LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

FRANK B. APPLEBY .... Editor and Publisher

HARVEY F. MATTHEWS .... Business Manager

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
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited if published herein. 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, 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.

SOUND ADVICE—Be not hasty in the spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.—Ecc. 7:9.

A small man can be just as dangerous as a big one, but he seldom is.

Still, if there were no strangers, on whom would people practice good manners?

One thing about the old codgers who give fatherly kisses is that they always pick out pretty daughters.

In a case in Mississippi involving the theft of $20 by a young woman, the novel defense is set up that she stole the money in her sleep. The woman is said to be a somnambulist. She seems to have walked in her sleep, on a wet night, to a neighbor's house a quarter of a mile away, taken the money from a pair of trousers hanging on the wall, and returned to her home. She was tracked by her fresh footprints. The bills were found clutched in her hand two hours after the theft, as she lay asleep in bed. Presumably if she had committed the theft consciously, she would have hidden the money when she returned home. A jury anywhere might free a defendant on such evidence. The example will make more trouble for the criminal courts. It is bad enough to have alleged murderers pleading insanity and thieves always pleading kleptomania. Now they will be pleading somnambulism.

BIG DAM BENEFITS

Now that construction of Boulder dam seems assured, the southwest is said to be rejoicing particularly in the prospect of water available for domestic use and irrigation. The dam, it is said, "will convert the arid, sparsely settled lands into fertile farms and teeming towns and villages." It should do that, and much more. It is no accident that the power possibilities, too, have been emphasized in recent discussions.

The power developed at the dam cannot be effectively transmitted yet so far as many enthusiasts seem to believe, but the distance is lengthening steadily. By the time the dam is completed and the power plant in operation, which may be several years hence, it should be practicable to distribute electric power over an area with a radius of several hundred miles.

That should mean a great deal more than lighting and other small conveniences. It should enormously extend the range of American manufacturing. Factories might spring up almost anywhere in the area fed from that power source. The region might make for itself innumerable things now brought from long distances, saving expense, providing employment and building population and wealth.

The spread of electric power through the country, whether produced by coal or water, will result eventually in decentralizing American industry. Any section possessing cheap and flexible power can become more independent of other sections economically.

A SENSIBLE JUDGE

A wise judge knows the difference between real thieves and amateurs. Recently two men, out of work and unable to find employment in spite of sincere efforts, agreed to steal some lumber from a neighboring barn, with the intention of selling it. Their methods were clumsy. A policeman saw and arrested them, charged them with attempted burglary, and took them to court. When their cases were investigated, it was found that the men had no previous bad record, that they had honestly tried to get work, and that their families were without food and other necessaries.

The judge dug into his own pocket for temporary relief of their distress. Then he got them both jobs and made arrangements with a baking company to furnish them with free bread for a while.

"I have no use for a thief, and I enjoy sending crooks to jail," said the judge, "but from the investigation of your cases I am more than convinced that neither of you is a thief. I can't find it in my heart to send you to prison, knowing that if I were in your place I might do the same thing. Your cases are continued for a year. When you appear in court at that time I will see if you have been worthy of the chance to make good."

Here is sentiment balanced with judgment and sense, justice tempered with mercy. It is quite possible, too, that the judge saved these two first offenders from becoming second offenders and confirmed criminals. If so, he has protected society as well as saved the men. If not, and either or both become guilty of a new crime, he'll provide proper punishment. Giving leniency and showing mercy to second offenders and to parole breakers is just as bad in effect as refusing mercy in the first place.

ABE MARTIN

If a dashin' aviatrix an' a husband with Lieutenant Byrd can't git along what chance has a cooped-up apartment couple? Gran'ma Bentley died yisterday at th' ripe age o' 104. She'd never seen a wheel chair til Al Smith run fer th' presidency.

LA GRANDE WHOLESALE MARKETS

Springs—15@25c lb.
Heavy hens—16c lb.
Light hens—14c lb.
Stags—8c lb.

Flour.

Hard Federation (hard wheat) Soft wheat—$7.40 bbl —$7.60 bbl.

LA GRANDE RETAIL MARKETS

Dairy.

Butter, creamery — 55c; 2 lbs., $1.10.
Eggs—45c doz.
Cheese—35@40c lb.
Honey—Comb, 25c lb.

Vegetables

Potatoes—$1.00 cwt.
Artichoke—20c.
Parsley—5c bunch.
Cranberries—20c qt.
Pomegranates—15c lb.
Local cabbage—7c lb.
Cauliflower—15c lb.
Grapefruit, Florida—15c.
Lettuce—10c head.
Endive—15c; 2 for 25c.
Yellow onions—5c lb.
Radishes—5c bunch.
Carrots—10c bunch.
Beets—5c lb.
Parsnips—5c lb.
Turnips—2 bunches for 25c.
Celery—15c bunch.
Green peppers—40c lb.
Rutabagas—5c lb.
Hubbard Squash—Local 4c.
Sweet Potatoes—3 lbs. 25c.

