

LaGrande Evening Observer

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Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

THE CUBAN SITUATION

Unable to lose that feeling of the benevolent foster mother toward Cuba, the United States worries more over that country's economic and political troubles than those of any other foreign country.

There was widespread regret here when the island government suspended constitutional guarantees and suppressed newspapers and free speech, but confidence has been partially restored since the newspapers resumed publication and political prisoners have been released.

Cuba's trouble is no different from that of other countries today. Sugar is back of the island's economic problem. Over-production has forced the price below the cost of production and has upset both the planters and laborers.

But the Cubans are not waiting for something or somebody to come to their rescue. Realizing that their troubles are due to dependence upon a single crop and a single product, they are turning to diversification of industry, and they are now exporting shoes, paints, dry goods and other articles.

And the American tourist, who has come to the rescue of numerous countries in want, is doing his bit. More than 100,000 tourists from the United States visit Cuba every year, and assist considerably in filling the purses of many of the people.

CRIMINAL CARELESSNESS

The picture of traffic accidents and deaths in 1930 is made increasingly clear by an analysis of the toll in comparison with motor mileage and gasoline consumption during the past twelve months.

Last year 32,500 were killed and 960,000 injured—which was an increase over the preceding year, though there was a considerable decrease in automobile mileage and gasoline consumption.

Ninety per cent of all accidents involved cars and trucks which were in good mechanical condition. Roads were dry and the weather clear in 80 per cent of the cases.

In accidents not involving pedestrians the driver was responsible nine times for every one in which he was not directly at fault. Where pedestrians were involved, they were responsible three times to the driver's one.

Excessive speed was given as the cause for 25 per cent of all accidents, and reckless driving is blamed for another 17 per cent. Human carelessness and recklessness were major factors.

A serious angle to the situation is that 90 per cent of those killed were victims of drivers of more than one year's experience, and that 97 per cent of all drivers involved were more than 18 years old.

The public hesitates to draw the conclusion that individual Americans are unwilling or unable to comprehend their personal responsibility in this matter, but what other conclusion is possible?

If the foreigners in this country who are communists and favor forms of violent action against the United States government would do the thing most logical and most in keeping with the theories and opinions which they propound, they would start on a race for the seaboard and take the first steamer out of the United States.

From another State comes the story of a boy who went to school with a "bottle"—not a milk bottle. The principal of the school, who knew his business, said nothing to the boy, but what he said to that boy's father and to fathers of certain other boys in that school was precisely what they needed to hear.

How much easier our work would be if we put forth as much effort trying to improve the quality of it as most of us do trying to find excuses for not properly attending to it.

THE CRIME IN THE DUTCH GARDEN

Chapter 14 A CYCIN'S WILL

The police superintendent's promised surprise did not develop when Major Gresham was called as the first witness after the noon recess.

Leonard Duckworth, the next witness, testified that he had been with Evelyn in the sitting room from the time of his arrival until news of the tragedy came.

After Duckworth had formally sworn his innocence of the crime, the servants were questioned. Ben Acres said he had seen no one enter or leave the house or grounds.

The maid, Janet Raynes and Hetty Smith, related their longings, the former causing some amusement by her admission of listening to the singing.

Mrs. Frater provoked laughter when she told of leaving her bed directly the doctor departed, but denied the coroner's assertion that she had disobeyed her mistress.

"No, sir," the mistress said stop in bed till the doctor sees you, and I did."

The next witness was the butcher's assistant, Alfred Collett. He showed on the plan the spot in the lane where he and Daphne Frater met.

"Did any one pass you in the lane while you were there?"

"No, sir—leastways, not on foot. There was a motor car."

"The car, he told the coroner, was going toward the golf links. It wasn't a big one, but he couldn't see who was driving, as the lights 'loom on sudden.'"

More questions were asked, but he could not add to his replies. It seemed probable that he had seen the car noted afterwards as empty by the chauffeur.

Every one at Merrow Craig at the time of the tragedy had been called. Strirling, who had heard the testimony, had not been questioned, but if he had not been on the premises at the time it was useless to call him.

But this was not all. Mr. Charles Morgan was called, a well built man took the stand. A lawyer, he practiced in Bradford, but had been away and had just got in touch with the police.

"There were many charitable bequests, some gifts to servants and one substantial legacy," he said. "Subject to these, and they represent about one-third of the estate, everything was left in trust to be divided equally between her two nieces for their lives."

"They were to adopt the name of Querdling. If either of the nieces married she would immediately forfeit all interest under the will."

"Every eye turned to the two girls whose fates and fortunes were thus made so prominent."

"Marriage would have operated the same as death. The money would have passed to the selected charities. I told Miss Querdling that such a clause would not be legally effective."

