

LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
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DEATH AND DESTRUCTION—If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered, and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.—John 15:6.

Maybe we just imagine it, but people seem to smile more broadly and more generously during the holidays. And that, in itself, is enough to justify the American variety of "commercialized" Christmas. If the same pleasant tendency could be continued the rest of the year—but, then, we suppose there has to be blue Mondays and grouchy individuals to make us appreciate the change at Christmas time.

Saturday evening at the Sacajawea we may confidently predict a food shortage along about eight o'clock. The Observer carrier gang will be finishing their annual Christmas dinner around that hour—and when we say "finish" we mean nothing else but. This year—due to the absence of a certain red-headed youngster of record-breaking eating ability—we can't say with assurance just what boy will end up the meal with a light dessert of three or four pie a-lamodes. But we are sure one of them will—they've never failed us yet. And for the sake of those who plan to dine wisely and well at the Sacajawea on this coming Saturday we suggest unofficially that they be seated early. From seven o'clock on we fancy the entire kitchen staff will be engaged in filling youthful stomachs. And if you think that doesn't require the effort of a full staff, just try it sometime. Our carriers will furnish the stomachs.

The succession of the president of the senate to the governor's chair will cause a lot of comment and reflection on this rather unique provision of the amended state constitution. Should we have a rule by which any man can become the state's chief executive without being chosen directly by the vote of the people for a high state office? In the present instance, the experience and ability of Governor Norblad may work out to the imminent satisfaction of the people and the state. But the job of being president of the senate might have been held by a dozen other men, some of them competent, most of them not, for the job of governor. A senate president is not, by the very nature of his normal duties, elected as a possible successor to the governor. He is elected for political purposes by his fellow senators with much political maneuvering. Yet the hand of death might, according to our constitution, put any such president of the senate, into the governor's office. And while the proposal to have a lieutenant-governor has been frequently turned down by the people, perhaps the emphasis brought to the subject by the present situation will make for a more favorable consideration. Some change is needed, if the voters are to continue the most direct method of government in Oregon.

BAD NEWS FOR CHINA

On several occasions during the last few years the news from China has been distinctly encouraging to all who hope to see a unified, able, progressive government in that vast country. Right now, however, the sky is pretty dark—darker, in fact, than at any time in the past decade. China seems to be in serious danger of falling to pieces completely, in a political sense. The Nanking government is under attack from three sides. Chiang Kai-shek, so far the ablest leader the Nationalists have found, seems slated to lose his authority. No one is in sight who can replace him. Instead of the unification that was hoped for, and that seemed fairly close for a while, China may actually be ready to split up into three, four or more separate states, with ill-defined boundaries, chaotic political and national relationships and no power whatever to restore to the Chinese people the privileges which white nations have taken away. This is extremely disturbing news. The Nanking government was the strongest force for unification that had appeared in China in more than 10 years of bloody struggle. If it falls the outlook will be dark indeed. Nor are the white nations without responsibility. Competent observers have declared that China can never become a unified nation until the "treaty ports" are given up and extraterritoriality is abolished. It goes without saying, of course, that these things will not be done if China splits up into semi-independent warring factions. Some day China will be a solid nation, a good market for American and European exporters. That day, evidently, is farther off than we had supposed.

Abe Martin



Whisperin' an' gossipin' jest "the times" 'n' rain prosperity just the same as it 'n' rule an' individual. 'Saw, 'sawed, says he would 'n' know a bootlegger if he saw one. Nobbyd would. The way to see a bootlegger is to get some one who's in his confidence to send him to you, an' then you kin hardly believe your own eyes he'll look so sleek an' daudy.

Overnight News Briefs

By Associated Press
HOOD RIVER—Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Emry celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Christmas day.

GRANDHART—The chamber of commerce adopted a resolution asking a survey be made to establish a direct route to Clatsop beaches.

ASTORIA—The Portland American Legion invited Governor A. W. Norblad to sit in the governor's box at a circus being sponsored by the legion here.

EUGENE—Major G. H. Ekerson, aviator, announced he would leave for Medford to operate a flying field there.

McMINNVILLE—Merchandise valued at \$200 was stolen from the Pike store here.

KLAMATH FALLS—M. R. Stanley, 21, Granger, died from a bullet wound suffered when a rifle was discharged accidentally.

