

LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper
Phone Main 600



HAROLD M. FINLAY Business Manager

Published evenings, except Sunday, at 1710 Sixth street, La Grande, Oregon.

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

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Carrier

Daily, one 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 \$2.50
Daily, per year in advance \$5.00

ADVERTISING RATES

Display, foreign, per column inch 42c
Display, local, per column inch 45c
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OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



For evil doers shall be cut off; but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.—Psalm 37: 9.

THE POLYPHONIC CHOIR

Out of an era purported to be jazz made, America is experiencing the renaissance and growth of an important movement in music, the polyphonic choir. The movement is gaining strength through the schools, with St. Olaf's choir from a Minnesota college appearing in the leading cities of America and drawing large audiences even in New York where such musical treats are daily occurrences.

Another choir of that type is the Midland College A Cappella Choir which is rapidly gaining renown, and will sing in La Grande Monday evening. The University of Oregon has a polyphonic choir which, ever since its organization, has continued to attract the largest crowds to attend any musical event on the campus. The growth and importance of the movement is also evidenced by the organization of the Smallman Choir of Los Angeles, which fills engagements in all the principle cities of the United States.

The novelty of singing without instrumental accompaniment, the severest test of any choir, appeals strongly to audiences who witness it for the first time and watch the choir respond to the director like a symphony orchestra. The Midland choir consists of sixty voices of several tone parts, instead of the four parts, soprano, alto, tenor, and bass, of an ordinary choir.

These various parts progress simultaneously according to the rules of counterpoint, and are blended into a marvelously complex but harmonious effect of great power under perfect control. It is an arduous task to perfect the repertoire of a polyphonic choir because, since there is no instrumental accompaniment to lend support and cover the weak places, every note that is sung must be perfect in time and tone.

Polyphonic singing is the purest form of musical rendition, and Professor Oscar Lyders, director of the Midland choir, and former soloist in St. Olaf's choir, has won recognition for his ability in training college students to render choruses, chorales, and folk songs with excellent precision and finish as well as sympathetic interpretation. He has built a great choir and is contributing a precious gift to the realm of music.

SALES TAX

The two-and-a-quarter per cent sales tax approved by the house ways and means committee—an approval that is virtually equivalent to passage by congress—has a number of things to recommend it to the lawmakers. Whether it wins the favor of the taxpayer remains to be seen.

This levy is expected to meet the nation's need for a revenue source less unstable than the income tax has proved to be. It is in line with the repeated urging of the treasury that the income tax is an undependable source and should be supplemented by a more stable producer of revenue.

Advocates of the sales tax believe that trial will prove it a more popular levy than the income tax with everybody but the income-tax exempt, a large percentage of whom may console themselves with the knowledge that their exemption will be continued by the grace of the sales tax. The qualities of sales tax which make for popularity (compared with other taxes) are its equal distribution among all consumers, its low rate and the indirect method of collecting it. Like the gasoline tax it is quickly forgotten by the consumer.

If the experiment with the sales tax is successful, the importance of the federal income tax is likely further to diminish, possibly to disappear.

The actor who has appeared in the role of a lunatic in his last four plays is evidently wild about his work.

Other Papers Say:

THE ARTIST'S DILEMMA

A radio magazine in Cleveland, Ohio, bewails the refusal of the newspapers to print the brand and trade names given radio programs and radio artists by advertisers.

"The New York papers go so far as to give in their radio columns the 'Palm Olive' program as 'Virginia Rea,' which happens to be the real name of 'Olive Palmer' which latter is her radio name," complains the

magazine. "Except in a few instances the names of the artists or the names of the orchestras mean nothing to newspaper readers."

Artists and orchestras have welcomed this newspaper policy with shouts of joy. If Virginia Rea builds up a reputation under her own name, the rewards of that reputation are hers; if she is known to the public only under the soapy pseudonym trade marked by and belonging to the advertiser, some other singer can be substituted any day, taking from Virginia Rea the reputation and the rewards thereof which are rightfully hers.

Radio listeners should know that in most instances the Dish Pan Symphonists, the Perforated Doughnut Musical Demons, the Sheep-Dip Scin-

tlators and the Hair Oil Harmony Dispensers are the same station musicians hired by the month, changing nothing, not even their seats and expressions, as they change from one trade name to another.

