

# LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)  
An Independent Newspaper

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Published evenings, except Sunday, at 1710 Sixth street La Grande, Oregon. The Observer-Star published every Friday. Entered at the Postoffice of 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

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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	60c
Daily, per six months in advance	\$3.50
Daily, per year in advance	\$6.00
Weekly, Observer-Star, per year	\$2.00

ADVERTISING RATES	
Display, foreign, per column inch	42c
Display, local, per column inch	45c
Time contract prices on application.	



For our light affliction, which is but for a moment worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen but at the things which are not seen for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.—2 Cor. 4:17, 18.

### ROAD CONFERENCES

History may designate this as the age in which world conferences began to affect world welfare. There are few interests which the nations of the world do not have in common and for the discussion and study of which they cannot meet in world congress. Problems once considered local or national are now viewed from the international standpoint.

A call has been issued for an important conference of the Permanent International Association of Road Congresses, and sixty countries are arranging to send delegates to Washington in October to attend the sessions which have been arranged.

The factor that has enlarged the question of good roads to international scope is the automobile. The world has watched its phenomenal progress in America and its influence upon advancement in this country, also its bearing upon prosperity and enlightenment and happiness, and is now reaching out for a share in its benefits. So it is that in the remotest regions we now find road building occupying a prominent place in the activities of the nations.

International road building makes for international acquaintance and understanding, if we are to judge from the nations that will be represented at the congress. It would be expected that the United States, England, France, Germany and Italy and some others would be interested in this subject, but the situation takes on new meaning when we find that such countries as Algeria, Costa Rica, Indo-China, New Caledonia, the Sudan, Nigeria, Siam and Tunisia are planning to send representatives half-way around the world to talk and learn about roads.

### WHO OWNS THE AIR?

Centuries ago man, through his courts, lawmakers and armies, undertook to decide for all time who owns the land. With that task unfinished, he must now decide the ownership of the air above.

In Chicago recently the Daily News erected a towering skyscraper over the railroad tracks adjoining the Chicago river; the courts having ruled that the ownership of the land by the railroad companies did not carry with it ownership of the air above.

A group of legal experts has been in session for the purpose of deciding who owns the air, or whether it belongs to anyone. This group is composed of men interested in aviation, radio broadcasting and real estate.

They may decide, as the courts are now doing, that property rights no longer extend to the end of space above; that a man controls all beneath his land, even to the center of the earth, but the air above is public property just as the highways and waterways are.

A man may post his land against hunters, but may he post it against trespassing ether waves and airplanes? If he may not do either of these things, then whose air is it?

These are questions that must be answered in the spirit of the twentieth century rather than in accordance with the laws and customs of the eighteenth. And they will be decided in favor of the public on the theory that the rights of the individual end where the rights of society begin.

There will be free use of the air as long as the users do nothing to injure all of the landowners below. Community life must necessarily be a give and take proposition, with the individual reaping benefits in proportion to the sacrifices which all make.

### AUGUST

The days are now approaching when we will realize the approach of fall. The sun is perceptibly on its way south. Earlier it takes its candles through the woods and goes to bed. Evening may bring a suggestion of chill and thought of a log fire. The fall flowers are in bloom. The silk of the sweet corn is brown. Thickets are growing yellow. The old wheel is on another turn.

Most men are at least fairly sensible in the selection of their wives' clothing. They let their wives do the selecting.

### In Washington

By Herbert Plummer

WASHINGTON—In the museum of the postoffice department in Washington there was deposited the other day an ancient volume which officials will guard closely.

It is a confidential diary—the daily record of one Hugh Finlay, survivor of the posts in the year 1773 and successor to Benjamin Franklin as one of the deputy postmaster generals of the colonies. Finlay's diary, just recently discovered and given to the postoffice department, is regarded valuable because of the graphic picture it gives of early postal service in America. Finlay, in 1773, made a journey

from Quebec to Savannah, Ga., visiting all the principal postoffices of the day. His object was to blaze a post route through the wilds of Maine to Boston. That there is no road worthy of the name along the route even to this day is regarded by postoffice officials as a tribute to his pioneer spirit.

