

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 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.....50c
Daily, per six months in advance.....\$3.50
Daily, per year in advance.....\$5.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year.....\$2.00

ADVERTISING RATES

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



GOD SAVE—"Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us, that we may give thanks to Thy holy name." 1 Chron. 16:25.

WANTED—SOMETHING NASTY

There are plenty of recipes for drinks in this prohibition age. Now what is wanted is a recipe to prevent drinking. Uncle Sam's chemists so far have failed to provide one. There might be a national competition, with the treasury department or the Anti-Saloon league offering a prize.

It is a question of making alcohol too nasty to drink, without making it deadly. The public doesn't approve of the government putting actual poison into commercial alcohol, because death is regarded as an unduly severe penalty for defying prohibition. As long as there are people weak and foolish enough to drink liquids never intended for drinking, they must be protected against themselves.

Something must be provided, therefore, which when poured into commercial alcohol as a "denaturant" cannot be removed by the amateur distiller or bootlegger, and which will leave in the liquor, through all its changes, a smell and taste so vile that it will make the stuff impossible for a human being to swallow. Animals don't have to be protected. They know better.

SOLDIERS AND CHILDREN

Men and women not directly connected with the American Legion who do not follow its convention programs may be surprised at some of the things that organization takes an interest in. One of these is child welfare.

The United States Children's Bureau, in a recent bulletin, called attention to the fact that the legion devotes half the income from its endowment fund to child welfare work. The various departments of the legion plan in the coming year to formulate state legislative programs along this line and to urge them for the public good. The billets which the legion has established for children of war veterans show only one phase of its interest in those particular children. They are regarded not as permanent things, but as a clearing house for those dependent children, from which they are to be placed in normal, happy homes with relatives or foster parents as far as possible.

These are very interesting things for a great soldier organization to be doing. National defense and other goals the legion seeks would not be worth much if the children of the country weren't getting a fair chance. The legion is right when it lines itself up with the other foresighted individuals and groups working for this.

PUBLIC CRITICISM

Should Americans criticize their government? Particularly, should they criticize their government's conduct of foreign affairs? Recent events connected with Mexico and Nicaragua have made this a live question. It was also a very live question a few years ago, when the Versailles treaty was being negotiated and the league of nations planned.

All administrations object, in greater or less degree, to criticism. The more vital they consider their policies, the more they object. It is unquestionably more comfortable for a president or a secretary of state to pursue the course dictated by his own judgment, without a word of remonstrance from congress or press or public. But suppose people honestly think he is making a mistake—is nothing to be said then? Shall legislator and editor and private citizen be silent if they cannot voice approval?

On the whole, history, and especially American history, seems to show that the inconvenience resulting from criticism is likely to be less than the inconvenience resulting from government behind closed doors. Anyway, Americans like to speak their minds, and will probably continue to do so hereafter as they have done in the past, even if they do seem occasionally to make unnecessary trouble for public men.

2 Walla Walla Ex-Cons Taken By U. S. Agents

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 12 (AP)—The department of justice headquarters here was notified today of the arrest in St. Louis of Franklin Wyatt, alias Earl Mansfield and Andrew Deppre, former convict in the Walla Walla penitentiary on a charge of impersonating government agents.

The arrest is considered an important one. In that Wyatt in some manner that has never been explained is supposed to have obtained bona fide credentials as an operative of the bureau of investigation of the department of justice and with Deppre cashed spurious checks for thousands of dollars in a number of cities. The credentials made it easy for the pair not only to obtain money but to receive benefits and recognition afforded only high government officials. They are alleged to have operated in Seattle, Portland, Medford, St. Louis, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Wyatt is under indictment in Los Angeles and further indictments are expected in St. Louis and San Francisco.

While at the Walla Walla prison the men became acquainted with a woman prisoner, Fay McDonald, who moved to St. Louis after her release. Her home was watched and the men were trapped while supposedly preparing to pay her a visit.

To Philippines?



—Sgt. Harold M. Pitt, Oakland (Calif.) capitalist, has been recommended to President Coolidge by senator friends, it is reported, as successor to Leonard Wood as governor-general of the Philippines in the event Wood resigns. Pitt served in the army in the Philippines in 1893 and lived there as a civilian for 20 years more.

