Ronde hospital Thursday, Dec. 29.

### Will Buy a Boy's Winter Cap

25c  
Will Buy a Boy's Winter Cap  
\$1.00  
Will Buy a Boy's Tug-Tog Suit

\$2.95  
Will Buy a Girl's Wool Dress  
25c to \$1.98  
Will Buy 1 Pair Shoes

Lowest Prices Ever Offered at Our January Clean-Up Sale  
Norton's Kiddy Shop

## Travel by Motor Stage

Safety Comfortably

TRAVEL BY MOTOR STAGE

Leave La Grande for Joseph 9:00 A. M. - 4:00 P. M.  
" Baker and Boise 9:25 A. M. - 1:25 P. M.  
" Baker only 5:30 P. M.  
" Pendleton 11:00 A. M. - 3:30 P. M. - 9:15 P. M.

Connections at Pendleton for Walla Walla, Pasco and Portland; at Portland all points South and North.

La Grande Depot Phone 799  
All Modern Chair Car Stages.