La Grande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

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A MARVELOUS MESSENGER—The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.—Isa. 61:1.

Don't forget La Grande's football game tomorrow. Baker is coming down. And we think it pardonable for us to express the hope that she comes down with the loseritis.

Ed Howe says everybody has already decided how they're going to vote. Which is probably true. The trouble is that you've got to watch 'em or they decide all over again.

The Literary Digest poll this week, while not adding a great number of votes to the totals of the week before, is again successful in being the most discouraging thing Smith boosters have to contend with. Four years ago the Digest totals were extremely accurate. The question of interest to all forecasters now is, will it be equally accurate this time? Is it possible that the present totals, which give Smith only four states, are anywhere near accurate. It's hard for a conservative observer to believe, anyhow, and though we confidently expect Hoover's election by a large majority, we won't be so bold as to claim 44 states—or even 34—until the counting starts a week from Tuesday. "It just ain't natural"—but, on the other hand, no one will call this a very natural campaign.

Senator Norris, after all these months, has finally decided whom he will support for president in the present campaign. Governor Smith is the man. Now why, in the name of common sense and average intelligence, does a man like Senator Norris need three months to decide to whom his support will be thrown? Wouldn't you think that a man of Senator Norris' knowledge and experience in government would be able to make up his mind between two candidates in less than three months. He surely doesn't take that long to make it up on legislative questions in congress, or he must vote on most measures after they've been enacted into law. Senator Norris, whom we have always admired as a fighting progressive, loses caste by his indecision. His power of discrimination and leadership, his ability to weigh issues and men, and his courage in making a choice—these qualities are not as great as we had previously believed. We do not condemn him for selecting Smith. That is his privilege. But why should it take a public man, a great state leader, so long to decide?

A MACADAM ROAD IS "HARD-SURFACED"

Today's issue of The Observer carries another letter regarding the Dunne auto license reduction bill to which we are glad to give space. There is very little that is new in Mr. Smith's second letter and our comment thereon will be brief. The figures on Eastern Oregon vs. Western Oregon, given in our editorial last Saturday, are still correct. Regardless of imaginary boundary lines, the facts show conclusively that the roads in Eastern Oregon have not only had a square deal but have been specially favored. If Mr. Smith meant paved roads in his first letter when he wrote "hard-surfaced roads," he should have said paved roads. Macadamized roads are recognized and designated as hard-surfaced roads all over the world. A road doesn't have to be paved to be hard, nor does it have to be paved to be desirable—as Oregon is proving every year. If it is paving Mr. Smith wants for Eastern Oregon, we'd suggest a rather more extensive study of the effect of climatic conditions on pavements, foundation requirements, and maintenance costs of pavements under variable climatic conditions before entering a protest against the lack of paved mileage in Eastern Oregon. Making general statements is one of the easiest things in the world to do. Backing them up with facts and figures is not so readily undertaken. Blanket road costs mean nothing without detailed specifications and a detailed statement of significant conditions in a comparison. We do not fear for Oregon's advantage in the presentation of a comparison of that character.

Try---

The
W. K. GILBERT CO.

---First

ABE MARTIN

Th' boy without a roadster 'll complain in future years that he never had a chance t' go t' school. When they write "thanks" on a receipted bill it's a cinch their conscience hurts 'em.

Medical Springs Girl Drops 15 Feet From Tree

By Mrs. M. P. Raymond
(Observer Correspondent)

PONTIOUS, Ore., (Special)—Miss Vivian Lark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lark fell 15 feet out of an apple tree in Dunham Wright's orchard Saturday. She fell on her back and was unconscious for several minutes. She was carried to the home of John Stoddard where she regained consciousness and was later taken to the hospital in Baker. An x-ray examination showed no serious injury.

The Medical Springs Women's club gave a benefit dance at the school house Saturday night for the Lawler and Brown families who lost everything they owned in the fire of Tuesday night. The sum of $20.60 was realized for them.

Mrs. Mary Murray and two daughters, Miss Pearl and Mrs. H. C. Wilson drove to La Grande Saturday morning and visited until Sunday evening.

Warren Metcalf and family spent Sunday at the home of Mrs. Metcalf's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hill at Elgin.

Mrs. J. P. Hogeneen of La Grande spent Wednesday with her sister, Mrs. Eli Beaudette.

Smith and Whitten, local butchers, have purchased 12 large hogs from Fred Brown of Keating for their market here.

