

LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

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Published evenings, except Sunday, at 1418 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	75c
Daily, six months in advance	\$4.50
Daily, single copy	5c
By Mail	
Daily, per month in advance	50c
Daily, per six months in advance	\$3.00
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 LORD GRACIOUS—And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment; blessed are all they that wait for him.—Psalm 85:1-3

"Why pay for better roads," asks a farmer, "and just make it easier for city people to run over your chickens?"

GOVERNOR SMITH MAKES HIS PLEA

As this is written we have just finished reading the complete speech of Governor Smith on the occasion of his acceptance of the democratic presidential nomination at Albany, N. Y., this afternoon. Two things remain in the reader's mind, two things on which the democratic party and its leader will seek to win or lose the election: First, criticism of the republican record and policies, and second, a strong and admittedly logical treatment of the prohibition question as an appeal to the wet voters of the country.

The speech is an able attack on the republican administration, is obviously the sincere pledge of a forceful and competent executive to give his best effort in the nation's service. But it is vague and indefinite on numerous important subjects, adheres closely to the outline of the democratic platform in practically every respect except prohibition.

Smith's discussion of the farm problem will strike the agricultural populace as weak. He touches the need for better marketing in general terms but offers no specific relief program. Two brief paragraphs state his belief in inland waterways. But the various angles of farm relief are not considered important by Smith managers from a vote-getting standpoint, and his failure to strike telling blows on this subject is not surprising. The campaign is to be won or lost in the wet eastern states and Smith's acceptance speech is carefully styled to do the most good in the great centers of population.

The plea for wet support, while still promising law enforcement, is a masterpiece. What he proposes to do, if elected president, is definitely and courageously stated after quoting from the Constitution the duty of the president "To recommend to the Congress such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." Governor Smith says:

"Opinion upon prohibition cuts squarely across the two great political parties. There are thousands of so-called 'wets and dries' in each. The platform of my party is silent upon any question of change in the law. I personally believe that there should be change and I shall advise the Congress in accordance with my constitutional duty of whatever changes I deem 'necessary or expedient.' It will then be for the people and the representatives in the national and state legislatures to determine whether these changes shall be made.

"In accordance with this Democratic principle, some immediate relief would come from an amendment to the Volstead law giving a scientific definition of the alcoholic content of an intoxicating beverage. The present definition is admittedly inaccurate and unscientific. Each state would then be allowed to fix its own standard of alcoholic content, subject always to the proviso that that standard could not exceed the maximum fixed by the Congress.

"I believe moreover that there should be submitted to the people the question of some change in the provisions of the 18th Amendment. I personally believe in an amendment in the 18th Amendment which would give to each individual State itself only after approval by a referendum popular vote of its people the right wholly within its borders to import, manufacture or cause to be manufactured and sell alcoholic beverages, the sale to be made only by the State itself and not for consumption in any public place.

There is no hope for the dries in such a program. Smith believes in modification. Furthermore, he will work for modification. He will recommend to congress laws and constitutional amendments providing for modification. He is out in the open—a staunch wet. One cannot but admire his courage and his campaign boldness. With the wet states he may win. Without them his chances are hopeless.

Although taking up too much time with severe criticism of the republican policies and administration of the past eight years (very little of which is convincing as it comes from the lips of a former Tammany henchman and the governor of a heavily taxed state), there is much in the Smith speech to excite admiration. The subjects with which he shows familiarity are treated squarely, openly; others are vague. In any event, the speech is one that will please and outface all democrats except the bone-dry element. They are hopelessly mired down for the remainder of the campaign.

ABE MARTIN



VISIT THE CANADIANA
FISH
TRAINED SEALS
& JUBILEE SINGERS
RAKE
INTELLECTUAL TREAT

GIVES VIEWS ON PROBLEMS OF NATION

(Continued from Page 1)

needed to congress, the nominee made this pledge. "I shall to the very limit execute the pledge of our platform to make an honest endeavor to enforce the 18th amendment and all other provisions of the federal constitution and all laws enacted pursuant thereto.

"Then he added: 'The president does not make the laws. He does his best to execute them whether he likes them or not. The corruption in enforcement activities which caused a former republican prohibition administrator to state that three-fourths of the dry agents were political ward hounds named by politicians without regard to civil service laws and that prohibition is the 'new political pork barrel,' I will ruthlessly stamp out. Such conditions cannot and will not exist under any administration presided over by me."

"Favors 'Immediate Relief'"
Insisting that the present legal definition of the alcoholic content of an intoxicating beverage is "admittedly inaccurate and unscientific," Gov. Smith expressed the view that "some immediate relief would come from an amendment to the Volstead law, which would permit each state to fix its own standard of alcoholic content, subject always to the proviso that that standard could not exceed the maximum fixed by congress."

"I believe moreover that there should be submitted to the people the question of some change in the provisions of the 18th amendment. The nominee went on, "Certainly, no man foresaw when the amendment was ratified the conditions which exist today of bootlegging, corruption and open violation of the law in all parts of the country. The people themselves should, after this eight years of trial, be permitted to say whether existing conditions should be rectified.