'PHONE GIRL SAVES WOMAN FROM SUICIDE

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26 (AP)—A quick witted telephone operator in a leading downtown hotel was credited today with foiling an attempt by a woman to leap from the fourth floor of the hostelry.

For some time Miss Estelle Pengeton, telephone operator, noticed that Mrs. Roy Warren had been despondent. Mrs. Warren, according to the girl, many times has asked if she had received a long distance telephone call from her husband in San Francisco. Each time the telephone operator answered "No."

An employee of the Western Union Telegraph company, directly across the street from the hotel, saw Mrs. Warren perched on the window sill and called Miss Pengeton by telephone. The operator immediately called Mrs. Warren's room and delayed her on the pretext of a long distance call from San Francisco while two male employees of the hotel hastened to the room.

Police said they had been notified a suicide note had been written by Mrs. Warren after she had taken a quantity of narcotics. She was removed to a hospital.

S. P. May Purchase Clackamas Tracks

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP)—The Southern Pacific Railroad company asked the interstate commerce commission to authorize the purchase for \$250,000 of the Clackamas Eastern railroad.

The application said the Southern Pacific planned to make a four mile extension of the road's present line to reach new timber areas.

PORTLAND CASH
PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26 (AP)—Cash wheat: Big Bend bluestem, hard white \$1.58.
Soft white \$1.26.
Western white \$1.26.
Hard winter \$1.24 1/2.
Northern spring \$1.24 1/2.
Western red \$1.24 1/2.
Oats: No. 2-28 lb. white \$25.50.
Today's car receipts: wheat 61, barley 1, flour 13, corn 13, oat 7, hay 6.

CHICAGO CASH
CHICAGO, Dec. 26 (AP)—Wheat: No. 2 hard, \$1.26; No. 1 northern spring \$1.26.
New corn: No. 3 white \$8 1/2; No. 4 mixed, \$8 1/2; old corn, No. 2 yellow \$4 1/2.
Oats: No. 2 white, 49 1/2; No. 4 white, 46.
Rye: No. 1, \$1.05 1/2; No. 2, \$1.02.
Barley: quotable range 60 to 67.
Flour: best, \$3.40 to \$3.25.
Clover seed, \$13.50 to \$13.00.
Lard \$9.75; ribs \$10.50; hollies \$11.00.

The first meeting of Berlin's new city council the other night was marked by a wild riot between opposing members. Looks as if that Berlin mayor, who just finished a tour of the United States, is putting American governmental practices into effect in a hurry.

Sunday School Has Christmas Program, Cove

By Mrs. A. G. Conklin (Observer Correspondent)

COVE (Special)—The Shanghai school with Mrs. Udell Hibbert teacher, presented a splendid program Friday evening at the close of the school for vacation. The following program was given:—song by the school, "Welcome" George Chadwick; recitation, "A Letter to Santa Claus," Alvin Lee Miller; song, "Why Don't we Cloak so Fast?" Betty Presto; Alvin Lee Miller, Bethine Hibbert; recitation, "The Gift to the Family," Virgil Chadwick; drill, "Christmas Stars" nine girls; recitation, "Just Suppose," Edmund Miller; pantomime Christmas song, Maxine Conley; drill, "Christmas Clowns," seven boys; piano solo, George Chadwick; reading, Maxine Conley; reading, Betty Presto; reading, Esther Hartley; piano solo, Maxine Conley; song, "Jingle," Ruth Hartley; short play, "Frolics Christmas," characters, Ham Bubbles, George Chadwick; Dinah, Ruth Hartley; Mrs. Weal, Berta Barker; M. Weal, Frank Brothers; Dr. Keener, Claude Baker; Uncle Amos, Virgil Chadwick; Aunt Patience, Maxine Conley; Pat, Edmund Miller; Mat, Josephine Fisher; Widow Poole, Barbara Pine; Jake Necessary, Lewis Geiss; Flora Flinn, Charlotte Hartley; Sunshine, Alvin Lee Miller; Rainbow, Bethine Hibbert; Betty Presto; and Esther Hartley; "Hurrah for Good Old Santa," chorus by school in closing. After the program, the Christmas tree was emptied of its contents by Santa Claus (Claude Baker) and the gifts passed around by Ham Bubbles and Dinah. There were 75 visitors and the gifts from the tree and the luscious candies went around to everybody.