Fruits

Delicious apples—4 lb. basket, 25c; $1.89 box.
Jonathan apples—$1.10 box.
Bananas—12½c lb.
Persimmons—2 for 25c.
Lemons—40c doz.
Oranges—50@70c doz.
Grapes—2 lbs. 25c.
Pears—Bartlett, 85c a box.
Red Emperor Grapes—15c lb., 2 lbs. 25c.

Sugar

Cane sugar—$6.54.

Flour

Soft wheat—$8.40 bbl.
Hard federation—$8.40 bbl.

Poultry

Spring fries—30@32c lb.
Hens—25@30c lb.

Meats and Fish

Beef boil—12½@15c.
Chops and steaks—25-35c lb.
Salmon (strictly fresh)—25c lb.
Halibut—30c lb.
Rabbits—25c lb.
Cod—20c lb.

Gasoline

Gasoline, regular, retail, 26c.

Military Cycle

Designed for cross-country service, a three-wheeled motor cycle has been tested in England. There are two small wheels in the rear and the machine has a duplex steering arrangement. The cycle has been proposed especially for military uses.

DRESSED MEAT STATUS GOOD

Butter and Eggs Holding Firm in Portland Markets As Year Ends

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 31 (AP)—Poultry and dressed meats took a firm note on the local market today, averaging a rise of one to three cents. Turkey, No. 1 dressed stock was quoted 33 to 35 cents today. Ducks from a low price of 18 cents rose to a new price at 20 to 25 cents. Geese were quoted about two cents higher at 18 to 20 cents. In country meats, dressed veal is firmer at 19 cents and pork firmer at 13 cents.

There was no change in butter and egg prices over Sunday, despite firmer butter quotations in the east. The hop market is considerably stronger. About 2000 bales were purchased for foreign shipment last week. Todays price was 20 cents.

Fruit and vegetables remained fairly steady. Large size oranges are firmer, quoted up to $6 with small sizes down to $3.50. Imperial Valley lettuce of fine quality $4.50.

Local cauliflower brought $1 to $1.25 with California varieties $1.50 to $1.60.

PORTLAND LIVESTOCK

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 31 (AP)—Cattle and calves: active; she stock 25 to 50 cents higher, steers slow.

Receipts: Cattle 1601, including 30 through; calves 160. Steers (1100-1300 lbs.) good, $11.50@12.50; do (950-1100 lbs.) good, 11.25@12.50; do (800 and up), medium, 11.50@11.25; do common, $9@10.50; heifers (850 lbs. down) good, 10.25@10.75; do common, 8.50@10.25; cows, good 9.50@10; do common to medium, 7.50@9.50; do low cutter 6.00@7.50; bulls (yearlings excluded), good beefs 7.25@7.75; do cutter to medium, 6.50@7.25; calves (500 lbs. down), medium to choice 9.00@11.00; do cull to common, 7.50@9.00; vealers, milk-fed, good to choice, 13.00@14.00; do medium, 11.50@13.00; do cull to common, 8.50@11.50.

Hogs: Active, killing classes mostly 50 cents higher, packing sows 25 cents higher. Receipts 1730 including 639 direct or through. Heavy weight (250-350 lbs.), medium to choice, 7.75@9.25; medium weight (200-250 lbs.) medium to choice, 8.50@9.75; light weight (160-200 lbs.) medium to choice 9.75@10.00; packing sows, rough and smooth, $8.75@9.75.

PORTLAND PRODUCE

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 31 (AP)—Wholesale prices: Butter steady; Portland dairy exchange net wholesale prices (cubes): Extras, 45½c; standards, 45c; prime firsts, 44c; firsts, 43c. Creamery prices: prints 3c over cube standards.

Eggs, steady; Portland dairy exchange (net basis): Fresh standard extras, 36c; fresh standard first, 34c; fresh medium extras, 34c; fresh medium firsts, 32c. Prices to retailers, 1@2c over exchange prices.

Milk, steady: Raw milk, (4 per cent), $2.85 cwt, delivered. Portland less 1 per cent. Butterfat, station, 51c; track, 52c; delivered at Portland, 54@55c.

Poultry, turkeys, geese and ducks higher tendency: (buying prices): Alive, heavy hens, (4½ pounds), 24@26c; medium hens (3½ to 4½ pounds), 20c; light (under 3½ pounds), 17c; springs, 24c; ducks, 20@25; turkeys, dressed No. 1, 33@35; geese, 18@20.

Onions, steady; per cwt., Oregon $3.75@4.25; boilers, 2.00@2.50.

Potatoes, steady; per cwt., Gems, No. 1 grade, $1.40@1.50; combination, 70c@$1.00; fancy Gems $1.65@2.00.

Wool, steady, Eastern Oregon, 28@32c lb.; valley 35@40c.

Nuts, steady; walnuts, Oregon, 28@30c; almonds, 21½@26½c; peanuts, 9½@12c; pecans, 22@24c; filberts, 17½@20c.

Hay, steady; buying prices: Eastern Oregon timothy, $21.50@22; do valley, $17@17.50; alfalfa, $22.50@23; clover $17@17.50; oat hay, $18@18.50; straw, $5.00 ton; selling prices $2 ton more.

