

LaGrande Evening Observer

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If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.—John 15: 7.

OREGON PRODUCTS WEEK

This week throughout our state is being observed as Oregon products week, and citizens are being urged to use more Oregon products. In La Grande the Neighborhood club and the Chamber of Commerce are working hard to educate the public in this respect, and other organizations and the merchants are co-operating in the campaign.

Sponsors of the movement explain that if the consumers of our state would insist upon getting products made in Oregon, in preference to those of other states, unemployment within our borders could be reduced to a negligible minimum and we would all benefit materially as a result.

Local boosters of the movement are especially emphasizing the products of the Grande Ronde Valley, and it may surprise many of our citizens to be told that potato chips, dried apples, vinegar, butter, cheese, bread, pastries, beverages, flour, harness, leather goods, lumber, candy, meat, lard, cured meats, furniture polish, cigars, concrete pipe and tile, photographs and art work, mattresses and upholstery, tombstones and monuments, grains, apples, livestock, berries, small fruits, poultry, vegetables, clover and alfalfa seed, and garden tools — all are produced right here in Union county.

Many of the necessities of life may be obtained without going out of our county, and for only a very few is it necessary to go outside of the state. Yet many products of eastern manufacturers are crowding Oregon products off the shelves, even though identically the same in quality and price. Why?

Very few products will sell in large quantities until their advantages have been proclaimed by a consistent advertising campaign which builds up prestige, public confidence, and familiarity with the name. Many Oregon products are not well advertised, and merchants find it almost impossible to sell goods whose trade marks are not familiar to consumers. Tell the people about a product, and keep telling them! Then, if its quality and price are right, the people will soon learn to demand that product every time.

OREGON TAXES LOW

The latest issue of the Oregon Voter carries an article with some very interesting figures which show that only one of the nineteen industrial states of our nation has lower taxes than Oregon, the figures being based on the relation of total taxes to state wealth.

This may be a surprise to many Oregonians who have always believed our state taxes high because of our relatively small population and per capita wealth. But the Voter's conclusion is evidently based on absolutely fair calculations from reliable statistics.

At the top of the list is New York, where taxes amount to 2.44 per cent of the state wealth each year; California comes next with a figure of 2.29 per cent. Oregon drops into eighteenth place with taxes amounting to only 1.38 per cent of the state's wealth, and Pennsylvania has the lowest ratio of all, only 1.32 per cent.

Taxes are naturally lower in agricultural states than in states where manufacturing and commerce have caused the growth of many large cities, and they are also lower in the southern states than in the western and northern states where much larger sums are spent for education. Yet, though Oregon is an industrial state and has educational facilities of exceptionally high rank, its taxes amount to only 1.38 per cent of its wealth while the average of all of our 48 states is 1.65 per cent.

These tax figures include not only property taxes, but all other general taxes, such as taxes on income, on inheritances, on insurance premiums, on business, on sales, excepting gasoline taxes, motor vehicle license fees, and such personal privilege taxes as hunting and fishing licenses.

It seems, therefore, that Oregonians need not feel so sorry for themselves as many of them do when writing checks for taxes. They can comfort themselves with the thought that they would have to pay more if they lived in any of 18 other industrial states of the nation.

This year is the 100th anniversary of our national hymn, "America", which was written in 1832 by Rev. Samuel Francis Smith, and sung for the first time in the Park Street church of Boston on July 4th of that year, which was the 100th anniversary of the birth of George Washington.

Other Papers Say:

THE INSULTING MR. BORAH

The LaFollette-Costigan dose bill, which will distribute, if enacted into law, \$375,000,000 among the unemployed, is giving the grand-standers in congress their big inning. The senate is at bat now and Senator Borah has taken a big swing at the ball. Later the house members will get their turn, if the senate passes the bill, and then their demagogues will have their chance.

Borah's cut at the ball, which was an attempt to hit it out of the lot, was futile, for instead of pleasing the grandstand and erratic solon lost his balance enough to charge that every person who opposes the bill is a traitor to his country, unpatriotic and unworthy. With oratorical emphasis he asserted:

"A government which will not protect those who protect it is flying a flag which is a dirty rag, contaminating the air in which it flies." "New hats a pretty rank display of demagoguery — not only that, it's an insult to the government and to every American who opposes the dose on high patriotic grounds.