Postal Picture  
This yellowed volume of Finlay's presents a true picture of the postal service in America on the eve of the revolution. The seeds of revolt were sprouting everywhere. Anything that represented the English government the colonies were ready to resist. Finlay, observing this tendency, made the following entry in his diary:

"They are, they say, to be governed by laws of their own framing and no other."  
Edward Norice, postmaster at Salem, Finlay confided to his diary: "I expect that every other day the stage coach goes for Boston, the drivers take many letters, so that but few are forwarded by post to or from this office. If an information were lodged (but an informer would get tarred and feathered) no jury would find the fact; it is deemed necessary to hinder all acts of parliament from taking effect in America."  
These conditions distressed Finlay, but as he observed:

"It is next to impossible to stop this practice. . . . Were any deputy postmaster to do his duty, and make a stir in such matter, he would draw on himself the odium of his neighbors and be marked as the friend of slavery and oppression and declared enemy to America."  
Shocked  
The diary is filled with references like these. There is one entry, for example, where it is stated that Finlay, the scrupulous postal "surveyor" for His Majesty, was shocked. He writes:

"Many people asked me if I had not met the post driving some oxen along with him."  
But the postoffice department of today sees in the postal service of Finlay's time much similarity of spirit.

"It gives an inward glow of pleasure," said one official, "to find this postal ancestor use our familiar phrase for the good of the service, and to declare: 'The public good is the sole inducement for taking so much trouble as we do.'"  
"To that sentiment the American postal service subscribes down to this day."

### The News Used To Be:

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO  
(From Observer, Wed., Aug. 30, 1905)  
The Eastern Oregon Development Co. yesterday filed a mortgage to the American Loan and Trust Co. of Boston, Mass., given by the Central Railroad of Oregon. This mortgage is to secure the issue of bonds to the amount of \$2,500,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Mackey arrived this morning from Albany and will make this city their home. Mr. Mackey has purchased the Farmers feed yard.  
TEN YEARS AGO  
(From Observer, Tues., Aug. 31, 1920)  
The teaching corps for the La Grande public schools is now completed, and everything is in readiness for opening of the schools Sept. 13. Supk. A. C. Hampton announced.

The state will immediately begin grading and actual construction of the highway between Kamela and Hilgard, which project covers a distance of approximately 12 miles. Union county's population is 15th in size in the state and La Grande, the county seat, is the seventh largest city in Oregon, according to a report of the census bureau.  
Irving S. Cobb passed through La Grande this morning, en route to Bent.

ONE YEAR AGO  
(From Observer, Fri. Aug. 30th, 1929)  
Anne Stange, La Grande, and Worth Oswald, Spokane, became Eastern Washington champions when they defeated Lois Nelson, La Grande, and Jack Ahern, Walla Walla, today at the play-off.  
Nine students, the first to graduate from the Eastern Oregon Normal school, were given their diplomas by President H. E. Inlow at the closing exercises this morning.  
Filling a long felt need in this city, a new organization came into existence yesterday when a La Grande Presbytery club was formed with a charter membership of eight.

Mrs. Eliza Stephenson, 95 has lived in the same home at Kinder, Mo., since 1864.

## Witness Tells Of Convention Of Bootleggers

SEATTLE, Aug. 29 (AP)—Echoes of the plan of Roy Olmsted, former northwest rum king, to involve numerous prominent Seattle business men in a liquor conspiracy ring, were heard in federal court here yesterday from two government witnesses in the Lyle-Whitney conspiracy and bribery trial.

Roy C. Lyle, former dry administrator, William M. Whitney, his assistant, Earl Corwin and R. L. Fryant, former agents, and Clifford T. McKinney, former assistant U. S. Attorney, are charged with conspiring with rum runners and accepting protection money.

Bootleggers Convened  
Pete Dahl and George Kearns, two of Olmsted's former employees, described a bootleggers' convention, which was held in an apartment house here in 1925, in which the former rum king made his proposal to photograph all checks received in payment for liquor from prominent Seattle businessmen. The conspiracy so large it would be thrown out of court if the ring was ever arrested.