Cove grade school reports a fine record for attendance and promptness in the last month, 1 and 2 grades, attendance, 97 per cent, number late, 6; 3 and 4 grades, 95.4 per cent and 2; 5 and 6 grades, 96.6 per cent and 7; 7 and 8 grades, 98.5 and 3. The previous month Mrs. Duncan's room (3 and 4) had the best record for promptness. Mrs. Springer's room then challenged them in a contest in promptness for December. The 3 and 4 grades won, having only 2 tardy marks while the 5 and 6 had 7. The number of pupils having perfect attendance for the month is as follows, 1 and 2 grades, 14; 3 and 4, 18; 5 and 6, 15; 7 and 8, 15.

A son was born to Mrs. V. A. Lloyd at the Wonderland hospital in La Grande December 18 instead of the Grande Ronde as previously stated. Mr. Lloyd has returned to earth and is again at his post in the barber shop.

The baby girl born to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Millman, December 14, has been named Patricia. Her sister, Clarine, who was so severely burned is now nearly recovered from her injuries.

Henry Henderson of Britannia Beach, B. C., who has been a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Keith McCoil for the past month has gone to California.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Tripper and daughter of Lewiston, Idaho, are expected to spend the holidays with their mother, Mrs. Alice Tripper.

The Ascension Episcopal Sunday school had their Christmas tree and an interesting program at the church Sunday afternoon. The school sang, "White Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" as an opening number. There were several recitations, Elbert Bristow sang a solo, and six boys, Elbert Bristow, Gale Mills, Conrad Anderson, Lloyd Mills, Darcy McCoil and Logan Anderson sang "We Three Kings of Orient Are." Mrs. Emma Barker told some Christmas stories. In closing the school sang "Silent Night." After the program, the gifts were distributed. All the arrangements were made by Mrs. Royal Conley, superintendent. Mrs. Bessie Lay, organist and Miss Dorothy Barker and Thelma Anderson, teachers.

Reuben Porter of Yakima is a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Millard.

G. G. Stackland and Miss Thelma Anderson were Union visitors Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fisher, who recently purchased the L. N. Conley place, have moved in and are becoming established at Cove.

ONCE UPON A TIME



Prince Carol threw away his right to the Rumanian throne for the love of a titian-haired charmer, Mme. Lupeuc. They now live in Paris. And Carol's eight-year-old son, King Michael, is the reigning monarch of Rumania.



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OFFICE CAT By Junius

A large proportion of those Christmas toys have been wrecked already.

"Hose gift is this," asked a flapper indignantly as she unwrapped a pair of cotton stockings.

It's all over now, but during the thick of the fight, we believe that at times the rush at the post-office reached the point where the clerks should have resorted to the forward pass.

THE NIGHT AFTER CHRISTMAS
'Twas the night after Christmas, and all thro' the flat, Every creature was wide-awake—barring the cat;

The stockings were hung in a heap on the chair, Quite empty of candy. St. Nick had put them there.

The children were all doubled up in their beds, With pains in their tummies and aches in their heads;

Mamma heated water, while I, in my wrapper, Was walking the kid (who is not a kid-napper);

When out in the street there arose a great chatter, And I put down the kid to see what was the matter;

Rushed out in the entry, threw the door open wide, And found an old gentleman standing outside.

I looked at him closely, and realized then 'Twas the doctor I'd sent for that morning at ten.

He was dressed in an ulster, to keep him from chills, And his pockets were bulging with boxes of pills.

He came to the nursery and opened his pack Full of fresh paregoric and strong ipecac;

Rhubarb and soda-minis, fine castor oil, And pink sticking-plaster, rolled up in a coil.

The children all howled in a chorus of pain, And the kid lifted up his contralto again.

He felt all their pulses and looked at their tongues, Took all their temperatures, sounded their lungs.

When he'd dosed all the children and attended the kid, He put back his medicine, down stairs slid.

Jumped into his car and said to the driver (In excellent humor—he'd just made a "five");

"I'm twelve hours behind my appointments, I feel; But I wish it was Christmas each day in the year!"

Spaking of bond hints, a La Grande girl received a cook book as a Christmas present from her most persistent admirer.

Girls need more wisdom now. In the old days they could tell a married man because he didn't shave except on Saturday.

A Scottish farmer, being elected to the school board visited the village school and tested the intelligence of the class by the question: "Now, boys, can any of you tell me what nothing is?"

After a moment's silence a small boy in the back seat roared, "It's what ye g'd me the other day for holdin' yer horse."