Perhaps the Idaho senator has a distorted conception of governmental protection. The true definition of this term is the willingness and the capacity of government to guarantee its people a strong, permanent governmental agency. It does not mean that the government should feed its people.

There are probably about 8,000,000 unemployed persons in the United States. If the United States should appropriate \$375,000,000 for their direct use, each one would receive a little less than \$50 each. This means that the money would not last over two months and when the last penny was spent, clamor would arise for more money. This would be established in our nation the dose system which nearly bankrupted Great Britain. And how great is the ability of a bankrupt nation to protect its people?

EVENING DAILIES SUPERIOR

The only morning daily newspaper in Vancouver, B. C., suspended publication during the last week. In a census taken by the Canadian census at more than 200,000 population this morning daily had a circulation of about 20,000. Could not continue operating in the face of the tremendous costs of newspaper publication and therefore was suspended.

The morning newspaper along the Pacific coast operates at a tremendous disadvantage and the publications in the morning field which claim a position of leadership are becoming fewer with the passing of years. Most of the big news of the world takes place in the East and on the continent of Europe and the difference in time is sufficient to give Pacific coast afternoon papers the news first in about 90 per cent of the cases.

Newspaper readers naturally favor the paper which is up to the minute and for that reason save their take afternoon dailies in this territory. Outside of the metropolitan centers of the Pacific coast morning dailies have been subject to a heavy mortality in recent years. People do not care to wait until tomorrow morning for news they can have in their homes this evening.

How do they wish brought back to them a reliable tomorrow of what they read today. The Vancouver suspension indicates clearly, we believe, that for the Pacific slope at least, this is a predominantly evening newspaper field. — Walla Walla Bulletin.

RETZLAFF, DANIELS BOUT TO FIX MINNESOTA TITLE

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb. 17 (AP) — For the first time since the days of the Tommy Gibbons-Billy Miske series, Minnesota hopes to have an accepted heavyweight boxing champion before spring.

Dick Daniels of Minneapolis and Charley Retzlaff of Duluth are scheduled for a 15-round bout March 1 that seems to have the approval of fans as a championship matching.

Retzlaff, who originally came from North Dakota, has the longer string of knockouts, but ran into trouble when Joe Sekyra whipped him in New York, and the rivals are rated about even.

Gibbons, who stayed 15 rounds with Jack Dempsey in the historic bout at Shelby, Miss., when the Minn. can't was champion, consistently turned back challenges of Miske for the Minnesota title.

LONDON DECLINES OFFER

BALTIMORE, Feb. 17 (AP) — Jim London, claimant of the world's heavyweight wrestling championship, today declined to meet Mickey Walker in a boxer-wrestler match, suggested by Jack Kearns, veteran fight manager.

Mining companies operating in the Cosum d'Alene district of Idaho paid \$11,233,846 in dividends in 1931.

If The People Want Explanation, See Governor, Spaulding Requests

SALEM, Feb. 17 (AP) — "If the people want an explanation they will inquire of him (Governor Meier)," Charles K. Spaulding said in a statement issued late Tuesday regarding his removal from the state highway commission. "The responsibility for blocking me in this work (referring to his efforts to place the highway commission on a business basis) rests squarely upon the governor. I am unable to give any explanation."

Spaulding issued his prepared statement, he said, in response to hundreds of letters and telegrams received from granges, taxpayers and prominent citizens endorsing his official conduct as a member of the commission. He gave these same reasons to Governor Meier last Saturday when he refused to resign from the commission, as he said the governor suggested he do. Spaulding added that his conduct had been approved by Governor Meier in personal conversation.

Spaulding's statement in part follows: "Governor Meier appointed me state senator last year, highway commissioner, without any solicitation upon my part. Both appointments took me by surprise, as they were totally unexpected.

"I found that the meetings of the highway commission averaged about seven hours a month, and that at those meetings the commissioners authorized the expenditures of as much as \$16,000,000 a year. "I also found that no order of business had been adopted, and that no date had ever been set for the election of chairman or secretary. Investigation showed that the business management imposed by law upon the commissioners was left entirely to the discretion of the engineer. I also found that the commission was run by the chairman. I found a wanton waste and misapplication of public funds unparalleled in the history of Oregon.

"The engineers' salaries were disproportionate to the service rendered, and the number of engineers employed exceeded those necessary by at least 25 per cent. "I found Port Orford cedar bought at \$85 per thousand for weather boarding on machine shops, burned, picked, that could have been re-pointed at the expense of 25 cents each, thrown away, trucks bought without bids, and engineers' expense accounts that staggered belief, and waste in every department.