PHILADELPHIA EXCHANGE AMONG OLDEST IN COUNTRY

The Philadelphia stock exchange (above) has had a long and checkered career, dating back to 1746, 30 years before the American revolution.

MARKET NEWS OF THE DAY

CHICAGO GRAIN

Wheat	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	111½@111⅝	1.11¾	1.10½	1.11 @1.11¼
Mar.	116⅜	1.16⅝	1.15	1.16⅜@1.16½
May	118½@118⅝	1.18⅞	1.17⅞	1.18⅝@1.18⅞
July	119⅞	1.20½	1.19⅝	1.20 @1.20⅛

LIVERPOOL WHEAT

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 31 (AP)—Close wheat: December unquoted; March 9s 1d per 100 pounds, 1.32¼. May 9s, 1⅝d, $1.33¼; July, 9s 3⅛d, $1.35.

PORTLAND WHEAT

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 31 (AP)—Wheat: Big Bend bluestem, hard white 1.47; soft white, 1.15; western white, 1.15; hard winter, 1.10; northern spring, 1.09; western red, 1.11.

Oats: No. 2-38 lb. white, 36.00.

Today's car receipts: Wheat 45; barley 2, flour 17, corn 10; oats 5, hay 5.

CHICAGO WHEAT

CHICAGO, Dec. 31 (AP)—Wheat No. 4 hard 1.05; sample grade hard 88c; No. 2 Northern Spring 1.07¼. No. 3 Northern Spring 1.01@1.04¼; No. 5 mixed 1.02.

Corn, No. 4 mixed 81@82½; No. 5 mixed 78½@81; No. 6, mixed 75½@78; No. 3 yellow 83@85½; No. 4 white 81@82½; No. 5 white 79¼@81; No. 6 white 76½, sample grade 65@74.

Oats, No. 2 white 47@49¼; No. 3 white 45¾@47½; No. 4 white 43@44½; sample grade 40@42.

Rye, no sales. Barley 52@65. Timothy seed 5.35@6.45. Clover seed 22.75@30.75.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK

CHICAGO, Dec. 31 (AP)—(U. S. Dept. Agric.)—Hogs, receipts 53,000; mostly 10@15 higher on weight averages under 200 lbs.; heavier weights steady to 10c higher; top 9.15 paid for 160 to 200 lbs.; butchers, medium to choice 250 to 300 lbs., 8.60@8.90; 200 to 250 lbs., 8.65@9.15.

Cattle receipts 16,000; calves receipts 3,000; most killing classes strong to 25c higher on active market; best yearlings 17.00; heavies 16.50; bulk fat steers 14.50 down to 15.00; lower grade killers and replacement cattle active; slaughter classes steers, good and choice 1,300 to 1,500 lbs., 13.25@16.25; 1,100 to 1,300 lbs., 13.25@16.25; 950 to 1,100 lbs., 13.25@17.00; fed yearlings, good and choice 750 to 950 lbs., 13.25@16.25; vealers, milk fed, good and choice 15.25@17.50.

Sheep receipts 18,000; market fairly steady; bulk fat lambs 15.00@15.25; closely sorted kinds 15.40@15.50; feeding lambs steady, 12.50@14.00; lambs, good and choice 92 lbs. down 14.40@15.65; medium, 13.00@14.40; ewes, medium to choice 150 lbs. down 6.00@8.50; feeder lambs to choice 150 lbs. down 6.00@8.50; feeder lambs, good and choice 13.25@14.50.

Market Quiet As Old Year Passes

NEW YORK, Dec. 31 (AP)—The stock market made marked progress on the last day of the year, more than a score of issues establishing last minute high records for 1928, a wide assortment of gains ran from 3 to 17 points.

A wave of "tax selling" which was expected to begin today, as sales, save those for cash, will carry over into 1929, was moderate and quickly absorbed in a rush to grab stocks at their present levels, in expectation of heavy reinvestment demand resulting from the year-end interest and dividend disbursements.

There was little in the day's news to affect the market. A further increase in the price of export copper stimulated buying of copper shares. A stock exchange seat sold for $575,000, which is $15,000 over the last sale but $25,000 under the recent peak price.

Bokay for the Boss

A house painter employed to work at a middle western asylum was assisted by some of the patients. When the job was done one of them told him, "You are the best-natured nut I ever worked with."—Capper's Weekly.

Poincare Ready To Quit Office

PARIS, Dec. 31 (AP)—Premier Poincare today frankly told his cabinet that he had accomplished his main tasks and was ready to resign because of present unrest. But the cabinet persuaded him he had much to do, particularly in regard to reparations, and M. Poincare agreed to remain.

Poincare, in the opinion of his supporters, definitely avoided a crisis by consenting to remain and greatly strengthened his hand by compelling the whole cabinet in which there was reported to be dissension to insist upon his retention in the leadership. The premier therefore will face parliament when it convenes on January 8 and lead a debate on the general policy of the government which the cabinet decided today shall be on lines already followed.