Kearns, who like Dahl, spent a year and a day at McNeil Island after being arrested in the Woodmont Beach raid in which Olmsted was captured with a load of liquor, said he was the "bookkeeper" for the rum runners. He said other rum runners delegates to the convention refused to go through with Olmsted's plan, believing the "presence of a federal agent in the ring" was sufficient protection. Kearns refers to Alfred M. Hubbard, who attended the meeting.

The "bookkeeper" told of moving liquor from a cache at the Union Stable here to the "house of David," another cache maintained by the Olmsted group, because "we knew a raid was coming."

After testifying he had talked to Hubbard about federal protection, U. S. Attorney Anthony Savage asked Kearns:

"Did you ever deliver any money to Hubbard?"  
Kearns answered in the affirmative, saying Hubbard would give him receipts for it which would be credited to the bookkeeper at the end of the month. He said he kept records of all money spent, including protection money.

"Did you ever deposit any money for Hubbard?"  
"Yes, at the National Bank of Commerce."  
"Under what name was that money deposited?"  
"Robert Dunbar."

"Did you ever give any other money to a government official?"  
"Yes, Hubbard."  
"What for?"  
"To take care of the coast guard."  
"How much?"  
"Once \$500 and again \$500."  
Savage questioned Kearns no more on the subject.

Several times Judge Frank H. Norcross ordered the witness to raise his voice which about federal protection, U. S. Attorney Anthony Savage asked Kearns:

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## Labor Day Card Is Headlined By Heavyweights

With no boxing in La Grande for several months and with an excellent card lined up for the Labor day bout, Les Gibbs, of Pendleton, is anticipating a large crowd of fans at the ring side at the athletic field at 7:30 p. m. Monday.

The two men who head the bill, Tony Tolerico, of Seattle, and Jess Holloway, of Portland, are heavyweights and are ranked among the best in the Northwest. Both weigh in the neighborhood of 190 pounds, both have a reputation of mixing it up, and the promoter believes the two are well matched.

The semi-final will find Young Tiger Flowers, of San Francisco, meeting Johnny Ryan, of Butte, Mont. These leatherpushers weigh about 165. Young Tiger has been fighting in the Northwest in recent weeks, getting a draw the other night with a tough opponent and a few weeks ago he fought a draw with Ryan in Walla Walla.

Before the main event, two preliminaries are on the card, both of four rounds. Ted Becktel, of Portland, meets Yung Delaney, of Walla Walla, in one, and Swede Nelson, of Walla Walla, and Danny O'Terre, of Pendleton, clash in the other.

## Kills Ex-Employer And Then Suicides

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 29 (AP)—Crazed by the loss of his job after 23 years of service, John Donlin, former street car conductor, shot and killed the superintendent in recent days and then killed himself here late yesterday.

His victim, Bryan F. Gunn, was a brother of Alfred S. Gunn, general manager of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding corporation.

Donlin, discharged ten days ago for drunkenness, strode into Gunn's office, ignoring the greetings of his former co-workers on the way. Refused employment he whipped out an old fashioned pistol and emptied its chambers at the superintendent.

## AWAITING BIRTH OF CHILD

BRUSSELS, Aug. 29 (AP)—All was in readiness at Stuyvenberg castle today where the birth of a child to Princess Astrid is awaited. Arrangements have been made to notify the Brussels population by the firing of 51 guns in case the new arrival is a girl and 100 if a boy.

Dozens of fish are used in laboratory tests at Wisconsin university to determine the toxic effects of various kinds of water pollution.

## Notice!

Beginning Sept. 1  
ALL  
DRUG STORES  
will close  
9 p. m. week days  
and Sundays  
10 p. m. Saturdays

Also will close  
Monday Afternoon  
Labor Day

L. & L. Drug Co.  
Moon Drug Co.  
Red Cross Drug Co.  
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Glass Drugs, Inc.

## WATCH!

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Coming Soon!  
The World's Finest!  
Complete line of new 1931  
Radios in  
VICTOR  
RADIOLA  
and  
GENERAL ELECTRIC  
Adler's  
Music Store

## McBride Admits Giving Bribes To W. Whitney

SEATTLE, Aug. 29 (AP)—Bribes of \$1000 and \$720 were paid directly to William M. Whitney, then assistant prohibition administrator, in May, 1923, Jack McBride, member of the Grays Harbor rum running ring, testified in the Lyle-Whitney conspiracy trial here Thursday.

