

# LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)  
An Independent Newspaper

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There are those to whom "Be yourself" is the worst possible advice you can offer.

There's one good thing about a bad cold. You don't have to take all the advice your friends give you.

Five thousand carloads of grapes came east out of California in six days, as indicating a pressing demand.

### WHERE RURAL TAXES GO.

Pointing out that the taxes paid by the average American farmer have increased 160 per cent in the last 15 years, while the value of the average farm is a scant 20 per cent higher than it was in 1913, the bureau of agricultural economics of the department of agriculture has undertaken a survey to find out just what the farmer's tax money is being spent for. Its findings are interesting.

The biggest item in the rural tax budget is for schools. From one-third to one-half of all public money spent in farming districts goes for schools. Consequently, the rise in the price of education must be largely responsible for the rise in taxation.

In the first place, the bureau points out, prices have risen so that if the farmer were only supporting exactly the kind of schools he was supporting in 1913 he would be paying more for them than he did then. But the rural school has expanded greatly. The number of children attending such schools has increased by one-third. The average school term is increasing in length. More farmers' children are going to high school than formerly. In addition, rural school equipment is on a much higher level than formerly, while education standards have been raised so that higher salaries must be paid for good teachers.

Thus, in respect to this major item, the farmer seems to be getting value received for his money.

The second item in rural expenditures is for highways. Probably a fourth of all rural tax moneys are spent for them. Here, too, there is no denying that the farmer is better served than he was 15 years ago. Nothing breaks down the isolation of the farm, enhances land values and brings the market closer to the production point like good roads. When the farmer's tax money goes to provide better highways it is being well spent.

It is apparent, from this, that major reductions in rural taxes cannot be had without cutting off vital services. What is needed now is more business-like management and careful economy, so that every cent of tax money can be made productive.

### WHEN COURAGE IS WASTED

If human beings would turn to worthwhile ends the devotion and courage they sometimes put into anti-social acts, the world would move forward a good bit faster.

The other day three run runners set out to cross Lake Erie from Erieau, Ontario, to Cleveland, in a 50-foot boat with 1000 cases of whisky. Lake Erie is a violently stormy place in the winter, and such a trip, in so small a boat, is an extremely hazardous undertaking; and when the engine of this boat went dead three hours out of port, the men were faced with a critical situation.

For three days a storm drove their helpless craft across the lake. Then, one morning, they found themselves drifting a few miles off the Pennsylvania shore. You would imagine that by that time they would have been willing to dump their whisky overboard and jump at the chance of saving their skins—but not this crew. Instead, one of them donned a life belt, jumped overboard, and swam ashore. Then he went to a nearby city and secretly arranged for a tugboat to go out and take the disabled craft to a sheltered haven where it could be unloaded.

But before the tug could get out another storm came up and the boat was driven back out into the lake. For 11 days it floundered about in mid-lake, repeatedly on the verge of going down. The men aboard had no food. The launch was cold. They could do nothing but wait—for death or rescue.

At last one of the big trans-lake carferries found them. And even then the run runners balked at being rescued. They asked the captain to convey news of their plight, secretly, to their associates in Erieau, so that a new boat could be sent out to get the whisky across the lake. The captain gruffly refused, and the men were taken into an Ontario port in spite of themselves.

They had been adrift for 14 days under fearful conditions—yet, to the end, their one thought was for their cargo of whisky.

If such endurance and courage could be put to work in the service of society, instead of against it, the world would be a great deal better off.

## ABE MARTIN



A movie actress's wedding is nothin' more or less'n a chance o' venue. The late Tex Rickard got as good press notices as anybody, fer it don't make no difference in this country what your business is if you're successful.

### STUDENTS AID FIREMEN

ABILENE, Tex., Jan. 28 (AP)—Students who lived in three dormitories helped firemen save furniture and supplies from the Abilene Christian college administration building when it was burned today with a loss of \$75,000.

### FOCH IS IMPROVED

PARIS, Jan. 28 (AP)—Marshal Ferdinand Foch passed such a good night and his condition had so improved generally today that his physicians thought it unnecessary to issue a bulletin. All visits to him, however, are still prohibited.

Egg yolks may be removed from the white by using a piece of the egg-shell. The edges are sharper than a spoon and if any egg yolk should get into the white when separating the whites will not beat up stiffly.

Maybe those witches down in Pennsylvania aren't the worst people in the world. Most of their offenses seem merely those of sex appeal.