Brownie Will Is Surprise in Case

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 12 (AP)—Search for Leslie Brownie, last on Mount Hood since Jan. 1, was in official channels today as a result of disclosure that just before he started to climb the peak he had hastily drawn up a will leaving \$210 to his companion, Al Feyerabend. The latter said this will was made in sport, and covered money which Brownie owed him. No charges has been made against Feyerabend.

Questioned by officers Feyerabend admitted that he had given false information concerning his separation from Brownie. He admitted that he had not climbed to the peak after having separated from Brownie. New information given by Feyerabend caused a renewal of the search.

According to the chief deputy district attorney, Joe Hammersby, the inquiry will not likely lead to anything more than further knowledge of the facts.



—SEA and London Times
THIS IS NOT a pre-Viewed dream, but a real live nabob galgo, born recently in the London Zoo. It's a nocturnal animal, the large eyes helping a lot food in the darkness.

3 INQUIRIES PROPOSED BY LEGISLATORS

(Continued from Page One)
measure would permit school districts to include in their annual levy tax not to exceed \$1.00 per pupil per year for the purpose of providing books for free distribution.

Pro districts of the class would be empowered to choose their own books while those of other classes would have to take those prescribed by the state.

Barefoot Boy



Frank Marston, said to have been the boy whom Whittier had in mind when he wrote the famous "Barefoot Boy" poem, is ill in the State Hospital at Danvers, Mass. He was found by neighbors in his cottage, suffering from starvation. For years he has been a caretaker on the old Whittier estate.

Seeks Honors



Here is Peggy Williamson, Milwaukee, Wis., high school girl, who by her recent excellent performances in the A. U. championships, comes up as a likely member of the 1928 Olympic team. She swims in the colors of the Milwaukee Athletic Club.

State Income Tax Proponents Lose No Time; Recent Defeat of Both Dennis and Grange Bills Is Ignored

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 13 (Special to The Observer).—Proponents of income tax so shortly after the beginning of the session in line with Henry's retiring message has brought out a very strong expression for and against this issue. It was presumed that defeat of the Dennis resolution making it impossible to enact income tax legislation before 1930 would, in combination with defeat of the Grange tax measure in November, delay further attempts at such laws. This apparently is not the case, Grange leaders with their friends in the senate and house get quick action.

Income tax is a question not decided. Lobbyists are here on both sides and while the opening of the legislature was peaceful, from the flag on the south wing of the capitol to the refinery in the basement, things are active in between.

Topics mentioned to both senators in form of resolutions, memorials, house and senate bills on subjects of varying importance.

Among them is a house joint resolution by Claude Buchanan of Benton, relating to increased salary of county officers, providing that the increase shall not prevail during the term for which the officer was elected. This will be submitted to voters.

Creating state textbook commission—state superintendent, four members, appointive by governor, term four years, only one member from a county. Excludes from membership school districts with 20,000 or more children of school age.

Linn County Fairs
Lumping county fairs in one appropriation is planned by Representative L. L. Swan in a measure to be put before the house. Linn county makes its claim for state funds for this purpose. Swan figures that by this short-cut method printing and needless detail can be saved, as well as a hundred or two dollars in clerical work.

Taking the basis of two years ago, he specifies sums for each fair district, subject to decision and judgment by the house. For example Grant county had been listed at \$6000, Multnomah \$4000, Clatsop \$4000. Others at \$2000. This is aside from state fair funds and the continued help given the Pacific International livestock exposition. Swan facetiously remarks, "We may not get anything this year, but it will simplify the manner of getting what we do get."

No More Pay for Jurors
Like lawmakers, jurors are underpaid in the opinion of many. Discussion of a bill to make the figure \$5 per diem, plus mileage, correspondent to ask Senator Benson what such move would accomplish. "Not a thing, not a chance," replied the floor member of the upper house. "There would be opposition to it from its long stand-

County Division or Readjustment
Washington and Clatsop counties will be concerned in probable attempt of Portland and Multnomah county to revise boundaries. The south line of Multnomah county and Portland's city boundary east of the Willamette river from the north line of Clatsop county, to consolidate county and city government in the metropolitan sections will be needed from both adjacent counties. It is stated, legislation is in prospect to enable Portland property to expand. Opposition is indicated. Chris Scheibel, Oregon City attorney, E. E. Brodie of the Oregon City Enterprise, Representative Lath Jones of Clatsop and others are watching this subject with close scrutiny.