"I found no program for present or future expenditure of public funds, and did find that the ability to get roads was responsive to the size and influence of delegations. This accounts for the inexcusable neglect of Eastern and Southeastern Oregon by the commission.

"I tried to get meetings of the commission to take up these matters and failed to get any co-operation from the other members. "It was only after I had exhausted every effort at my command with the commission and failed, that I took the matter to the people.

"Governor Meier knew all about these matters and approved. . . and told Mr. Hanley and Mr. Almsworth, in my presence, that I had a right to make such speeches, that Ray Kline, state engineer, was not worth \$200 a month, and when they left the room he advised me to continue the fight.

"Governor Meier announced that he and the other two commissioners had agreed upon a 30 per cent reduction. A reduction in that amount could easily be made in overhead alone. At the last meeting I found they had no program, so I introduced two resolutions: One to cut higher salaries \$50,000 a year, and another to dismise one-fourth of the engineers. This alone would have saved about 30 per cent.

"The responsibility for blocking me in this work rests squarely upon the governor. If the people want an explanation they will inquire of him. I am unable to give any."

PORTLAND FIGHT

PORTLAND, Feb. 17 (AP) — Members of the newly organized state highway commission left Portland today for Salem where they will meet in an organization conference with Gov-

ernor Julius L. Meier. The new members are Leslie M. Scott, of Portland; E. B. Aldrich, of Pendleton, and Carl Washburne, of Eugene. They were appointed by the governor Monday night and received their commissions Tuesday.

GRANGE HALL PERSONALS

By Mrs. Charles Spencer (Observer Correspondent)
GRANGE HALL (Special) — Mrs. Bert Groat and Mrs. Charles Spencer Friday afternoon at the home of the Grange. A valentine motif was carried out in the home decorations and in the refreshments which the hostesses served at the close of the meeting, presided at the business meeting at the close of which she presented in behalf of the club, a gift to Miss Marie Holman, in appreciation of her services as president of the club during the last two years. Mrs. Albert Hamann, who had charge of the program for the afternoon, presented a game and the manufacturer's contest in which Mrs. Lena Gekeler was the winner. Fifteen women were present for the meeting, including three visitors, Mrs. Mary Kall, Mrs. L. Lindsey and Mrs. E. E. Groat. The next meeting of the club will be held in two weeks with Mrs. John Hamann.

The past week was one of unusual interest to the pupils of Liberty school and their teacher, Mrs. Kall. Wednesday ended the first half of the contest, which is being held by the Good English club. Darrell Lindsey's side won and the losing side, which was captained by Delbert Groat, treated the winners. Wednesday after the last recess, games were played for a while and then cake, cookies and candy were served. The contest is to continue three weeks more and then the losing team will again treat the winners.

The "Busy Bees," the sewing division of the Liberty club, held their first social hour Friday, during the last period of the day's work, the club members being in charge with the entire school being included in the program. A regular business meeting was held and again was answered by each giving an original valentine verse. Songs were sung and plans were made for the next meeting. A valentine box was opened following the business meeting and a happy 15 minutes was devoted to the exchange of valentines with Alma DeLong, Kenneth Ragin and Ruth Rayburn in charge of the distribution. The club is planning to start the second division of their year's work, having finished the first half right after the holidays. Bernice Rayburn is the president of the organization and Marjorie Fleishman, secretary. The children are working on their Washington, birthday program, which they plan to give Monday morning, Feb. 22. After the conclusion of the program the rest of the day will be a holiday.

About 35 couples were in attendance at the valentine dance given Saturday evening by the H. E. C. of Blue Mountain grange at their hall. The main room of the hall was decorated with hearts to carry out the valentine idea. At midnight, lunch was served by the committee. The Blue Mountain Wranglers furnished the music.

Delbert Groat, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Groat, was one of the group of Boy Scouts who received merit badges at the court of honor last week. Delbert is a member of troop 15 and has earned his award for several achievements. Last week he received honors for animal industry, farm layout and building, farm and home planning cycling and fireman-ship.

Once each year and the last meeting in February is the permanent state set for the men of Blue Mountain grange to entertain the women of the organization. Next Saturday is the time for the long-looked-for event and the women are anticipating an event which will come up to the masculine members' reputations as entertainers. For the past few years, the men have entertained in the Odd Fellows hall in La Grande.

