

LaGrande Evening Observer

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Thou hast a mighty arm; strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand. Justice and judgement are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

INDEX OF PROSPERITY

In its editorial columns yesterday the Pendleton East Oregonian reiterated its belief that the wheat price is the index of prosperity, that the dumping of Russian wheat in 1930 was the major cause of our depression, and that if we had a normal wheat price other farm prices would be normal and there would be no depression.

The Observer agrees that a normal wheat price would do much toward restoring prosperity to the Northwest, but is not convinced that Russian dumping was anything more than one of several factors responsible for the drop in American agricultural prices, nor that the return of prosperity is entirely dependent upon the price of wheat.

The fact is that for five solid years before the slump, almost every month showed an increase in the world supply of wheat over the same month of the year before; but no agency had means of obtaining accurate information at that time, and in 1929 the price of wheat in Chicago was bid up fifty cents, the grain operators apparently being ignorant of the steadily mounting world surplus.

Russian wheat sales may have been the straw that broke the camel's back, but almost any other straw would have had the same effect. Prices had to come down. They would have come down anyway, though perhaps not so soon.

The East Oregonian cites figures from the department of agriculture, which it interprets as proving that the drop in the price of wheat was the sole reason for the sinking prices on meat animals, dairy products, poultry products, and cotton in 1931 and 1932, "because the soviet government did not export fruits, meats, dairy products, poultry, or cotton to any extent."

We would like to call attention to the fact that at the peak of prosperity in this country our industries were producing goods at the rate of 127 per cent of consumption. Naturally a period of stagnation and unemployment followed, and unemployed workers found it necessary to eliminate from their diets the more expensive items such as fruits, dairy products, meats, and poultry, and to curtail their purchases of clothing, either of wool or cotton. Naturally prices dropped. What did Russia or the price of wheat have to do with it?

Now, as to the restoration of prosperity, wheat is but one of several factors. In 1930 four groups of farm products outranked the grain group in gross income; meat animals, dairy products, poultry products, and vegetables. Grains represented only 9.6 per cent of farm income, and wheat is only one of the grains. Why should the return of prosperity depend on the price of a product representing barely five or six per cent of farm income, and a much smaller share of the entire national income?

The Observer wants the price of wheat to go up, and the sooner the better, but we insist that the nation is not going to sit and wait helplessly until that time. When the wheels of industry turn normally again and laborers are able to buy what they want, prices will rise, the price of wheat included.

CHALLENGE

Few more open challenges to a civilized government have ever been ventured than the Lindbergh kidnaping. Every citizen felt he or she had a part in rescuing the baby, just as every agency of government that could help dropped everything else to join the greatest hunt the civilized world has ever known.

Nor have there been many more daring crimes in modern times. The perpetrators must have known before their plans were ready to carry out that their chances of escape with a rich ransom were slim to the extreme. When the majesty of the law rises to its full stature, which was inevitable in this case, it is something to be reckoned with. The crime was a challenge to American law and order.

It is not remembered that any kidnaping ever aroused such anguish, wrath and anxiety in the public mind, not only in the United States but in every civilized country of the world. That this should be so was foretold by the way the son of the hero of the air was taken to the heart of all mankind from the very hour of his birth. Especially in America it is felt that Charles Lindbergh Jr., belongs to the world.

This is one of the penalties of riches and prominence. The ransom-seeker does not prey upon the lowly and unknown.

Wealth may buy comfort but it cannot guarantee security. Charles Jr., would never have been snatched from his little bed had his father never won fame and fortune or married into one of America's most prominent and richest families.

You can't get a reputation for intelligence by telling all you know.

Man is certainly a resourceful creature—he can always invent plenty of excuses if he has no reasons.

Other Papers Say: Athena Beaten By Eugene Team In Salem Today

EXHIBITANT FARM BOARD

Senator McNary defends the federal farm board against attacks made upon it by other senators. He is doubtless right to the extent that it has done good for which the public is not properly appreciative because its price stabilization campaign failed and farm prices dropped to the lowest point in years despite its enormous expenditure to prevent it.

