

# LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)  
An Independent Newspaper

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A DYNAMIC PRAYER—Shew us Thy mercy, O Lord, and grant us Thy salvation. Psalm 85:17.

No taxpayer can ever understand why the other fellow's taxes should be reduced.

President Coolidge tells congress that Muscle Shouls is only useful to create power. It certainly makes a powerful lot of trouble.

When Sinclair argues that his jury-shadowing was "wrong but legal," and Bootleg King Remus argues that his liquor and murder activities were "illegal but morally right," the rest of us may be pardoned for feeling confused.

## BETTER CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

The Massachusetts Judicial Council finds that the Sacco-Vanzetti case was characterized by "extraordinary delay" and "illustrated in a striking way some serious defects in Massachusetts methods of administering justice in murder cases." So, in its annual report to the governor, it recommends that the state adopt the practice followed in New York and some other states in the review of capital cases.

The detailed recommendations are not of general interest, and difficult for laymen to follow. It suffices to know that they seek to prevent such technical delays and obstacles as dragged the Sacco-Vanzetti case along for seven years, keeping the prisoners in long-continued torture of mingled hope and fear, encouraging world-wide agitation for and against them and injuring the name of Massachusetts justice.

The worst thing about the delays in that case was that most of them were of no real value at all, either to the prisoners or the state, because they never really obtained a new trial, or made the case subject to review on its merits by any other tribunal than the one that decided it in the first place. This defect will be done away with if the present suggestions are followed.

American criminal jurisprudence there was seen at its worst. The case has served a useful purpose, however, if it results in the adoption of more prompt, direct and unequivocal action in criminal cases, in Massachusetts and elsewhere.

## FEDERAL EXPENSES

The United States government budget has started up again. For the present fiscal year it was a little over \$4,000,000,000, which was higher than it had been for several years. For the next fiscal year, ending June 30, 1929, it is \$4,258,000,000, a rise of \$244,500,000. The increase happens to be just about as much as this winter's tax cut will probably amount to.

It is less than a generation since frugal citizens were shocked by government expenditures of \$1,000,000,000 a year. Their criticism was met with the boast that "This is a billion-dollar country." Today it is a four-billion-dollar country, and probably destined to become a ten-billion-dollar country in another 20 or 30 years.

The war is responsible for a considerable part of this increase. Interest on the war debt is several hundred millions, and there are many hundred millions more attributable, directly and indirectly, to the war hang-over. But most of the increase comes from normal causes and natural growth. Much of it is due to extensions of governmental functions—better government service.

The bill for government is a big one, but the only fair question is whether corresponding service is rendered—whether it is worth what it costs. "Business" is inclined to think the less government we have, the better. The fact is that without government there wouldn't be any business.

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## ABE MARTIN



Constable Plinn's son-in-law has sold his ridin' horse an' is usin' th' buses for his liver. Th' fountain pen is madder than th' sword.

## PERRY PERSONALS

PERRY (Special) — Mr. and Mrs. Emil Able, of Hildard, were recent Perry visitors.

Mrs. Carl Johansen and son, Herman, were shopping in La Grande Wednesday.

Don Smith, of La Grande, was a business caller at Perry last Friday.

Mrs. David Johansen, of Ponderosa, recently visited friends and relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Braden were shopping in La Grande Saturday.

Mrs. James Vess and small children made a trip to town one day last week.

Mrs. J. H. Albertson is on the sick list this week and Mrs. Don Smith is substituting for her in the primary room.

Mrs. C. C. Johansen entertained a number of her son, Harry's, friends at a birthday party last Tuesday. It being his 12th anniversary.

Among those present were: Sadie Richer, Wanda Tripp, Harriet Haskins, Louise Myers, Wesley and Milton Smith, Myron Wheeler, Lois Mathison, June Lee and Harold Hansen.

The evening was spent playing games after which refreshments were served.

Arch Stephenson and family made a trip to La Grande Friday evening.

Mrs. Joe Smith and daughter, Frances Larsen, were shopping in La Grande Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Mathison were calling on the E. O. Morris family in La Grande recently.

## COVE PERSONALS

COVE (Special) — J. M. Gasset, who has been visiting with his daughter, Mrs. A. L. Martin, of Halfway, Ore., returned Wednesday to attend the funeral of his oldest son, W. H. Gasset, who was laid to rest in the Lower Cove cemetery Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Gasset and two daughters visited at the home of their aunt, Mrs. Mary Chambers on Saturday.

Farmers north of Cove who cannot use their cars because of the bad roads are using sleighs now. There is about four inches of snow and the thermometer registered two degrees below zero on Sunday morning.

N. Daron was a La Grande visitor Saturday.

T. B. Johnson attended a meeting of the Co-operative Creamery company at Haines on Friday.

J. R. Tallent is again improving from his recent illness. Frosty school will receive 50 new books for its library soon.

Mrs. A. L. Becker visited in La Grande last week.

T. B. Johnson and Beem Bros. butchered eight fat hogs last Monday.

Miss Florence Beem spent Saturday and Sunday with Miss Ada Brashers.

