

LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

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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

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By Carrier
Daily, per month in advance \$1.50
Daily, per six months in advance \$8.50
Daily, single copy 5c

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 prices on application.



JOB HUMBLER HIMSELF—Hear, I beseech Thee, Lord! I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear; but now mine eye seeth Thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes. Job 42:4, 5, 6.

If the referendum on House Bill 72 is ordered just to see how taxpayers feel about the blue assessment blank, it's a waste of time and money. "Most everybody knows that 'most everybody is 'agin' it. Filling out detailed business report blanks is not growing in popularity.

Speaking of Northwest industries, paper mills are rapidly multiplying as pulp wood supplies in other sections diminish. Here in Eastern Oregon is a wealth of raw material for paper making, and material that is unlikely to be valuable for anything else.

A La Grande citizen and home owner remarked the other day that The Observer usually carried a long communication about this time of year urging that dogs be tied up and thus prevented from destroying new lawns, shrubs, and new gardens. But, he added, nothing is said in most cases about men walking across new lawns and making young shell holes that have to be filled up. Perhaps, if property damage were catalogued according to responsibility, we might find that thoughtless humans cause quite as much trouble as thoughtless animals. In either case the responsibility belongs to man and should be given attention in the interest of a more beautiful city. Pretty lawns, flowers, and shrubbery are difficult to acquire and the pride in property which sponsors them should have respect and cooperation.

GETTING ONLY WHAT IS PAID FOR

The new property assessment law, passed by the last legislature and referred to the people at the coming June election, does not promise the redistribution of tax burden by its supporters. What it does, if interpreted as liberally as the tax commission first decreed, is meddle in private business affairs without assurance that the information required will permit fairer valuations.

Many critics of our present tax system place unjust blame on our present corps of assessors throughout the state when, in our opinion, they are actually doing far more than we might reasonably expect of them. The whole tax system does rest, we agree, with the assessors, but the taxpayers are responsible for the ability and experience and courage of the individual assessors. And it is not only improbable but almost impossible for the public to expect expert and competent property assessment when we pay such ridiculous assessors' salaries.

For the magnificent sum of \$70 to \$100 a month the people of Oregon expect to get the services of a man who can put a just and equitable valuation on millions of dollars worth of property, who can investigate and judge the worth of scores of different kinds of enterprise, who can check up and assess not only real estate but hundreds of hidden pieces of personal property. We expect, in other words—or should expect—that the assessor's job be a year-round occupation demanding ability and devotion that would require a \$500 or \$400-a-month man in any efficient business. And we pay a salary that is a disgrace to our sense of governmental importance.

One deputy assessor remarked recently that he had not found even one horse throughout his assessment territory that was worth more than \$40, according to the statements of owners of the stock. How many good horses could you buy for \$40? Yet you can't blame the property owner for such statements when he has no assurance that someone in the other end of the valley, with a horse worth twice as much, will not "get by" with a valuation of \$30.

Here in La Grande there is not a business man who doesn't have at least a little money in the bank at assessment time—the three local financial institutions show resources of considerably more than \$3,000,000. Yet the total amount of cash existing in this fair valley, according to tax assessments, is something more than \$18,000. Ridiculous? Of course it is, but being common to most taxpayers everyone approaches the subject with fear and trembling—or do not approach it at all. People who are not taxed at all and people who are assessed lightly do not wish to disturb the present system for fear that the cure would be worse than the disease. And the minority who obey both the letter and the spirit of the law carry an unjust share of the tax burden.

When we are able to look upon our public affairs as being as important relatively as our private affairs and when we are willing to pay public employes in proportion to the importance of the job they undertake, then the public can expect to attract capable and experienced men to public jobs and can expect efficient administration of public affairs. Many poorly paid employes may have the capacity for doing highly paid work but the great majority of them will not and cannot be expected to deliver it until compensation is in proportion.

VEGETABLES AND FRUITS IN DROP

Retail Prices in Local Markets Drop During Last of Week

Numerous changes in prices of vegetables and fruits in La Grande took place the last of this week, mostly of a downward nature. Strawberries are now selling at 25 cents a box instead of two for 45 cents. Rhubarb is down to two pounds for 15 cents and lettuce is 10 cents a head. Tomatoes dropped from 25 to 20 cents each and local asparagus is quoted at 20 cents a pound. Tomatoes are 20 cents a pound and green beans are retailing two pounds for 25 cents.

LA GRANDE WHOLESALE MARKETS
Poultry (live weight).
Heavy hens—22c lb.
Light hens—14c @ 16c lb.
Stags—8c lb.
Flour.
Hard Federation (hard wheat) \$7.60 bbl.
Soft wheat—\$7.49 bbl.