## EX-KAISER HAS BIRTHDAY PARTY

Hohenzollern Clan Gathers at Doorn, Holland, for Anniversary

DOORN, Holland, Jan. 28 (AP)—Former Kaiser Wilhelm arose at 7 o'clock this morning as usual, read the Bible, had breakfast and walked in the garden. Servants said he showed no signs of strain on account of the exhaustive program of yesterday when the Hohenzollerns gathered to celebrate his seventieth birthday and to hail him as king and emperor. During the evening the guests partook of a repast more elaborate than at noon. Each guest was given a menu card with a gold border and bearing a golden Hohenzollern crown and a picture of the Kaiser in the uniform of a field marshal, under the picture was printed: "Evening repast on the all highest's seventieth birthday; his birthday; his majesty, the Kaiser and king."

The menu was mushroom soup, cold lobster, young turkey with vegetables, national pudding and fruit. The party adjourned at 11 p. m.

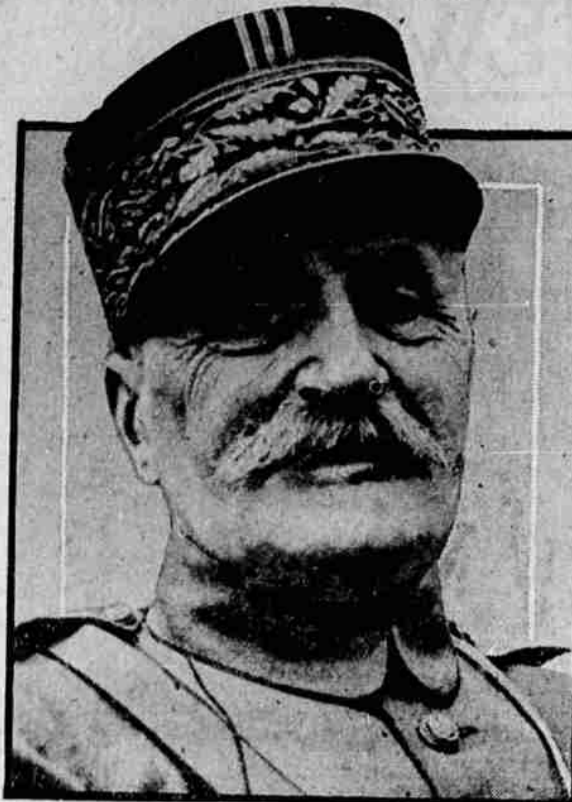
The former Kaiser today wrote Queen Wilhelmina a long letter of thanks for ten years of refuge. He dwelt especially on acts of friendship of Count Bentinck and expressed his wish for the welfare of the Dutch people.

Part of Clan Left Today only part of the Hohenzollern clan was the Kaiser's guests as many were invited to the homes of Dutch noblemen. Count Bentinck will entertain half of the birthday party tonight at Amerongen castle, and the other half with the Kaiser as an honor guest tomorrow night. On Wednesday the employees and servants on the Doorn estate will be given a special feast which the former ruler has promised to attend. That will end the festivities.

On his seventieth birthday yesterday the former Kaiser stood resplendent in a field marshal's uniform of the first royal guards. Upon his breast were the highest decorations within the gift of Imperial Germany and many other nations. Male participants in the celebration, garbed in the gala uniforms of their military ranks and wearing spiked helmets, saluted him as "his majesty, the Kaiser and king."

Princess Hermine, whom the Kaiser married in exile, was not present to share her husband's triumph, or to be addressed as "em-

## FOCH IS IMPROVING



Ferdinand Foch, marshal of France and commander-in-chief of the allied armies in the World war, is 77 and has been putting up a courageous and winning fight against heart disease. Here is one of the best pictures of the marshal taken since the war.

## Here and There In Legislature

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 28 (AP)—Senator Norblad today introduced a bill to prohibit the operation of fish traps west of a line drawn between the range light at Fort Stevens and the range light on Cape Disappointment, Wash.

Senator Upton introduced a bill providing for the organization of rural fire protection districts outside of incorporated cities and towns, and providing for the levying of taxes and issuance of bonds for the maintenance of the districts.

The measure gives county courts authority to establish the fire protection districts on petitions from the people, and if objections are filed by 25 or more residents of the proposed district representing 50 per cent or more of the assessed property valuation, the court is authorized to call an election on the question.

The district would be governed by a board of directors, who, among other things, would elect a fire chief.

Two bills which abolish the office of county judge and would create the office of county commissioner to take the place of the county judge's office were introduced to the house this morning by Representative Anderson and Carlin and Speaker Hamilton.