Mrs. Dora Gasset and daughter, Mrs. Millie Griffith, of Nampa, Ida., and Mr. and Mrs. Bowen, of California, and Clark Martin, of Halfway, visited at the J. H. Tallent home Sunday afternoon.

## TAXES GO INTO DEBTS, MILITARY

Most of Revenue Received by Uncle Sam Used for Two Purposes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Uncle Sam spends only 17.1 cents of the taxpayer's dollar for support of the ordinary civil functions of government, the 1927 report of Secretary of the Treasury Mellon indicates, while 21.8 cents is spent for military functions and 51.1 cents goes to meet the public debt.

The chart shows how Uncle Sam as a business man divides each tax dollar available for expenditures in 1927.

"When the average citizen grumbles over the size of his income tax payment," Mr. Mellon explained, "he often visualizes his hard-earned money being spent by the government to compile reports on business or agricultural conditions, or to erect public buildings, send diplomats abroad, carry on scientific investigations, or make and enforce laws.

"As a matter of fact, a small part of the taxpayer's dollar goes into work of this sort, only about one-sixth being used for all the multitudinous types of ordinary civil functions added together. One-half of each tax dollar is used for the service of the public debt, the equivalent of 20 cents being required for interest and premium payments and 20 cents for debt retirement. The remaining one-third of the taxpayer's dollar is spent on military expenditures for national defense or payments to military veterans."

## HURLBURT TO RETIRE

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 14 (AP) — T. M. Hurlburt, will not be a candidate to succeed himself as sheriff of Multnomah county. The announcement was made today in discussion of his answer to the board of county commissioners to a charge of irregularities in connection with delinquent tax collections.

Sheriff Hurlburt said he believed he "had been in office long enough." He has been sheriff for 18 years and prior to election to that office was city engineer. His total time in public office is more than 20 years.

The present term expires Jan. 1, 1929.

CORVALLIS MAX HONORED — George Courcier, Corvallis, senior in commerce at Oregon State Agricultural college has been selected as assistant national secretary of Sigma Delta Chi, national professional journalistic fraternity. The position is a salaried one just created at the last national convention. Courcier will have headquarters in Chicago, where his work will be similar to that of executive secretary.

## LADY LUCK SMILES

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The proprietor of a basement restaurant in Columbia embraced bad luck and turned failure into success. His place was little patronized and was known as a "jinx," so he renamed it "The Jinx," had the telephone number changed to 1213, and now finds business booming.

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## MR. COOLIDGE TURNS CRUSADER



(NEA Service, Washington Bureau) President Coolidge has turned crusader—for health. You see him here buying the first 1927 Christmas health seals from little Mona Laurent at the White House.

## Farm Pointers

The demand for game birds such as pheasant, quail, partridge, grouse, wild turkey, duck and geese always exceeds the supply and makes wild fowl raising profitable as a business or sideline to farming. Adult birds are sold for breeding, young and adults for collecting, and eggs for distribution to farmers and shooting clubs.

Livestock frequently is injured or killed by being in contact with or near an ungrounded wire fence struck by lightning. To avoid such danger, wire fences should be grounded effectively at intervals of about 120 feet, more or less according to the conductivity or effectiveness of the grounds. A serviceable ground connection may be made by driving a piece of 3/4 inch galvanized-iron pipe about five feet deep into the earth alongside the wooden fence post, the upper end of the pipe about as high as the post, and attaching the fence wires securely to the pipe.

In making plans for winter remodeling of farm buildings it is well to remember that cows may be kept healthy and less labor is required to keep them clean, if plenty of sunlight and ventilation are supplied in the barn. It weather-tight floors and gutters are provided and if the yards are well drained and kept free from manure.

The federal bureau of dairy industry is prepared to supply to farmers blue prints and specifications for construction of steam sterilizing outfits for farm dairy utensils. Detailed study of the cost and efficiency of various types has been made and the government offers information on any particular type of sterilizer that will meet special needs.

Farmers following the McLean county system of sanitation to protect young pigs from roundworms and other parasites are reminded to prepare soon for the early coming of farrowing. The pens should be thoroughly cleaned with boiling water and lye to remove all roundworms.

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## No Scrub Bulls In Craig County Survey Reveals

WASHINGTON (AP)—For the second time in the history of American stock raising an entire county has been found entirely free from scrub and grade bulls.

The distinction falls to Craig county, Virginia. A letter certifying that every sire is a registered purebred and that in each case the owner has registration papers has been received by the department of agriculture.

Union county, Kentucky, is the only other such unit to eliminate inferior stock. Heretofore a number of other counties in various parts of the country have come within one or two bulls of attaining the goal. Both Virginia and Kentucky are pioneers in the campaign for purebred sires. Union county was certified only last year.

Authorities declare the United States leads the world in the better-sires movement. They see the Craig county enterprise as an example of strong public opinion. It is notable, they say, that scrub bulls were eliminated as a business proposition and not as a "drive."

## CATS PERMITTED TO LIVE

BATH, N. Y.—Though their legacy was contested, the cats of Mrs. Emma Bennett, of Prespa, are to benefit under her will just the same. She left them most of her \$15,000 estate. Relatives accepted a settlement whereby the cats will continue to live happily.

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