

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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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Carrier

Daily, per month in advance \$7.50
Daily, six months in advance \$45.00
Daily, single copy 5c

By Mail

Daily, per month in advance \$7.50
Daily, per six months in advance \$45.00
Daily, per year in advance \$85.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year \$2.00

ADVERTISING RATES

Display, foreign per column inch \$2.50
Display, local, per column inch \$1.50
Time contract prices on application.



A GOOD REIGN—The Lord reigneth. He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself; the world also is established, that it cannot be moved.

Every time the exiled Prince Carol looks toward Roumania, he wants to yank that five-year-old son off the throne and spank him.

Bank robbers are valuable now in Texas. That is, if they are dead. The Texas Bankers' association has a standing offer to pay \$5000 apiece for persons shot down in the act of robbing its banks. The offer was inspired by a recent wave of banditry that has been hard on the banks. "We want dead bandits and no other kind," says the bankers' statement. "The average bank robber is a coward, and is moved to attack banks because he knows they are unprotected. If he knows there is a price for his dead body, he will be more cautious." Let us hope so. But let us hope also that candidates for \$5000 rewards will exercise care in their shooting, so as not to kill innocent persons. There are always incidental risks in encouraging shooting, even by officers of the law.

RIVALS IN FINENESS

"We are rivals for the finest forms of truth and ideals of social and business manners as a means of service to the world. But in every sense we shall continue firm friends."

So said the Rt. Hon. Sir George Eulas Foster, of Ottawa, Canada, who incidentally is vice president of the League of Nations. He spoke also of the long enduring peace between our two nations, of the fine and increasing trade, of our future mutual needs and relationship, and various other things interesting alike to Americans of the United States and Canada. The statement about our rivalry came near the end of his speech and was not particularly emphasized. We wish it had been given more prominence.

There is a splendid field for the best type of patriot. Progress and prosperity and material advancement seem inevitably to be favorite goals for citizens of this and other lands. Great populations and great per capita wealth seem quite important. But there are moments when a simple statement such as that of Sir George awakens startling and beautiful visions of what might be, if human rivalry concerned itself with such matters as the "finest forms of truth and ideals of social and business manners as a means of service to the world." It is somewhat breath-taking, and the slump back into a "go-getting," "boosting," "100-per-cent" day makes one regret that narrow vision and selfish motives that fill our work-a-day world.



TODAY AND FRIDAY

\$1 will buy any discontinued item in Shoes - Hats - Caps - Dresses - Sweaters

Some real bargains in values to \$8 to be cleaned out at \$1.00 each

No Refunds or Exchanges

NORTON'S KIDDY SHOP

Quality Merchandise

Lowest Prices

THE OPEN COURT

CORRESPONDENTS MUST SUBMIT THEIR NAMES TO THE EDITOR IF THEY DESIRE LETTERS PRINTED.

Nov. 16, 1927.

Editor of The Observer,
La Grande, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

If you will lend me space in your paper to reply to your editorial it will be appreciated.

You are correct, Mr. Editor, in that the total tax increase should not be confused with the individual tax increase. That is just what we are talking about. As a matter of fact, both the individual tax and the total tax has increased far beyond the normal increase to be expected by reason of the increase in population.

In 1920 our population was 6913. It is variously estimated at this time that we have probably around three thousand more in population than in 1918 or 1920. In other words there has been an increase in population of some 30 per cent.

While our increase in taxation has been very close to 40 per cent. That is to say our increase in taxation has been over 25 per cent faster than our increase in population. If we are going to keep up the present rate of increase of taxation according to the rate of increase of population, all I say is Heaven deliver us from any further increase in population.

In my article of November 12th I called attention to the amount of taxes collected in the various years from 1917 to 1926, inclusive. Take the two years for example as follows:

Year	Tax levy in mills	Amount collected
1918	12	\$ 52,030.63
1926	22.9	116,943.92

And as I pointed out before, we have an increase in taxation of about \$36,000 per annum, excluding the tax on the bond issues.

If you will compare this increase in taxation with the increase in population, you will see that our individual tax burden is growing more than 25 per cent faster than our increase in population.