LA GRANDE RETAIL MARKETS
Butter, creamery—48c 50c.
Eggs—25c doz.
Chickens—25c 40c a pound.
Honey, comb—25c lb.
Vegetables.
New potatoes—2 lbs. 25c.
String beans—2 lbs. 25c.
Green peas—2 lbs. 25c.
Potatoes—3 lbs. 25c.
Cauliflower—15c @ 20c.
Celery hearts—25c.
Sweet potatoes—3 lbs. for 25c.
Turnips—6c lb.
Spinach—3 lbs. for 25c.
Tomatoes—20c lb.
Parsley—10c bunch.
Cabbage—7c lb.
Local asparagus—20c lb.
Walla Walla onions—3 lbs. 25c.
Green peppers—3 lbs. 25c.
Lettuce—10c head.
Celery—25c bunch.
Cucumbers—20c each.
Bunch carrots—3 for 25c.
Bunch beets—10c.
Bunch turnips—10c.
Green onions—5c bunch.
Wax onions—2 lbs. 25c.
Radishes—2 bunches 10c.
Fruits.
Strawberries—25c box.
Rhubarb—2 lbs. 15c.
Apples—5c lb.
Bananas—15c lb.
Lemons—40c lb.
Oranges—50c 70c doz.
Grape fruit—3 for 25c; 2 for 35c

Meats and Fish.
Beef—12c 15c lb.
Chops and steaks—25c 30c.
Salmon (sterile fresh)—40c lb.
Haddock—30c lb.
Clams—10c lb.
Crabs—25c 40c lb.
Gasoline.
Gasoline, regular, retail, 22c.

NEW YORK FRUIT
NEW YORK, Apr. 29 (AP).—Exported apples, peaches, apricots and peaches steady and unchanged.

BUTTERFEAT
SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 29 (AP).—Butterfat L. & S. San Francisco, 47c.

Cashmere are said to have been invented in 1512, by the seventeen-year-old daughter of a French blacksmith in the village of Tervin.

104, Chops Wood

Chopping wood every day is just like eating three square meals for Chayim Gerahon Zelnikoff, who is 104 years old. Zelnikoff, who is a resident of the Jewish Old Folks' home in Winnipeg, Canada, says his motto always has been "No hurry, no worry," and that he doesn't smoke, but drinks a little.

MARKET NEWS OF THE DAY

	Open	High	Low	Close
Wheat	137 1/2 @ 138	138	135 1/2	135 1/2 @ 135 1/2
May	131 1/2 @ 132	132	130 1/2	130 1/2 @ 130 1/2
July	130 1/2 @ 130 1/2	130 1/2	129 1/2	129 1/2 @ 129 1/2
Sept.				

LIVERPOOL WHEAT
LIVERPOOL, Apr. 29 (AP).—Close: Wheat 5 1/2 to 1 1/2 higher; May 10s, 9 1/2; July 10s, 6 1/2; Oct. 10s, 3 1/2.

PORTLAND WHEAT
PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 29 (AP).—Wheat—BBB hard white, \$1.42; hard white bluestem, haart, \$1.42; soft white, western white, \$1.39; hard winter, \$1.38; northern spring, \$1.39; western red, \$1.36. Today's car receipts—Wheat, 27; barley, 6; flour, 11; corn, 1; oats, 7; hay, 8.

CHICAGO CASH
CHICAGO, Apr. 29 (AP).—Cash: Wheat—No. 2 red, \$1.28; No. 2 hard, \$1.40.
Corn—No. 4 mixed, 70c; No. 2 yellow, 71 1/2 @ 72c.
Oats—No. 2 white, 45 1/2 @ 45 1/2; No. 3 white, 43 1/2 @ 44c.
Rye, not quoted.
Barley—75 @ 85c.
Clover seed—\$29.00 @ 27.50.
Hbs—\$12.75.
Bellies—\$12.12.

PORTLAND LIVESTOCK
PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 29 (AP).—Receipts for week approximately: 2250 cattle; 69 calves; 4120 hogs; 2560 sheep.
Cattle—Compared week ago: Most grades beef steers and sheep stock 2 1/2 to 3c lower; decline fully checked at close. Bulls unchanged; vealers \$1.00 @ 1.50 lower; practical top, best steers, \$10.25; choice 7 1/2 to 9 1/2 pound steers and heifers, \$11.00; California grass fed steers, \$10.00; with heiferettes \$5.50 and cows \$5.50; grain fed cows up to \$6.00. Bulk prices: slaughter steers, \$8.75 @ 10.25; fat cows, \$5.25 @ 7.75; heifers, \$3.00 @ 5.50; low cutters and cutters, \$3.50 @ 5.25; medium culls, \$5.25 @ 6.25; good and choice vealers, \$11.00 @ 12.50.
Hogs—Compared week ago: Market 7 1/2 to 1 1/2 lower, except on feeding pigs; these around 25c off; little out in trade; late top, light butchers, \$19.50; bulk 200 to 240 pound averages, \$10.00 @ 10.25 with extreme heavies down to \$9.50; feeding pigs, \$11.00 @ 12.00; most porkers, \$7.00 @ 7.50.
Sheep—Compared with week ago: Most classes about steady; bulk spring lambs, \$14.00 @ 16.00; shorn old crop offerings noticeably in choice, up to \$13.00; shorn yearlings, \$11.00; low clipped ewes \$5.50 @ 6.50.