House bill 265 provides for the appointment of county commissioners for counties of Oregon and the abolishment of the office of county judge. The act provides that in each case the present county judges are appointed commissioners to fill out present terms.

House bill 266 would transfer all judicial jurisdiction heretofore placed in the county courts to the circuit courts. It is a companion bill to 265.

Members of the Grand Army of the Republic in good standing, if residents of the state, will be granted

press. The official explanation was that she was ill with what at first seemed to be chicken pox but probably was only gripe. There was a rumor current, however, that she was only diplomatically ill since the greater part of the Hohenzollern clan refuse to recognize her as "her imperial majesty," conceding her merely the title of the Kaiser's spouse.

## EDISON OFF FOR SOUTH



Off to the sunny south, but to work, not play, went Thomas A. Edison. The famed inventor announced that in the laboratory of his winter home in Fort Myers, Fla., he will continue the synthetic rubber experiments which have been occupying his scientific attention in recent months. Pictured above as they left Newark, N. J., for their annual sojourn in Dixie are, left to right: Edison, Mrs. Edison, their son, Charles, and his wife.

## WHERE THE HOOVERS ARE RESTING UP



After the long travel strain precipitated by the good will tour of South America, the president-elect and wife are getting their rest and now, as guests of J. C. Penny at Sea Isle, his unique winter home at Miami Beach, Fla. This picture, transmitted by telephone from Atlantic City, to San Francisco is the first view of the Hoover welcome to reach here. Penny is shown at the extreme left, with the Hoovers next to him.

**Pied-Piper Shoes**  
The Child's Greatest Health Shoe  
Is Exclusive With Us.

**N. K. West & Co., Inc.**  
"La Grande's Leading Store for Over 30 Years"

## U. S. Treasury Conscience Fund

Now Totals Over Half a Million

WASHINGTON (AP)—Treasury officials are confronted with many difficult problems but one that never has been solved is just how much ease is given the troubled consciences of thousands of contributors to the conscience fund, which now aggregates \$568,694.51.

Back in 1911 when Albert Gallatin of Pennsylvania was fourth secretary, serving the longest term any secretary has had as financial head of the government, a person whose name was never divulged sent \$250 to the treasury to pay for some wrong done the government. Whether it was for failure to pay taxes, for theft or for something else never was learned, but the money was put in a fund, marked as having come from unidentified persons.

Since then thousands of contributions of a similar nature have been received. Generally contributions are accompanied by assigned statements to the effect that it is for payment for defrauding the government or for oversight in failing to make the proper payment. Occasionally,

however, the anonymous writer will admit it is for a minor theft. A New Yorker sent \$500 to the treasury and to make certain that it would reach the proper fund he took five \$100 dollar bills and cut them exactly in the center, sending one half of each to Secretary Mellon and the other half to the collector of internal revenue. Neither half could have been redeemed by the treasury without the other half as the treasury requires two-thirds of a mutilated bill for redemption.

Since 1827 there never has been a year in which some sort of an increase in the fund has not been received. Almonds may be roasted for salting or browning by putting them in an ordinary corn popper and shaking them over a brisk fire. Almonds become bitter if left in water to cool after boiling.

This influenza epidemic is rather hard to reconcile with the healthy throats we're all supposed to have from smoking wonderful cigarettes.

**TRY**  
**W. K. GILBERT CO.**  
**FIRST**

# Your Financial Engineer

Financial wrecks vary in the seriousness of the damage suffered. If your total savings amount to \$100 and you lose it all by investing in some fake stock, your finances are ruined. If you own a big business and it gradually becomes so involved as to throw you into bankruptcy, your finances are ruined.

The important thing for everyone who has accumulated or seeks to accumulate money, is not that a few people suffer financial wrecks, but WHY?

You could probably name lots of reasons why certain men fail. Not always, but in many cases it's due largely to the lack of sound financial judgment and advice -- lack of a financial engineer to steer the proper course.

Business and money are handled successfully according to certain fairly well defined rules provided by experience. Your banker is usually acquainted with these rules in considerable detail. He knows, from his contact and experience, how some mistakes can best be avoided, how some steps can be taken with assurance toward success. Your banker should be a competent, friendly financial engineer, ready to help you when wanted.

When you wish it, we like to discuss your business and financial plans and to be of every possible service to you.

The **La Grande National**

Member Federal Reserve

Resources Over 2 Million

"Forty-First Year Of Friendly Service"