

LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

FRANK B. APPELBY Editor and Publisher
GARVEY 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 herein also are reserved.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Carrier
Daily, per month in advance.....75c
Daily, per six months in advance.....\$4.50
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.



THE REDEEMED SOUL: My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto Thee; and my soul, which Thou hast redeemed. My tongue also shall talk of Thy righteousness all the day long. Psalm 71:23, 24.

Now it looks like Eastern Oregon weather had come back to Eastern Oregon.

La Grande's high school enrollment breaks all records. Part of it is due, no doubt, to increasing population. Part is also due to the growing appreciation on the part of parents and students alike for better educational advantages. It is making school expense mount skyward but the more competent citizenship resulting is compensation. The chief difficulty here in La Grande is that a new high school or junior high school is an absolute necessity in the next two or three years.

In spite of unfavorable weather the last month, the crop in this valley is far ahead of last year and the receipts in dollars and cents from agriculture will be much ahead of any recent record. A few individuals are hard hit by the rain but many, many others are in a more prosperous condition than they have experienced since the farm depression. Liquidation of loans will be reasonably satisfactory, according to some bankers, and fall buying will be stimulated as soon as the weather man sobers up. Wallowa county is less fortunate, with a later season, but some of their citizens say that it might have been even worse there. Except for the demoralized condition of the lumber industry the Northwest is in a very favorable position for the coming twelve months.

HOLDING UP IMPROVEMENT

Due to a strict ruling on the part of bond attorneys, as told in a news story of yesterday, La Grande faces the shut-down of public improvement work because the improvement assessments sometimes are greater than the assessed valuation of the property adjacent. And the law provides that bonds under the Bancroft act cannot be issued under such circumstances—a marked handicap for city improvement programs.

No one wants the street, sewer, and sidewalk improvements in La Grande to stop. They are accomplishing a civic improvement that has long been needed. They are adding convenience and a better appearance to many residential districts. They are taking numerous people "out of the mud" during the winter months when they previously were forced to wade and drive through unimproved, bad streets whenever rain or snow came. It means a great deal to the property owner in personal satisfaction to have these things done—but it also adds a great deal to the property value, at least makes the property more desirable and more easily sold.

The present districts—those that have been completed or are under construction—will be cared for in some way by the city administration. The real threat of the bond attorney's ruling is on future improvement districts. Property owners who have looked forward to having new sidewalks, macadamized streets, storm sewers do not want the project blocked.

Which brings us down to the real difficulty, the true obstruction in future improvement: The assessed valuation of unimproved residential property. Much of the property is assessed too low and doesn't equal the cost of the proposed street improvements. In many cases there are vacant lots that have been carried on the tax roll at the same assessed value for several years without change. They are not income-producing lots to the extent of producing rental revenue, and assessments have been kept low accordingly. But they are potential income producers in that they will be sold or improved at a price that is far in excess of the original purchase price. You can't buy many lots in La Grande today for the same price you might have paid five years ago. There is hardly a vacant lot in the city that hasn't doubled or tripled in value during the last five years. La Grande is growing, has grown. Property is more in demand. Population has extended in every direction. Lots are worth considerably more than they were in 1920 yet the assessed values have not kept pace. That's the difficulty in this improvement district situation.

If property owners expect to make the most of their vacant lot investments by having street improvements go on, they will have to consent to reasonable increases in tax assessment. These would not be great. The added tax burden wouldn't be out of reach in most cases. And it is a fair distribution of taxes. Many pieces of property are owned by non-residents who are holding them as investments. They are proving out—increasing in price. It is only reasonable that the assessment should be in keeping. And unless that is accomplished future improvement districts will rarely be possible.

JUGO SLAV ARMY OFFICER SLAIN

Minister to Sofia Informs Bulgarian That Comitadjis Must Be Stopped

BELGRADE, Jugo Slavia, Oct. 7. (AP)—The Jugo Slav minister to Sofia has been authorized to inform the Bulgarian government that unless effective measures are taken to disband Bulgarian groups operating in Macedonia, the Jugo Slav government has no other course but to recall him and to break off diplomatic relations.