Gilbert Ralentine, lumber grader for the Pondosa Sales Co. whose home is at La Grande, was here on business Wednesday.

Many babies and small children of this community have been ill recently. Alfred, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Butler has been under the doctor's care for three weeks. Cecilia Hayes small daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Hayes has also been ill for a couple of weeks. Monday morning Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Nelson were compelled to take their little son Grant to Baker for treatment as he had had a convulsion about 9 o'clock. The babies, although sick are all recovering nicely.

Mrs. William Stewart, of Baker, drove to Medical Springs Wednesday night to bring her father, Alonzo Huntingsworth, of Thief Valley over for a few days treatment.

Mrs. Hazel Coulter, of Baker, who has been ill at the Union hotel for a week, arrived a Medical Springs Wednesday for an indefinite stay.

T. H. Williams of Portland, has been made deputy post master at Medical Springs. He will take charge of the temporary post office until Mr. and Mrs. South can get their affairs in shape to do so. They are have a telephone service between the Springs and Baker. The telephone exchange burned in the fire. This end of the line was gone for four days.

Morris Hirsh, brother of Mrs. Eugene South, and Miss Margaret Gossett of Huntington drove over Sunday to spend the day with Mr. and Mrs. South.

This balmy weather brings many visitors to the P. J. Powers cottage at Medical Springs. The following were dinner guests last Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Parker, Mrs. Belle Meek, Mrs. Sarah Hamett, Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Mills, the Misses Marie and Louise Newhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. John Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Bouns, Will Griffin and Miss Kate Griffin and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stevens, all were from Baker except Mrs. Hamett, who is visiting in Baker from Ord, Neb.

Charles Record was exhibiting a gold nugget Saturday which he took from his mining property which adjoins the old Sanger mine. The nugget was said to be worth $12.00. This is the largest single nugget Mr. Record has found on his property although he has found many smaller ones.

Mrs. Eugene Nelson entertained 20 little boys and girls Friday evening from 5 to 8 o'clock. The occasion being the seventh birthday of her son Graame. The hallowe'en colors of orange and black were used for decorating. After playing games for an hour the little folks were called to the table for refreshments. The center piece was a hoodoo cake with seven lighted candles. Mrs. Loren Nelson, sister of Mrs. Eugene Nelson assisted with the entertainment of the youngsters.

While Thomas Murray was unloading his shot gun Wednesday afternoon in the kitchen of his mother's home here it was accidently discharged. Fortunately no one was injured and the only damage was a hole blown through the

THE OPEN COURT

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

La Grande, Ore.,
Oct. 24th, 1928.

Editor,
La Grande Evening Observer,
City.

Dear Sir: It was not my intention a week ago, when I wrote an article regarding the Dunne bill which proposes to reduce the license fees, to bother you with more than the one letter. I much prefer to hear from a number of others in your paper rather than submit even a second letter, but in making answer to my statements in your editorial of October 20th, I personally feel that you have taken an unfair advantage by misleading statements, and to fairness to this bill, also your readers, I ask for a chance to make this clear.

First: let us remind readers that in my statement of Oct. 16th, wherein I stated as follows: Eastern Oregon from The Dalles east, has never received any consideration whatever in a just and honest way, for Western Oregon has more than 100 miles of hard-surfaced roads to our one.

Now in trying to make answer to the above statement, you make this statement in your editorial of Oct. 20th, as follows: In the 15 counties west of the Cascades there has been a total of $50,642,852.54 spent for construction and maintenance of roads by the commission, in the years 1917 to 1927 inclusive, and during the same period the total sum of $36,422,548.17 in the 15 counties east of the Cascades.

Why mislead the readers by moving The Dalles so as to make it appear to be located in central part of the Cascades. In so doing you used figures in dollars, and thereby resorted to the old trick of juggling figures of showing that 2 and 2 are not four, but twenty two, by obtaining your answer in adding side-way instead of straight up and down.

My statement was of roads, and not counties and pease let us remember that my statement plainly states hard surfaced roads. In your editorial of the 20th, you reply that there is a hard surfaced highway from The Dalles south to the California line, also a hard surfaced road from Arlington to Ontario, Ore. Our state highway commissioners as well as most any authority, only refers to hard surfaced roads as those finished or surfaced with concrete, or other patented hard surfaced material which when completed are termed paved. And such roads which are but graded and surfaced with gravel or crushed rock are not termed paved, or hard surfaced. The map before me and the one I referred to as the Oregon state highway department map of 1928, does not show any part of The Dalles-Ontario highway to be paved or hard surfaced, and only about seven miles is shown as hard surfaced of the Oregon Trail highway between The Dalles and Ontario. My statements may not appear quite so ignorant to you if in making reply, you would lay off adding two and two so as to get your kind of answer to read twenty two.