"Believes in an Amendment"
"I personally believe in an amendment to the 18th amendment which would give to each individual state itself only after approval by a referendum popular vote of its people the right wholly within its borders to import, manufacture or cause to be manufactured, and sell alcoholic beverages, the sale to be made only by the state itself and not for consumption in any public place.

"We may well learn from the experience of other nations. Our Canadian neighbors have gone far in this manner to solve this problem by the method of sale made by the state itself and not by private individuals.

"There is no question here of the return of the saloon. When I stated that the saloon is still a part of the country, I meant it. I mean it today. I will never advocate or approve any law which directly or indirectly permits the return of the saloon.

"The Personal Opinion"
"Declaring that he believed the solution he proposed would be that which would today be offered by Jefferson, or Jackson, or Cleveland, or Wilson," Gov. Smith pointed out that "the platform of my party is silent upon any question of change of the law."

"Co-operation Needed"
Emphasizing the need for co-operation, coordinated marketing and wholesaling of surplus farm products, the nominee expressed the view that the democratic platform "points the way to make the tariff effective for steps of which

FIVE SHOCKED TO DEATH IN PHOENIX

2300-Volt High Power Wire Fatal to Four in Family and Neighbor

PHOENIX, Ariz., Aug. 22 (AP)—Five persons were electrocuted here last night when they stumbled across a bare 2300-volt high power line blown to the ground during a terrific wind storm shortly before midnight.

Three of the victims, Richard Miller, his wife, and son were instantly killed. Two others, Miller's son Wesley, and a neighbor Carl Meeks, died attempting to rescue the three.

Miller first stumbled across the wire when he left his home on his way to work. His shrieks of agony brought his wife and a son to his aid, but they both died when they made an effort to pull him from the deadly wire. Wesley, another son, escaped from the wire once when he endeavored to save his brother and parents and his screams for help attracted the attention of Meeks.

The two returned to the scene and attempted to drag the bodies from the wire, but the high voltage charge proved fatal to both.

Two other members of the Miller family, a daughter Louise, carrying two babies in her arms and Lawrence, younger son, left the house and escaped across the lawn, where the wire had fallen to the home of a neighbor. Horrified they watched their son Carl and Meeks die in extreme pain, helpless to extend them aid.

One son, Eugene, who died with his mother and father, upon the wire was eight years old. Wesley, his brother, was sixteen.

"We produce a surplus," "Only the mechanics remain to be devised," said Smith, reaffirming an intention of seeking the aid of farmers, economists, and leaders in finance and business in the working out of an "economically sound" solution of the problem of handling our surplus.

At the outset of his speech, the democratic candidate attacked prosperity claims, declaring that "the republican party builds its case on a myth."

"The claim of governmental economy is as baseless as the claims that general prosperity exists," he added, "and that it can exist only under republican administration."

"Assaults Administration"
Gov. Smith assailed the republican administration also for failing to carry out governmental reorganization plans, took a shot at the Prochny-McCumber tariff law and declared that the tariff commission had ceased to function.

"I am of the opinion that the best results would flow from the setting up of a Colorado river authority, representative equally of all the states concerned. The development should be by the states through the agency of this authority by treaty ratified by congress."

As for Meeks, Smith the nominee said that while retaining government ownership and control he would seek to have it operated so that the original peace-time purpose of construction would be achieved.

"No Promises Given"
He also said that undoubtedly legislation should be framed to meet just causes for complaint in regard to the unwarranted issuance of injunctions in labor disputes.

Near the conclusion of his speech, the democratic nominee made this declaration: "I can with complete honesty make the statement that my nomination was brought about by no promise given or implied by me or anyone in my behalf. I will not be influenced in appointments by the questions of a person's wet or dry attitude, by whether he is rich or poor, whether he comes from the north, south, east or west, or by what church he attends in the worship of God."

12 Under Arrest In Mexico City

Protest Women and Five Men Were Under Arrest Today Accused of Having Conspired to Kill President

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 22 (AP)—Twelve women and five men were under arrest today accused of having conspired to kill President Plutarco Elias Calles as well as the late President-elect Alvaro Obregon.

Motley Superior Concepcion Aguado de la Lanza, under custody since the slaying of General Obregon in July, is charged with having been the chief plotter. The police declare the conspirators planned to kill the two officials last April by picking them with a poisoned pin at a dance which they attended in the town of Celaya.

This plan, as well as a later plot to bomb a bridge near Celaya over which Obregon and Calles were to pass, was abandoned as impracticable, it is alleged, but the conspirators continued their efforts and succeeded in slaying General Obregon.

He recalled that as governor of the state of Yucatan he expressed a preference for the so-called all-American waterway route through that state in preference to the St. Lawrence project from the great lakes to the sea. Reports favoring both routes have been challenged, he said, adding that he would consider it his duty as president to resolutely question "unwisdom."

"Flood Relief Plan"
Touching on Mississippi flood relief, the nominee expressed the view that the amount appropriated for this work by congress was "too small to make even a start."

"An ounce of prevention," he observed, "is worth a pound of first aid and relief."

The nominee referred to the proposed development of the Colorado river which has been a subject of controversy, revolving around the Boulder Dam bill, in the river basin and to congress for several years, declaring: "I am of the opinion that the best results would flow from the setting up of a Colorado river authority, representative equally of all the states concerned. The development should be by the states through the agency of this authority by treaty ratified by congress."

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