"She told me to carry out her instructions, and I agreed under protest. Meanwhile I had obtained counsel's opinion which upheld mine. I told her again such a will would lead to litigation, left it with her, but begged her to reconsider."

"Can you say whether she executed the will?" the coroner inquired.

"No, I heard nothing more."

"The coroner's next question was listened to intently."

"If that will was not executed, would a previous will be effective or would there be an intestacy?"

"There was no previous will; so there would be an intestacy and the estate would be divided equally among the next of kin—in this case, I believe, a nephew and two nieces, and would pass absolutely, not merely with life interests."

Again the eyes of the curious glanced at the two sisters. They might well hope that that strange will had never been completed!

"Have any steps been taken to see what Miss Querdling did with the will?" asked the coroner.

"I went to Merrow Craig this morning," answered Morgan. "The police were with me. We searched through Miss Querdling's papers, but we could not find it. I saw her place it in a certain drawer in her desk."

"You think she may have destroyed it?"

"It would seem so, but it contained a list of bequests, carefully planned, and I should not have expected her to destroy that."

"You are suggesting that the will is lost—or has been removed?"

"I am only suggesting," said the solicitor, "a more complete search."

Bills

INTRODUCED IN HOUSE HB 305—By Johnson. Means committee. Appropriating \$108,824 for payment of salaries and expenses of state library and supreme court libraries.

HB 302—By joint ways and means committee. Appropriation \$244,152 for payment of salaries and expenses of department of state sealers of weights and measures.

HB 303—By joint ways and means committee. Appropriating \$50,074 for payment of expenses incident to state board of health and public health nursing and child hygiene under direction and control of state board of health.

HB 304—By joint ways and means committee. Creating revolving fund of \$5000 for secretary of state to be used in conducting examinations and audits of all state departments and institutions.

HB 305—By joint ways and means committee. Providing for per diem and mileage of senators and representatives and general expenses of the legislative assembly.

HB 306—By Hamilton, Delap, Day, Underhill, Thornburgh, Byrnes and Bronaugh. Relating to hydro-electric commission in connection with developments on Klamath river.

HB 307—By Peters. Providing for attorneys' fees in actions arising from negligence on public highways.

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HB 331—By Peters. Providing for attorneys' fees in actions arising from negligence on public highways.

Reputation Hung on a Hair

A phrenologist claims to define the character from a single hair. Many a wife has done this from such a clue found on her husband's lapel.—London Opinion.

Threading Curtains

To run a rod through newly washed curtains, put a thimble over the end of the rod and you can make good time and not tear the curtains.

Greatest Fault

Of all acts is not, for a man, repentance the most divine? The greatest of faults is to be conscious of none.—Carlyle.

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Portland in 1866. The stages operated as far as La Grande and Uniontown, at which latter place another stage line connected, and operated as far as Boise City, Placerville and Idaho City, and there again connected with stages for Halladay's overland line.

Recalls Indian War. "The last Indian disturbance in the Eastern Oregon section, which broke out in 1877 when a group of Bannocks, recruiting among renegades of Eastern Oregon and Western Oregon, country, which was disturbed and settlers fled with their families to settlements for safety, abandoning their flocks and herds, and their troops pursued them and succeeded in... not fully recover for several seasons."

La Grande's progress since 1861 and 1862 has been remarkable. Little did Ben Brown realize that April in which he plowed the first sod that he was opening the way for the improvement of 420,000 acres of the richest farmland in the Northwest. Nor did he realize, when he built that house 70 years ago, that he was laying the foundation for a city of nearly 10,000 persons. A city that has furnished governors, senators and others to add to the nation's list of dignitaries.

Statistics of 1885. La Grande, according to reliable sources, was in a county that boasted a total population of only 9,588, and 500 of this citizenry was Chinese! In 1885, there were 70,238 sheep, 21,857 hogs, 21,938 horses, 296 mules and 42,287 head of cattle. Land under cultivation amounted to 93,328 acres. Wheat was harvested in the amount of 948,245 bushels. The city contained 58,078 tons of hay, 114,170 bushels of potatoes, 11,187 boxes of apples, 3,266 boxes of plums and prunes, and lumber cut 4,196 cords of feet of lumber.

The first wedding in La Grande was on Jan. 8, 1862 and it was performed in Old Town when W. Marks and Frances Caroline Leary were united by S. M. Black, justice of peace. In the spring and summer of 1862 Fred Nodine Sr., whose son now lives in La Grande, planted the first trees near Union, consisting of apples and peaches. The whole valley was then a mass of rye and bunch grass, as high as a man's head, with great willows growing along the rivers and streams.