ENDORSE PUBLIC LAND BILLS

The president endorsed measures now before congress to have western states accept surface title to certain remnants of the public domain within their borders, with mineral rights maintained by the government. The president in his message to congress of Dec. 8, detailed his ideas for transfer of the shipping board into the department of commerce, as follows:

"At present the shipping board

but this year the meeting will be held at the grange hall. They are also planning a dance for the evening.

Ernest Holman, one of the leading cattle raisers of this vicinity shipped a carload of fat cattle to the Portland market Saturday. Mr. Holman raises Herefords and he has a nice herd of well bred white faces. Elizabeth and Gertrude Ott came down from their home in Baker Friday to attend the basketball games Friday and Saturday evenings. While here they were guests of Mrs. Lena Gekeler.

Motion Pictures and Books
Viewing motion pictures causes less eye strain than reading a book for a similar length of time, says an officer of the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

HOOVER ASKS SUPPORT FOR 4 NEW POSTS

(Continued From Page One)

dent declared, "the absolute necessity for the most drastic economy makes the problem of government reorganization one of paramount importance."

Four New Posts
Here are the four new posts he would have congress create:

A public works administrator, to construct and sometimes operate all federal projects except those of the army and navy.
An assistant secretary for public health to head all such federal work.
An assistant secretary for merchant marine, drawing into the commerce department all marine shipping regulation, including inland waterways.
An assistant secretary for conservation, to combine now scattered efforts.

Alterations Include
Posts which Mr. Hoover would alter include:

A personnel administrator, instead of chairman of the civil service commission, to combine all personnel agencies of the government.
An assistant secretary for education, consolidating the office of education, its commissioner and other educational activities.
An assistant secretary for agricultural economics, giving higher title to the present director.

The president informed congress the salaries of these officials would cost an additional \$40,000 a year but that the "saving in the cost of the administration would be many times this sum."

ARMY-NAVY PLAN UNMENTIONED

No mention was made by Mr. Hoover of moves now afoot on Capitol Hill to consolidate the army and navy into a single department. He is known to be opposed to such a step, desiring to retain the present 10 major departments as a frame work.

Recalling that other presidents had requested general consolidations without major results, the president warned congress that such steps in the past had been "a signal for the mobilization of opposition from all quarters" especially within the departments affected.

Nevertheless, he laid down the principle that there must be reorganization of activities under the lead of "major purposes," and with administrative and legislative functions having "single-headed responsibility."

At the same time he recommended a separate legislative reorganization of policy in two fields—reclamation and conservation of the western ranges.

Reclamation, he said, should be broadened to include conservation of water by storage in all parts of the country. Such projects as Boulder dam, Grand Coulee on the Columbia river, the dam on the Umatilla and Cove creek dams at Muscle Shoals, he said, should go forward when contracts can be made for the sale of power.

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"At present the shipping board

By J. R. Williams

at FALK'S

The Smartest
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IN TOWN

Styles for every occasion and plenty of variety that adds zest to the choosing. Come in and try them on!

ONE LARGE GROUP AT
\$7.50

OTHER SPRING HATS
\$1.95 TO \$11.75

THE NEW STRAWS
Racello
Montelupo,
Traucello
Sharkskin
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THE NEW COLORS
Flesh Beige
Mandarin,
Lido,
Nassau
French Chocolate

"BUY OREGON-MADE PRODUCTS"

exercises large administrative functions independent of the executive. These administrative functions should be transferred to the department of commerce in keeping with that single responsibility which has been the basis of our governmental structure since its foundation.

"There should be created in that department a position of assistant secretary for merchant marine, under whom this work and the several bureaus having to do with merchant marine may be grouped.

"The shipping board should be made a regulatory body acting also in advisory capacity on loans and policies, in keeping with its original conception. Its regulatory powers should be amended to include regulation of coastwise shipping so as to assure stability and better service. It is also worthy of consideration that the regulation of rates and services upon the inland waterways should be assigned to such a reorganized board."

Mr. Hoover said he hoped to eliminate between 15 to 29 independent offices, which he believes, are performing overlapping services and could be better consolidated with other branches of the government.

His message went to congress just after Speaker Garner had served notice he would name a Democratic committee to investigate the possibilities of reorganization to reduce expenditures.