So far as individual tax increases are concerned, the assessor advises us that there has been no particular decrease in the assessed valuation in La Grande, but on the contrary the tendency has been to increase the assessed valuation here. If any reader of your paper will show us where the assessed value of his property has been decreased by our valiant assessor, I would like to meet that man. Taking the tax levy in mills as shown above, it appears from the actual record that every taxpayer in La Grande is today paying almost eleven dollars per thousand more in taxes than in 1918, and this notwithstanding the fact that the total assessed valuation for the City of La Grande has tremendously increased, and we here give the figures from the as-

essor's office, to-wit:

Total Assessed Valuation
1918 \$4,419,219
1926 \$5,100,682

You are correct that any city is certain to have tax totals increase as it moves forward. It does not follow from this, however, that the load of taxation should increase 24 per cent faster than the increase in population. In a normal growth the tax levy in mills should remain approximately the same, as the increase in wealth and assessed valuation should keep pace with the increase in population. In La Grande at the present time our increase in taxation is outstripping our increase in population. You state that La Grande is a different city in 1927 from what it was in 1918. That is true, but what we object to is the fact that our taxation is increasing faster than our population. Further, there is no wonderful difference between La Grande at this time and La Grande in 1918. True, we have a lot more paved streets, but the city and the individual taxpayer and the individual property holder is straddled with the debt, which in most instances is unpaid. Again thanking you, I remain, Sincerely yours,

R. J. GREEN.

NOTICE OF BANKRUPTCY SALE

In the District Court of the United States for the District of Oregon.

In the Matter of L. Altman and Rose Altman, individually and L. Altman and Rose Altman, co-partners doing business as The Paris Bankrupts.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned trustee in bankruptcy will offer for sale free of liens, and receive sealed bids for the stock and fixtures of the above named bankrupts at the office of H. E. Dixon, referee in bankruptcy at La Grande, Oregon, at 10:00 A. M. on Thursday, the 16th day of November, 1927. Separate bids must be placed for the stock and the fixtures. Certified check for 10% of the amount of the bid must accompany all bids. The trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

B. C. TUCKER, Trustee.

11-5-1927

TO RE-OPEN MINE
GRANTS PASS, Ore., Nov. 16, 1927.—After years of virtual non-production, the old Channel Mine

ABE MARTIN



That Elder is purty an' she's got lots o' pluck, but what all th' women are wonderin' is does she like Haidemann? Fishbooks are legal tender 'mongst th' Eskimos, an' a politician tells me that when he's not quite sure of his man he invariably uses a quart instead of money.

Pre-Thanksgiving Sale Hats

125 Smart Felts

Regular \$6.50 and \$7.50 Values

This group of modish little felt creations include all the popular colors and black in a wide range of head sizes, priced for three day quick selling. **SPECIAL \$3.45**

75 Charming Velvets

Regular Values to \$9.50

These clever numbers are suitable for wear the rest of the season. The wanted colors and black are here in profusion in a wide range of shapes and in all head sizes. **PRICED \$4.65**

Remember - - -

Sale for Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Monday Only

N. K. West & Co., Inc.

La Grande's Leading Store For 25 Years

near Galles on the lower floor will be placed in operation this winter. C. L. Creelman, of Seattle, purchased the property at a sheriff's sale and has announced his intention of installing several plants in the mine, which consist of 750 acres of rich land.



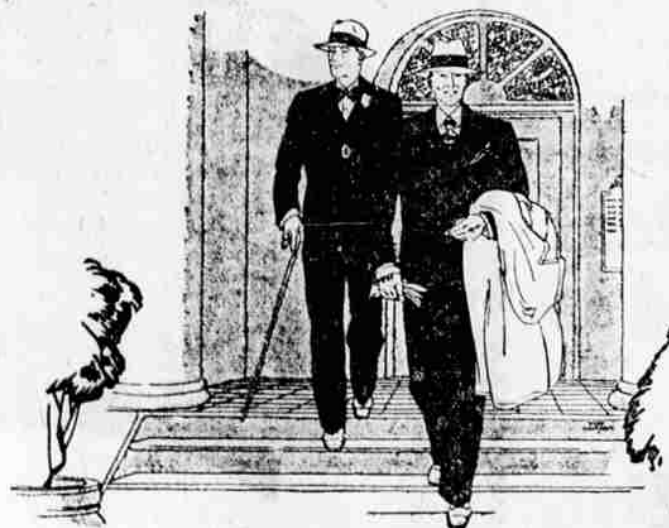
COLDS Four things you must do to end a cold quickly. HILL'S Cough-Syrup-Quinine does all four at one time. Stops a cold in one day. Red box, 30 cents. All druggists.

A NEW Telephone Directory

for Union County will be issued soon.

Why not install that telephone now and secure a listing?

Home Independent Telephone Co.



The tone of your whole day starts in your breakfast cup of coffee

If the coffee is full of pep and vigor you start the day with confident stride. The characteristic full-bodied flavor of this marvelous blend is always in the cup—brewed mild, medium or strong. It is packed in vacuum to preserve the flavor.

MJB
The full-flavored coffee
—vacuum packed



Try the Easy Way

JOIN the Christmas Victrola Club

NOW

"Buy It the Adler Way"

\$1.00 Down and \$1.00 Each Week until Christmas

Will place this beautiful instrument in your home Christmas Eve (Dec. 24th).

CREDENZA MODEL

Price \$300

Convenient terms arranged on the balance.



Adler Music Co.

"In With Newlin's"