If the commercial-radio practice of misquoting the identity of artists, musicians and other performers under fictitious names were carried to its logical conclusion, the New York Symphony orchestra might become the Supreme Axe Grande Symphonist Squeak Radiators, Philadelphia's famous Philharmonic might appear on the radio bill-of-fare as the Pot Tissue Monarchs of Music and Rosa Ponselle might be forced to perform as Senorita Pepsa Denta.

Give the artist his due. In that bubble of nomenclature sales talk, to quote the chairman of the Federal Radio Commission, which constitutes the present-day radio program, the artist has to be very good to make the distracted, irritated listener appreciate his performance. If he can do it, he is entitled to full credit for his work.—Ventura Free Press.

CUTTING ASSESSMENT VALUES

Kansas and Iowa have taken drastic steps to lessen the cost of government and reduce taxation, that Oregon might well follow. Both states have made an arbitrary reduction in the assessment of real estate and left it up to the various subdivisions to meet the situation by cutting their expenditures to fit the slashed revenues.

A special session of the Kansas legislature was called to devise ways and means to secure additional revenue, and the governor and state tax commission took the bull by the horns by hepping \$20,000,000 of the assessment of real estate, 14 per cent off farm values and 8 per cent from urban property, netting \$5,000,000 in tax cuts. Counties, cities and school districts were told to adjust their outlays from the decrease as they pleased.

In Iowa \$12,000,000 was slashed off the state tax bill by reduction in the state levy and by lowering assessments on real estate \$100,000,000, while a newly enacted law compels a 5 per cent cut in the budgets of all tax-paying bodies.

Both states warn the public that it must cease its demands on government and get along with less, and urge attendance at budget meetings to enforce reductions. Though substantial slashes have been made in Oregon budgets, there is room for even greater reductions the coming year. Assessment values should be cut and the tax levy rate remain the same on the reduced values.—Salem Capital Journal.

Income Tax Facts

NO. 9 WHO IS THE HEAD OF A FAMILY

A taxpayer, though single, who supports in one household one or more relatives over whom he exercises family control, is the head of a family, and entitled to the same exemption allowed a married person, \$3,500. Also he may claim a \$400 credit for each dependent. For example, a widower who supports in one household an aged mother and a daughter 17 years old is entitled to an exemption of \$3,500 as the head of a family, plus a credit of \$400 for each dependent, a total of \$4,300. The \$400 credit, however, does not apply to the wife or husband of a taxpayer, though one may be totally dependent upon the other.

Several factors are involved in determining whether a person who files a return as the head of a family is to be thus classified. The element of either legal or financial dependency may exist. A taxpayer who supports in his home minor children over whom he exercises family control is classified as the head of a family, even though the children may have an income of their own sufficient for their maintenance. If he does not support them, by reason of their own income, but does exercise family control, he can not be classified as the head of a family.

If an individual supported is an adult and there rests upon the taxpayer a moral or legal obligation to provide a home and care for such individual, the exemption as the head of a family is afforded, provided the individual is financially dependent. If the individual is not financially dependent, the exemption, even though the taxpayer maintains the

common home and furnishes the chief support, does not apply.

For income-tax purposes there can be only one head of a family and the exemption can not be divided. Not infrequently claims for the \$3,500 exemption are received from two or more members of a family.

It should be remembered that a single person, whether or not the head of a family, is required to file a return if his or her net income for 1931 was \$1,500 or more, regardless of whether the income is nontaxable by reason of the \$3,500 exemption.

In Washington

By Herbert Plummer

WASHINGTON—Senator Tom Connally of Texas, twice in his career has quit the job he was doing at the moment to shoulder a gun and go away to fight in some war.

Back in 1898, he cut short his law course at the University of Texas to join the Second Texas infantry and fight in the Spanish American war. He came out of that scrap a regimental sergeant major.

In 1918 he left his seat in congress to serve as a captain and adjutant with the 11th division in the World war.

Service in these two wars and years of work in congress have made of him as thorough a soldier as a politician.

When he is given the opportunity to combine the two, as he had the other day in the senate when he lashed out at the critics of Jack Garner, he is hard to handle.

Able Orator There are few men in the senate more striking in appearance than Connally. Tall, broad of shoulders and compactly built, he has the carriage of a man schooled in the military.

His thrusters the other day at Moses of New Hampshire and Brookhart of Iowa as well as Republicans in general were characteristically delivered.