In 1863 the Grande Ronde valley was surveyed and a year later it was taken into the list of counties. About that time where La Grande now stands, the following settlers were located: Charles Goodnoooh, Probstel Brothers, Mr. Nessly, R. J. Rogers, J. H. Caviness and others and a few homes had been erected in Old Town by these men.

The First Newspapers. On April 18, 1868, two newspapers came into being—the Blue Mountain Times and the Mountain Sentinel. At that time La Grande had a population of 600 persons, industries were starting and the valley was being fenced into separate farms. Summerville and Old Dell were thriving, prosperous villages.

Reference was made above to 500 Chinese who lived in the valley. The riding of this county of the Orientals in the spring and summer of 1862 was a mass of rye and bunch grass, as high as a man's head, with great willows growing along the rivers and streams.

Another thing of significance to this county—opening the way to a new era—came in 1884 when the railroad reached and passed through La Grande. The first train pulled into the city over newly laid tracks on July 4, 1884. The honor of this celebration were engraved until death of those who participated. The track laying crew, incidentally, was required to work part of the night of July 3 to get the line through for the celebration. Oscar Wheeler Moon was the engineer on the eight-wheel-er with a diamond smokstack that

USUAL METHOD OF ROASTING COFFEE MAKES FLAVOR VARY

But Controlled Roasting, Patented by Hills Bros., Prevents Variation

The elusive flavor of coffee is completely captured by a roasting process invented and used exclusively by Hills Bros.

This process roasts a few pounds at a time instead of in bulk. A constant stream of expertly blended coffees is introduced into the roaster in automatically measured lots, and passes through in a steady flow, roasting a little at a time. The speed of operation and temperature remain the same with the result that Hills Bros. Coffee is always uniform.

The common bulk method of roasting cannot develop the uniform flavor that Hills Bros. patented, continuous process develops. For this reason, no other coffee has the same wonderful flavor of Hills Bros. Coffee.

Grocers everywhere sell Hills Bros. Coffee in the vacuum can which keeps it fresh all ways. Air, which destroys the flavor of coffee, is taken from this can and kept out. Coffee packed in ordinary cans, even if air-tight, does not stay fresh. Ask for Hills Bros. Coffee by name and look for the Arab—the trade-mark—on the can.

Hills Bros. Coffee, Inc., Portland, Oregon.

A Marriage License

needn't worry you if it is for the other fellow.

Both After And Before Marriage

every man should save his money by buying Gas and Oil from us and at the same time let either the wife or the sweetie know real motor joy.

Perkins Firestone One-Stop Service

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Over Night News

(By The Associated Press) Domestic—Morrison claims he can block wet resolution at Democratic national committee meeting March 5. Hull expresses opposition to consideration of high tariff until convention meets.

To Contest Election Of Senator Schall

ST. PAUL, Feb. 23 (AP)—Decision to contest the election of Senator Thomas D. Schall, Republican, last November, in an attempt to prevent his being sworn in on March 4, was announced here Saturday by J. J. Parrell, chairman of the Democratic state executive committee.

Parrell said counsel would be engaged and would proceed to Washington immediately to file charges against Senator Schall before the senate elections committee. Counsel will ask that the senator's seat be declared vacant and a new election called.

Charges to be brought against Senator Schall, it was announced, will be that he violated the corrupt practices act of Minnesota and that he violated federal laws by misusing his postal franking privileges.

Meaning of "Shibboleth" A "shibboleth" is a test word. The word is Hebrew, meaning an ear of corn or a stream.

Not in Homeland The largest Spanish-speaking city in the world is not in Spain, but in South America—Buenos Aires.

Senate Passes Bill For Franchise Tax

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 23 (AP)—The senate Saturday passed the Bennett measure authorizing cities to levy a franchise tax of five per cent on gross earnings of utilities operating without franchises. The vote was 23 to 3. Those casting negative votes were Bailey, Johnson and Spaulding.

The Bennett bill applies to the city of Portland where the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company has been operating without a franchise. When the last franchise expired, the company refused to accept a new one proffered by the city, on the grounds its terms were unreasonable.

Salmon Driven From River One of the most valuable of freshwater fish is the salmon, which breeds in rivers and makes most of its famously rapid growth in the sea. Less than a century ago the Thames produced tons upon tons of salmon annually, but pollution from London has made it impossible for fish to ascend for breeding purposes. No salmon has been caught in the river for more than fifty years.

INTRODUCED IN SENATE SB 302—By Eddy. Relating to width of county roads.

SB 304—By Billingsley and Miller. Creating the Vale bird refuge in Malheur county.

SB 305—By revision of laws com-

mittee. Relative to appointment of guardians for incompetent and insane persons.