Newspaper Men Alert
Secretary of State Sam Koser has done all possible for news gathering representatives, with showing of space, more pressing than any previous session. Homer Foster has extended many courtesies in placing desks and facilities for writers. Jimmy Olson, now representative, was formerly a newspaper writer, and has offered his associates every aid in their work. Secretary Hal Hass of Oregon State Editorial association, now secretary to Governor L. L. Patterson, is in charge of this news service and has been doing 18 hours work a day.

Elbert Dols with the grin that helped Buster Keaton film "The General" at Cottage Grove, is expected to it from his long stand-



—SEA, London Review
THIS CARRIAGE SYMBOLIZES THE ARMS OF SPAIN and was a prize winner in the recent Battle of Flowers exhibition at Laredo, Spain. See the Spanish flag.

29th Annual JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

Now In Progress

Buy! Save!

N. K. West & Co. Inc.

La Grande's Leading Store For 25 Years

Actor-Manager Cremated Today In N. Y. Blaze

NEW YORK, Jan. 12 (AP)—Arnold Daly, actor and theatrical manager, was burned to death in a fire in his apartment on the fourth floor at 28 west 51st street today.

The fire, origin of which is not known, swept from the ground floor up the stairway, cutting off the only avenue of escape.

Fremont, breaking into the building made several daring rescues but they seemed unaware of Daly's presence in his apartment.

An ancient marriage custom, of Leicestershire was known as being for the bride cake. Mounted competitors would race toward a pole with a wedding cake on top. He who first knocked the trophy down with his stick would "take the cake" and with it turn to meet the bride. Hence our expression "to take the cake."

Committee Halved by Speaker

Two sections were deleted in one committee by Speaker Carlin. He has a committee on roads and highways, and one on automobiles and roads, thus giving place to a number of members he wanted active. Just how these two will function is uncertain, but the plan seems to be approved.

Short Cut on Seconding
To save time and get action, Speaker Carlin has dispensed with all seconds to motions. When the move has stated his points the motion is before the house. This practice has worked out well in other legislative bodies, and illustrates the firm desire of the Medford man to speed up the session.

Calxico Feels Another Quake

CALICO, Cal., Jan. 12 (AP)—A heavy earthquake shook here at 2:48 o'clock this morning shook windows and rattled dishes but did no serious damage. A number of residents rushed from their homes. The shock was followed by a series of lighter vibrations lasting several seconds. Three minor tremors were felt earlier. Reports here said that the shock, described as the heaviest since the major earthquake disturbance of Jan. 1, which caused serious damage here and in Mexico, Mexico, also was felt in En Centro.

Bandit Gets \$50 In Daylight "Job"

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 12 (AP)—A single armed bandit staged a daylight holdup today in a Piggly Wiggly grocery on the east side, sweeping with more than \$50 in cash he scooped from the cash register.

PERMIT AUTHORIZED
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (AP)—The federal power committee authorized issuance of a preliminary permit to the California-Oregon Power company of San Francisco, which proposes to develop the power sites on the north Umpqua and Clearwater rivers in Douglas county, Oregon.

An air mail pilot dropped a landing flare on a farmer's barn near Mercer, Pennsylvania, burning the structure. He landed by the aid of the light from the burning building and assisted the farmer in rescuing his cattle.

H-O OATS

Quickest Hot Cereal

SAVE MONEY

AT OUR JANUARY CLEAN-UP SALE
Every article reduced from 10% to Less Than One-Half Price.

Norton's Kiddy Shop

PARTNERS!

THEY'RE a great combination—one that cannot be beaten. Your pay envelope and your pass book in our Savings Department will take you almost everywhere you want to go in life.

But bring them together regularly where they are friends to each other and will ever be friends to you. This Bank will help you!

EQUITABLE SAVINGS BANK

Travel by Motor Stage

Safety Comfortably

TRAVEL BY MOTOR STAGE

La Grande for Joseph	9:00 A. M. - 4:00 P. M.
" Baker and Boise	9:25 A. M. - 1:25 P. M.
" Taster only	5:30 P. M.
" Pendleton	11:00 A. M. - 5:30 P. M. - 6:15 P. M.

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

La Grande Depot Phone 799
All Modern Chair Car Stages.