Connally was a county prosecuting attorney before he came to congress and learned then how to take care of himself in a rough and tumble battle of words. The cracks of Moses and Brookhart—two of the senate's most deadly marksmen—

didn't seem to bother him. He returned in kind.

He Remembers Names Personally Connally is popular. He has a retentive memory for names and faces. His favorite greeting of a constituent or friend is to call him by his first name and middle initial—a valuable asset in the makeup of a man in politics.

He is as popular among members of the house as he is in the senate. He served there 12 years before he moved across the hill. He never has lost contact with the house.

He is still "Tom" to about everybody in the house—not "senator." Connally has been a consistent winner in politics. He was elected to the house six times and defeated three men for his seat in the senate.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK

CHICAGO, Mar. 12 (AP) — (U. S. D. A.)—Hogs 10,000; steady; 135-170 lbs. \$5.00 @ \$5.10; 180-210 lbs. \$4.80 @ \$5.00. Cattle 200; compared week ago decline featured all steers of value to sell at \$6.00 upward but common bulls at \$5.50 downward held up. Closing 25-40c higher for week; extreme top fed steers \$8.90; yearlings \$9.75; beef cows 60c up; bulls 50c 75c higher; vealers gained \$1.50 @ \$2.00.

Sheep 4,000; for week: fat lambs \$1.00 higher; sheep 60c higher; closing bulks; better grade lambs \$6.75 @ \$7.25; clippers \$6.50; fat ewes \$3.50 @ \$4.00.

PORTLAND PRODUCE

PORTLAND, Mar. 12 (AP) — Live poultry — Net buying price: colored roasters over 2 lbs. 20 @ 22c. Others unchanged.

Butter, butterfat, eggs, country meats and mohair, nuts, cascara bark, hops, onions, potatoes, seed and new potatoes, wool and hay quotations unchanged.

OMAHA SHEEP

OMAHA, Mar. 12 (AP) — (U. S. D. A.) — Sheep 50; compared week ago lambs 75c @ \$1.00 higher; sheep 50 @ 75c higher; closing bulks; fed woolled lambs \$6.75 @ \$7.00; top \$7.25; feeding lambs \$5.00 @ \$5.65.

LIVERPOOL WHEAT

LIVERPOOL, Mar. 12 (AP) — Wheat closed: March 57 1/2; May 59 1/2; July 61 1/2; Oct. 63 1/2. Exchange \$3.63.

The Nervous Child

Those of us whose business it is to listen to paren's tales of woe about their children have come to expect nearly all children to be accused sooner or later of nervousness. Now, if by nervousness we mean activity, I am willing to grant that all normal children are nervous.

It is when normal activity becomes intolerably annoying to grownups that they are likely to exclaim in helpless anger that the child is nervous—thus making matters far worse, as we shall see. Moreover, it is sad but true that many a busy doctor finds "nervous child" a diagnosis at once easy to make and highly satisfactory to parents and grandparents—almost as satisfactory as malaria or ptomain poisoning.

Having protested thus early against branding innocent children as nervous, we must hasten to describe the child who really is nervous, the child who is to be the object of our discussion. The general condition may be defined in two words: abnormal irritability, that is, an abnormal response to ordinary stimuli. There are all degrees of it, and it varies with the age of the child. Details will therefore be given for different ages. Some—very few—are born nervous. Others—in later life—achieve nervousness. Others—the majority—have nervousness thrust upon them.

Are there such creatures as nervous infants? There are. But, thanks to the divinity that shapes our beginnings, such infants are decidedly exceptional. It must be said that, whether they be Jew or Gentile, whether they be bond or free, the great majority of tiny babies are much like puppies or kittens: quiet when well fed and comfortable; fussy when hungry or in pain.

Reasons For Nervousness Whatever symptoms of nervousness there are can usually be traced by the physician to some error in feeding, to too much dosing with cathartics or worm-medicine, or to any one of an infinite number of attempts to kill the baby with kind-

ness. The average infant, properly breast-fed, well supplied with fresh air, not too much interfered with, will usually be found asleep or blissfully staring into space, and the relatives will boast that they "don't know there's a baby in the house."