The old gentleman was lost in London for so thick that he could scarcely see his hand before his face. He became seriously alarmed when he found himself in a slimy alley. Then he heard footsteps approaching.

"Where am I going?" he asked anxiously. A voice replied wearily from the darkness: "Up the river, I've just come out."

The congregation will now arise and sing: "Oh the clothes that make the women are the clothes that break the men."

Radium Famine
Radium releases about ten million times as much energy per gram in disintegrating as carbon does in burning, but there isn't enough of it nor of any radio-active substance to do more than keep a few corner popcorn men continuously going.—Woman's Home Companion.

Fighter, Not a Writer
An old letter written by Daniel Boone furnishes this specimen of original spelling: "I hope you will write me by the Bearer, Mr. Geo. how you Com on with My Horses—I hear the Indians have Killed Some pepel near Limestone."

Safety Valve
A Chinese physiologist predicts that in 200 years the population of the earth will starve. We are in hopes, though, that 90 per cent of that time will be on strict diets, leaving plenty for the rest of us.

Knighthood Still in Flower
The extreme limit to which some married men will go in courtesy to their spouses was demonstrated this morning when a man driving down North Summit street stopped his car, picked up his wife, who was walking, and took her to work.—Arkansas City Traveler.

Second Names
Second Christian names arose when it was desired to give a child its father's name. That was when first names were limited to that of the saint on whose day, or near it, the child was born.

Southwest Sees Big Year Ahead, Trust Head Says

KANSAS CITY (AP)—W. S. McLucas, chairman of the board of the Commerce Trust company here, the southwest's largest bank, declared 1929 was a good business year in the southwest and said the outlook for 1930 is reasonably encouraging.

"The wheat crop was its third largest and sold at better prices than last year," the banker said. "A substantial portion of the crop is still on farms with further advance in price quite probable. The seeded area for the 1930 crop is probably as great as any in the history of the southwest. Moisture is ample."

"The corn estimated yield is up more than 30,000,000 bushels in the last six weeks, with price quotations ruling a few cents higher than 1928."

"Farmers have delayed shipment of many cattle, awaiting an improvement in prices, which now average about \$1 under a year ago. The composite price of farm products is 2 per cent higher than in November, 1928."

"Building in the territory has receded approximately one-third from last year, although in Kansas City there was a decided gain over 1928."

"The oil industry is maintaining a healthier relation between production and consumption. Recent months have shown constructive progress in that effort, as shown by statements of the oil companies for the first nine months."

"Our labor situation for the year has been satisfactory to employers and employees alike and while a seasonal let-down may develop, there seems to be a good outlook for 1930."

"Business interests in the southwest apparently believe in a policy of 'business as usual.' On the whole, our outlook is reasonably encouraging."

Edison says he can make rubber out of goldenrod, which is going to make things tough for the hay-fever victim who tries to change a tire.

DID YOU KNOW THAT—
Elsie Schreiber, greatest woman basketball player, is coaching the Brownies of the Illinois Women's A.C. . . . She enforces the no-talking rule during practice and won't permit players to yell "here" when they want a pass . . . Miss Schreiber averaged 39 points a game in 35 games a season over a seven-year period. . . . She was captain of every team she played on. . . . And they always won a championship. . . . Howard Ebnike sells protective covers for baseball and football fields as a sideline to his pitching. . . . Howard showed up at the Chattanooga baseball meeting and made a bee line for Joe McCarthy. . . . Not to rub it in but to sell the Cubs a cover for their infield. . . . Dan Howley, who bears scars from more than one diamond argument, swears his fighting days are over. . . . "It doesn't pay," declares Howley. . . . Dan's last fight was in Reading four years ago with four cops following an argument with the umpire. . . . A small scar near his left eye reminds Dan that he came out second best.

FIND IT HERE
Copy for this column must be in by 9 a. m.

FRESH POPCORN BALLS
Orders taken at Angel's place, opposite Bohnenkamp's, 11-27-1n

NEW YORK LIFE INS. CO.
Julian E. Peters, gen. agent, 1302 8th st., Phone 885-J. 11-30-1mp

NOW IS THE TIME
To fill in your Easter pattern of glassware with the money which you received at Christmas. You will enjoy adding the Sherbets, Goblets, Cocktails, Plates or one of the odd pieces to the things which you already have in your pattern. It becomes easy to know what to do with Christmas money when you think of Pasteria Glass. See the window display at Richardson's Art and Gift Shop this week.