The protest over the activities of the Bulgarian comitadjis, or irregulars, came as a result of the assassination yesterday of Brig. Gen. Michael Kocouchewich, one of the best known officers in the Jugo Slav army at Isip, the crime being attributed to comitadjis. The Serbian-Bulgarian-Macedonian frontier has been closed by Jugo Slav government troops and gendarmes who are halting all traffic excepting transit in Macedonia, under the martial law measures taken as a result of the assassination.

Advices received in Belgrade this afternoon said that a band of Bulgarian comitadjis attacked the Macedonian frontier village of Kih-sura early this morning, throwing nine bombs in government buildings and later fighting the gendarmes with rifles and hand grenades.

The attacking party, the advices stated, finally was repelled after a pitched battle lasting from 1 o'clock this morning until daybreak. The casualties were not given in the message.

Two thousand reindeer will probably be used in forming a protected her of the animals in the Northwest Territories of Canada, under the Dominion's program for conserving wild life.

Each American citizen owns approximately thirty square feet of land in Yellowstone Park, the total area of that Government-owned plot being 3,348 square miles.

Appropriations May Be Approved, Senators Assert

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 7. (AP)—Appropriations by the next congress for comprehensive engineering studies of the Columbia basin project will likely be approved by the senate irrigation committee, Senators Lawrence C. Phipps of Colorado, chairman and John D. Kendrick, of Wyoming, indicated here.

The Colorado and Wyoming senators came to Portland with Sen-

ator Charles L. McNary, of Oregon, following a several days inspection of the project with other members of the senate committee. This visitors made it plain that while they were convinced that the Columbia river basin project was feasible and would ultimately be carried out, that their attitude towards an appropriation for the project at this time would be governed by the scope of the initial request.

and publicity might be discontinued till the year's end if it should appear that advantage is ever taken to gain publicity.

Wm. Penn—5 cents—A Good Cigar



Smart Coats for the Little Miss Age 2 to 6

Style and Snap for the Junior Miss Age 7 to 14

At Our Store You Will Find THE BEST QUALITY COATS At Low Prices

A small deposit will hold any coat until you are ready to take it.



NORTON'S KIDDY SHOP Better Merchandise—Lower Prices



Sincere Reverence for the Dead—Utmost Consideration for the Living.

Hunter & Bohnenkamp Funeral Directors Main 42 Day and Night



New as the Season!

At New Low Prices \$2.85 \$3.85 \$4.85

Women's Shoes of Style and Quality at prices you can afford, can be found at the Serve Yourself Store. Many are wondering how we can sell All-Leather Shoes at such remarkably low prices. Here's how we do it: Our overhead expense is very low and we have contracted shoes on a large scale production plan, giving our customers the benefit of the low prices.

MEN'S DRESS AND WORK SHOES are priced at \$2.85 \$3.85 \$4.85 You really cannot beat this price!

We carry a complete line of CHILDREN'S SHOES Priced from 98c to \$3.98



Come in, we want you to make this "Your Own Store"

NATIONAL SERVE-YOUR-SELF STORES

Across from Bohnenkamp's

ON WALL STREET THE BANKERS AND BROKERS ARE WEARING THESE SUITS



These leaders are partial to Copper-beech browns and Powdered grey by HART SCHAFFNER & MARX

The prices are \$42.50 to \$57.50

The coats drape easily and there's a little extra fullness over the shoulder blades for freedom

Trousers are narrower but still wide enough for comfort. The fabrics are in subdued patterns

They're better suits than the prices indicate

We can fit every figure

N. K. West & Co., Inc.

The Man's Store

We're not sure who the next president will be but feel pretty certain the fellow next door with the saxophone won't make it.

The farmers asked for relief. They got sermons on business efficiency. Now they do need relief.

It isn't the cost of a diamond ring—it's the upkeep.

ARCADE Monday

Norma Talmadge CAMILLE

DR. THEODORE COPELAND Popular Southern Evangelist

First Methodist Church

11:00 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.

Sunday, Oct. 9

Large chorus choir directed by W. W. Nusbaum