McBride said he was eating in a restaurant in Aberdeen when a waitress told him a man in another booth wanted to see him. The man, he said, was Whitney.

Whitney asked him, he testified, if he was making any money and he took him up to his hotel room and offered him \$1000. Whitney protesting that it was not enough, he said, and he went out and collected \$2000 among his bootlegging associates.

He gave Whitney only \$1000 of this money, however, and later when he met Whitney again he gave him \$720 out of another fund of \$1448 collected from bootleggers. He held out the balance for himself, he said.

His dealings with Whitney were terminated at that time, he said, because Whitney said the money was insufficient to make it worth while.

Following the startling and unheralded testimony of McBride, U. S. Attorney Anthony Savage gave the witness to attorneys for Whitney, Roy C. Lyle, former administrator, Earl Corwin, former chief field agent, and R. L. Fryant, a former agent. C. T. McKinney, former assistant U. S. attorney and a defendant, sat aside and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the court battle.

Defense attorney Charles P. Moriarty jumped immediately into questioning McBride about his asserted payment of bribe money to Whitney.

"What date was your meeting with Whitney in Aberdeen?"  
"In the early part of May, 1923."  
"Did you go to Whitney after the waitress spoke to you?"  
"Not immediately. I stopped at his table and spoke to him and then he came to my room."  
"Isn't it a fact, Mr. McBride, that you never saw Whitney before today?"  
"No, no, I've seen him several times."  
"You were protecting the Curtis-Lane Grays Harbor ring then, were you not?"  
"Yes."  
"You had no official capacity?"  
"No."  
Moriarty then questioned the witness about his occupation and brought out that McBride had been extorting money from Chris Curtis and Roland B. Lane, chiefs of the harbor moonshiners. The witness testified that he watched the movements of the prohibition officers closely and warned the moonshiners whenever he thought their skills were about to be raided.

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## FALK'S LA GRANDE STORE

Successors to N.K. WEST & CO.

## Now Our Annual Coat Event

August 30  
to  
September 6

All \$65—\$69.50  
COATS

Will Be  
\$58

Coats for Every Occasion

See Our Windows



## COATS

Of Distinction From "Rothmoor," "Landesman" "Miller's Wee Women," etc.

The outstanding success of our last years \$58 coat event prompts us again to offer an even greater collection than last year. See these coats for they represent the fall mode to the last degree—and ask about our small deposit and lay-away-plan!

## FURS ARE USED LAVISHLY ON COATS FOR FALL

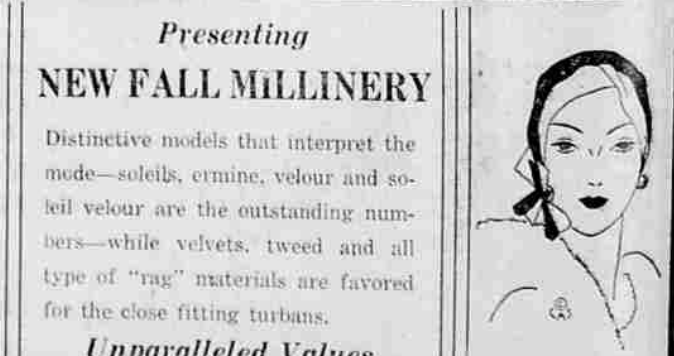
Attractive furs of Fox, Muskrat, Caracul, Beaver, etc., lend themselves becomingly to the Autumn mode. Used on cuffs, pockets, collars and hems in a new manner you'll like.

## RICH FABRICS ENHANCE THESE ALREADY BEAUTIFUL COATS

The lovely pile fabrics, lustrous, suede-like finishes—Trioque, Thermo Trioct Broadcloth—the rough weaves of imported scotch tweeds and camels hair all tend to make this a most interesting coat year.

## Presenting NEW FALL MILLINERY

Distinctive models that interpret the mode—soleils, ermine, velour and so-velour are the outstanding numbers—while velvets, tweed and all type of "rag" materials are favored for the close fitting turbans.  
Unparalleled Values



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They Are Great!

## The NOOK

Opening Saturday

Complete Fountain Service

Candy—Cigars—Cigarettes

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