PORTLAND PRODUCE
PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 29 (AP).—Butter steady; firsts 1/2c down. Extra cubes, 40c, 40c standards, 39c; prime firsts, 35c; firsts, 33c; creamery prices; prints 2c above cube standards. Butterfat 40c, f. o. b. Portland.
Milk steady. Raw milk (4 percent), \$2.20 cwt. f. o. b. Portland. Eggs steady. Current receipts, 20c; fresh medium, 20c; fresh standard firsts, 22c; fresh standard extras, 25c.
Poultry steady. Heavy hens, 25 @ 26; light, 20 @ 21; chickens nominal; broilers, 30 @ 31; Polka white ducks, 20c; colored, nominal; all turkeys, live, nominal; dress 3-4, 27c.
Onions, local, steady at \$3.75 @ 4.00.
Potatoes steady at \$1.50 @ 1.55.

WOOL REPORT
BOSTON, Apr. 29 (AP).—The Commercial Bulletin today says: "Business continues narrow and irregular in the eastern wool markets, with whatever price tendency there may be in favor of the buyer, although the market is not materially changed, so far as prices go. In the west, sales of the new clip have been comparatively small, one large aggregation of clips being sold in Southern Utah at 2 1/2 to 2 3/4c, equivalent to 30c, more or less, clean at Boston for fair French combing, fine and fine medium wools.
"Foreign markets are fairly steady. Eyes are now turned to London where only 124,000 bales will be offered in the third colonial sale.
"The piece goods market is slow but there are some reports of improvement and there is no doubt that the situation is very liquid and healthy.
"Mohair is steady on moderate demand."
The Commercial Bulletin today publishes the following wool quotations:
Secured basis: Oregon—Northern, \$1.05 @ 1.07; fine and fine medium clothing, 90 @ 95c; valley No. 1, 90 @ 95c.
Mohair: Original bulk average 12 months, Oregon, 50 @ 52c.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK
CHICAGO, Apr. 29 (AP)—U. S. Department of Agriculture.—Hogs—4,000; scattering sales showed little market change; top, \$11.00; several loads 140 to 200 pound, \$10.75 @ 11.00.
Cattle—100; compared with a week ago: fed steers, yearlings including yearling heifers, 25 @ 40c higher; close active advance; most fat cows steady to strong; vealers \$1.00 up; prime heavy steers, \$14.00; practical top, \$11.75; long yearlings, \$12.00; light yearlings, \$11.75; yearling heifers, \$10.85; week's bulk prices: fed steers, \$10.25 @ 12.00; most weighty offerings going late at \$12.00 @ 13.40; yearling steers, \$9.75 @ 11.00; yearling heifers, \$9.50 @ 10.50; fat cows, \$6.00 @ 7.75.
Sheep—4,000; few sheep and medium to good spring lambs about steady; fat lambs closing at new high for year, 75c to \$1.00 above a week ago; sheep steady to strong; feeding and shorn lambs practically absent; weekly top prices: woolled fed western lambs, \$17.25; fed clipped lambs, \$16.25; western spring lambs, \$18.00; clipped ewes, \$9.25; fat clipped ewes, \$8.00; bulk prices: fed cwt. woolled lambs, \$14.75 @ 16.75; fed clipped lambs, \$14.50 @ 16.00; western spring lambs, \$17.40 @ 18.00; clipped ewe lambs, \$11.00 @ 12.25; yearling wethers, \$14.50 @ 15.00; woolled ewes, \$8.25 @ 9.25; clipped ewes, \$7.50 @ 8.00.

London is observing the 100th anniversary of the invention of the match. Mothers were making them long before that.

Mrs. Joseph G. Glascock, of Veederburg, Ind., received one dollar from a man in payment for half a watermelon stolen from her father's farm 60 years ago.

Champ Rotarian



Louis Hirsig, hardware dealer of Madison, Wis., has bettered the record of never missing a Rotary meeting in nine years set by M. J. Carroll of Kokomo, Ind. "Louie" (above) hasn't missed a meeting in Madison in 11 years.

Stocks Display Form Reversal In Wall Street
NEW YORK, Apr. 29 (AP).—Stock prices displayed another complete reversal of form today, selling off sharply in the last hour after an early period of strength.

Bear traders concentrated at first on U. S. Steel common, which was hammered below 156 to a new low on the current downswing. General Motors fell from an early high of 191 to around 180, when it encountered good buying support.

Selling pressure was particularly effective against Houston Oil, Colorado Fuel, International Cotton and Continental Baking "A".

Early gains in Missouri Pacific issues was substantially reduced and heaviness developed in New York Central, New Haven and other rails. Texas and Pacific recovered a sharp gain and Chicago Great Western issues touched new high prices. The closing was irregular. Total sales approximated 1,000,000 shares.

American-made motion picture films went ahead last year had a total length of more than 214,000, 000 feet.

An eastern pastor resigned because the congregation insisted on church sippers. Those wild parties always do cause trouble.

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To keep the styles within more modest lines, a native heard in Manila has forbidden the women to comb their hair or wear European dresses. The phrase about the moon being made of green cheese came into common use when the works of Rabelais, a Frenchman, were translated into English in 1784.

TODAY AND MONDAY

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