A measure to authorize such a study was introduced in the house yesterday. Already there are pending in the senate Democratic proposals for a joint congressional study of such a step and to give the president power to effect such reorganization.

The president said that "in the present crisis, the absolute necessity for the most drastic economy makes the problem of government reorganization of paramount importance."

He asked for authority to redistribute and consolidate existing activities at his convenience through the issuance of executive orders — each of which would become effective after lying before congress for sixty days without objection.

A SENATE PASSES BILL
WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP) — A bill to create a \$10,000,000 revolving fund for loans to agricultural credit corporations was passed today by the senate and sent to the house, which was at work on a similar bill of its own.

BARKLEY BILL OREHEID
WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP) — The senate today passed the Barkley bill to extend for one year the time for repayment of seed loans to farmers for the 1931 crop. The measure now goes to the house.

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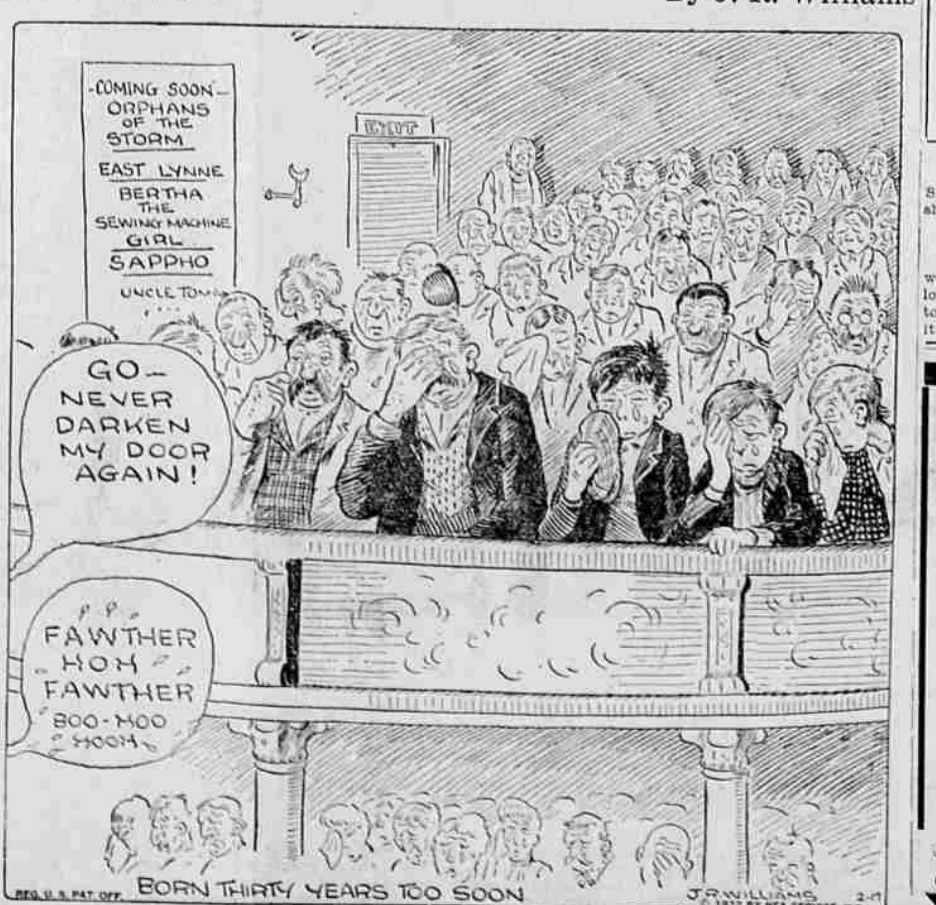
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OUT OUR WAY



FIND IT HERE

Copy for this Column must be in by 9 a. m.

LAMP SHADES
We have a few lamp shades left. Small shades 20c and up, 18-inch shades, \$1. At Melville's. 2-17-1 t.

ATTENTION LADIES
If you have a clever piece of fancy work, or an old sampler, or any other lovely piece of work which you wish to preserve and keep, you will find it especially nice for your home when

Campus
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\$4.50

at

Trotter's
QUALITY CLOTHES SHOP

SPECIALS
HAM Sliced, lb. 19c
HAMS Half or Whole, lb. 17c
PICNICS Sugar Cured, lb. 9c
COTTAGE BUTTS Cellulose Wrapped, lb. 14c

Grande Ronde Meat Co.

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