Contrast this picture of peace and contentment with that of the baby who lives down the street. At the age of two months he has already had a stormy career. He screams and twists and kicks most of the day and well into the night. He has long ago exhausted his mother's patience as well as her milk supply. He has been offered every known food, canned and otherwise. Finally, even with proper feeding and regime, with no physical abnormality to be found, the yelling and restlessness continue. He is a nervous baby. In fact such a baby will often respond to treatment directed at that mysterious and vital part of our nervous system, the vegetative or autonomic, which is mercifully placed beyond our control. The use of "dope," paregoric, or the various soothing syrups brings only temporary relief, to be followed by worse trouble.

This picture is extreme, but not inaccurate. A large number of babies, physically normal and well fed, are of the restless type though less frantic; light sleepers, rarely completely calm and relaxed, who quiet down rather exasperatingly when picked up or played with. This leads the young father, who has not spent his day amid the distracting household routine—who may even think he works harder than his wife—to make unpleasant remarks about women spoiling babies and to take matters into his own hands. He roars at the baby with perhaps a shake or two, then leaves him to "cry it out," finds that the "crying out" process lasts indefinitely, and finally goes outside for a quiet smoke, leaving his wrought-up ladies to retrieve the wreckage.

Such upsets are critical. If squabbles over discipline (or anything else) are the rule, we need not expect to find the calm and peaceful baby in such a home. For babies are quick to respond with whining and irritability to the high-tension atmosphere created by whining and irritable parents. Daily we doctors see the vicious cycle; nervous parents, fussy baby, baby's fussiness making parents more nervous, etc.

The exceptions which we encounter are positively welcome—namely, sensible, congenial parents who could accurately be said not to deserve the screaming babies that provide the only disturbance in a household otherwise entirely peaceful.

We come now to consider excessive irritability in children from two to six years old: runabout or preschool children. Heaven seems to lie about us in our infancy, but many of the acts of early childhood are strongly suggestive of quite another place. The little child is of the earth earthy, except when he is asleep. He demands more than his share of attention. He dislikes taking naps. He wakes up crying. He dislikes many of the things he ought to eat. He loves to tyrannize. Small wonder that we parents look back on the infancy of our children and say with Isaiah—"I have nourished and brought up children and they have rebelled against me."

Now, there is nothing abnormal, nothing "nervous" about any of this. But consider that some of these annoying traits have increased, and some thirty, some a hundred fold, and there you have nervous children. These are the children who are never still a minute; who can't or won't eat; who can't or won't sleep; who resist and whine at the most moderate request; who quickly lapse into uncontrollable sobbing or giggling; who are excessively shy or disagreeably forward; who brood over their smaller companions and idolize their larger ones; who have most harrowing night terrors; who shrink from darkness, solitude or crowds; who carry both affection and resentment to excess; who weep inconsolably at anything resembling a sad story; who develop habits of sniffing, grinning, stuttering, liping, thumb-sucking, nail-biting, air-swallowing, breath-holding, eye-switching, head-shaking, nose-

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pickling, teeth-grinding, dirt-eating, clothes-wetting, bed-wetting, masturbation, or even vomiting.

Now why, in the name of peace, is a nervous child? Nothing but good hard work and real co-operation between those interested can ever answer this question. Mind, we are not thinking about the mentally defective or the morally delinquent child. Such extreme cases require separate consideration. We are thinking only of the nervous, or excessively irritable, child in other respects quite normal. We cannot even consider the above catalog of symptoms in detail.

All doctors are familiar with the type of mother who is thoroughly competent to care for young infants, but who seems utterly unable to manage older children. The reason is plain. She is no longer automatically following feeding instructions. The case of morals and of temperament requires a far more delicate adjustment of love and common sense than does that of stomach and bowels. No wonder that bungling management so often results in the misfits known as nervous children. No wonder that the mother receives credit or blame for the results.

Clearly the first essential, as in infancy, is a thorough, pains-taking history and physical examination by a physician. For, Mother Eddy to the contrary, many a child has been dubbed "high-strung," "nervous," "just like his father," who was always "wiry and fidgety," when the whole trouble has been simply that the child has been feeling bad.

When a child has slight fever, vague pains (likely to be mis-called growing pains), a persistently poor state of nutrition, due perhaps to pyelitis or to chronic tonsillitis, what right have we to expect better behavior from him than from ourselves under like circumstances? How commonly we see children who begin to gain weight and to improve physically, begin also to gain self-respect and to improve morally and mentally when physical defects are corrected.

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