And regarding the efficient and economical boost you give to our state highway commissioners, I am sure most of us readers have been informed constantly the past four years of how much cheaper roads are constructed in both Washington and California than here in Oregon per mile. And only three years ago I happened to have the chance to compare the state of Nebraska past road construction with ours. Nebraska paid only a little over $6,000.00 per mile for grading and surfacing with eight inches of crushed rock, as compared with more than twice that amount per mile here in Oregon. Oregon can not boast with such prices paid, for Nebraska had to transport three-fourths of their rock by rail. Our commissioners paid within a few dollars of ten thousand dollars per mile for grading and a coat of hardly six inches of rock on the ten-mile stretch between Haines and Baker, and had an ideal gravel pit just half way between.

Again, you stated in your reply of Oct. 18th, that the two main reasons for the press trying to defeat the Dunne bill which proposes to reduce the license fees one-half as I advanced was all wrong, yet in the article you refer to in your editorial of Oct. 20th, which you print in the Motor News which was written by parties who have assumed the name of the Good Roads association, yet this same article you refer the readers to as worthy of careful reading, admits that my statement was exactly right. But, when this article is read carefully, we find they too have resorted to the same method of juggling two and two so it says twenty two. They do so in their following example:

A comparison of fees to be paid by the owner of a Ford car:

	Present Law	Dunne Bill
Present fee	$15.00	$10.00
Gas tax, 400 gal.	12.00	20.00
Total	$27.00	$30.00

Now this so-called spokesman of the goods roads association knows just as well as I or the editor that the gas tax part of his example has nothing whatever to do with the license bill, as they are identified by two different measures altogether, the gas tax bill is numbered 360 and 361, while the Dunne bill which proposes to reduce the license by one-half is identified as measure or bill No. 392 and 393.

Another very important point to remember is that while the article did not give any names, yet if we investigate, we will find the officers of this so-called good roads association, are up-state capitalists and large capitalns of industry, and exactly class of people who are not paying anything toward highway construction if they happen not to be the owner of a car, if the Dunne bill is approved by the voters it will be a great step toward forcing just this type of people to help pay for highways. (now we see why they juggled those little two spots.) Let the readers look them up, the president of this good roads association is Mr. John B. Yeon, and Mr. Ray Conway. They know what the Dunne bill No. 392 and a vote yes on it will do to them, and what isn't good for them will be just fine for ninety per cent of the rest of us.

Respectfully,
H. W. SMITH.

HOOVER SMILE

The Hoover smile is becoming as famous in the present campaign as the T. R. grin did in an earlier one. The Republican candidate is shown here responding to the welcome given him in Elizabethton, Tenn.

ONE OF THE BEST BIG GAME HUNTERS in America, is the reputation of "Colonel Lindbergh," who is shown here with his master, Jack Brewster, guide in Jasper National Park. The Canadian Rockies are Lindy's hunting grounds.

Woman Is Accused Of Murdering Man

LIVERMORE, Cal., Oct. 26 (AP)—Mrs. Jessie Pieens was formally charged yesterday with the murder of Philip O'Donnell, of San Francisco, who was shot to death on the Pieens farm last Monday. The woman reported that O'Donnell shot himself, but physicians said the man could not have fired the shot.

SUFFERS BROKEN LEG

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 26 (AP)—Held up by two itinerants and thrown off a freight train when they found no cash on him, John Clemax, 24, an itinerant from Wilson, Wis., suffered a fractured leg early today, and dragged himself across the Eastmoreland golf course to get help. He was found by a passing motorist and taken to a hospital.

Arrange For Good Radio Reception

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—Because of the "widespread public interest in satisfactory reception of election returns" the federal radio commission today took steps to insure clear reception conditions from 8 p. m. Nov. 6 to 12 noon Nov. 7.

Each amateur and experimental station, including television sets was asked to cease operation during the period "if and to the extent that each station causes interference with reception from broadcasting stations."

Broadcasting stations not engaged in sending the returns were requested, so far as consistent with the carrying on of necessary communications to conduct their stations with the minimum of interference.

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