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS' ANNUAL MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the La Grande National Bank will be held at their banking house, in La Grande, Oregon, on Tuesday, January 14th, 1930, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m. At this meeting a Board of Directors will be elected to serve for the ensuing year and such other business will be transacted as may properly come before the said meeting.

H. E. COOLIDGE, Cashier. 12-11-29t

PICTURES OF FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES
Now is the time to have your Christmas pictures framed before they become soiled. You will find a complete selection of Swing, Stand and Wall Frames in all styles, colors and prices at Richardson's Art and Gift Shop. They also give special attention to the tinting of photographs, and you will enjoy having your picture hand tinted at Richardson's Art and Gift Shop. 12-26-31.

Hemstitching, pleating, button holes, etc. Norton's Kiddie Shop.—Adv.

NOTICE
Does your radiator leak? Expert radiator repairing, new and used radiators repaired and recored for all makes of cars. Marshall, the Radiator Man, at Red's & Fred's Wrecking House. 11-30-1mp

Falk's LaGrande Store..

Successors to N. K. WEST & Co.

Union Council Of Masons Name 1930 Officials

By Mrs. L. Z. Terall (Observer Correspondent)

UNION (Special)—Union Council No. 5, a branch of the Masonic order, held annual election and installation of officers Saturday evening. The members had dinner at the Union hotel at 6:30, and enjoyed a social hour together. Officers are: L. M. Robert Eakin; D. I. M. J. R. Jones; E. C. W. D. C. W. Erwin; treasurer, L. A. Wright; recorder, M. S. Levy; C. M. A. Davis; C. G. Walter Cook and stewards, Alex Slater and Wm. Dobbin. Members who came over from La Grande to attend the meeting were Cash Humphreys, Carl Helm, Robert Eakin, Lewis Hoyt and L. H. Russell.

Mrs. E. P. Goertsen returned home from Nampa Thursday where she had been called by the serious illness of her father, John Stevens. She reports him slightly improved.

Miss Leona Rosewall is expected home today to spend the holidays with her mother, Mrs. Effie Rosewall. She teaches in the Weathatche grades.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Anderson of Payette, who have been visiting for the past month in Las Angeles, stopped over night with Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Ross Sunday. They journeyed on to their home on Monday.

Mrs. M. C. Tyler and family of Ontario and Mrs. Thelma Anderson of Payette came up today to spend Christmas with their parents Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Ross.

An interesting program was given at the Woman's club on Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Frank Hall in charge. The Rev. R. C. Lee gave the principal talk taking as his subject "The Christmas Spirit." His remarks were very much in keeping with the holiday feeling of "peace on earth, good will toward men" and put the audience in the mood to thoroughly enjoy the treat which followed. As the roll was called old fashioned sleigh bells were rung, and the members were served small baskets of dainty refreshments from the Christmas tree. Mrs. Merton Davis, accompanied by Mrs. Tex Knight, sang the "Holy City," and Mrs. Mabel Gale gave the current events for the program. The hostesses were: Mesdames Viola Parker, Louisa Burwell, Lillian Fisher and Selber.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cook were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Kerr at the Union hotel Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hall received news of a new grandson born Wednesday evening in Portland to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hall.

Mrs. E. F. Jernstedt, Junior and Annabelle of Carlton, Ore., arrived in Union Saturday and will spend the holidays with her mother, Mrs. Belle Busch.

Barnard Bennett left Saturday to spend the holidays with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Edward Bennett at Monroe, Ore.

Gracie Haggerty arrived home Friday noon from Eugene and will spend the holidays with her parents.

Sydney Dobbin came in from Eugene Friday evening to spend his vacation at home.

Miss Elida Miller who has been attending the University of Washington arrived home Saturday evening and Miss Bethene will arrive Tuesday.

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"Show's Over, Boys--- Let's go back to work"



And there is lots to do—for example, lots of men who expected shirts for gifts received mufflers—and some young men who anticipated new Tuxedos participated in disappointments. Suits and O'Coats to be purchased before the New Year— Furnishings that Santa and his crew slipped up on are needed for immediate delivery. Between now and January 1st will be busy times at Trotters but Trotters are used to being busy.

Suits from \$18.85 to \$33.85
O'Coats from \$18.85 to \$33.85

Trotter's QUALITY CLOTHES SHOP
THE STORE FOR EVERY MAN