But there is one thing neither McNary nor anyone else can justify. This is the extravagant salaries paid to cabinet officers or supreme court justices. The excessive compensation paid to the cotton co-operative, \$50,000 to the manager of the national grain co-op, and somewhat smaller but very large salaries to other officials, including some in the Pacific northwest. These men are not worth the salaries paid them if you base their compensation on value actually rendered, on what the industry can afford to pay or what private corporations engaged in similar work pay. They receive several times as much as cabinet officers or supreme court justices. The excessive compensation paid is against the policy of the government. Nor is it any answer to say that the farmers, not the government, foot the bill. The farmers are no better able to be milked than other taxpayers and the government could deflate the salaries if it would.

Legalized graft, the phrase applied by Borah may be too strong, but it is well within the truth to say that these exorbitant salaries are seriously impairing, if not crippling confidence in the farm board.—Baker Democrat-Herald.

IT DEPENDS

"The opinion throughout the country (regarding prohibition) is reflected by the Literary Digest poll," says the Albany Democrat-Herald.

That is not a wise assumption. It is possible the dries are not participating in the straw vote in which case the results are meaningless. A more accurate test of sentiment was provided in the house of representatives Monday when 414 members voted upon a question of submitting a state control amendment, but 187 voting for the proposal. Virtually the entire membership of the house is up for re-election this fall and it is reasonable to believe the congressmen voted in accord with what they believe to be the sentiment of their districts.

If we remember correctly, the Digest had a straw vote four years ago and it was overwhelmingly in favor of prohibition. But when Al Smith ran for president as a wet candidate he did not even carry his own state of New York. He lost all the western and middle western states, all the border states and four southern states. Actual voting is what counts; the value in a straw vote all depends upon circumstances.—Pendleton East Oregonian.

THE CALIFORNIA ORANGE VS. THE OREGON APPLE

We lift the following account from the New York Times, which seems to be a sample of the competitive method of our California friends. It is offered for what it is worth: "Competition between rival fruit-growers of California and Oregon leads to curious attempts at all kinds of publicity. In their eagerness to miss no opportunity for attracting attention to themselves and suppressing their competitors, the orange growers do not consider the approach of 'The Apple Cart' to the California theatres."

"The director of the play received a call from a delegation of orange growers who requested him to change the name to 'The Orange Box' while it played in their state. He was first bewildered, then amused, and finally insisted that he could not change the name, and didn't see that it advertised the Oregon apple anyhow."

"The orange growers refused to accept 'no' for an answer. They found out the author's name and address and cabled him at some length their request. Not until they received Mr. Shaw's one-word cable—'easily guessed'—in reply did they give up their efforts."—Freewater Times.

SENDING MACHINES INSTALLED HERE

(Continued From Page One) expected to supply increased service, particularly an increase in Oregon news.

The machine will be operated by the news staff of the Observer.

FAMOUS SINGER DIES IN EUROPE

(Continued From Page One) roles, singing Irish lyrics, that his public liked him best.

He made his debut on the legitimate stage as Pablo in "Peggy" at the old Union Square theater in New York in 1896. Then he played in "The Old Homestead" famous rural American comedy drama in which Denman Thompson played famously. The play ran two years, from 1898 to 1899, which was an unusually long engagement for that period.

In 1901 Ottott first appeared on the stage in London. He met with great success there as in the United States. He returned to America after a short time and devoted himself chiefly to light comedies, some of

Athena Beaten By Eugene Team In Salem Today

SALEM, Mar. 18 (AP)—Two slow games featured the morning's session of consolation contests in the state basketball tournament today, but eliminating from consideration both Athena and Silverton high schools. University High of Eugene won the first from Athena by a 32 to 20 score while Marshfield barely noosed out Silverton 18 to 14.

The two winners will play tomorrow morning for fifth and eighth places in the finish lineup. During this afternoon's games two more squads will be declared out for further consideration. The winners of the Medford-Lincoln and the Nehalem-Hood River games will be fourth and seventh honors tomorrow.

SALEM, Mar. 18 (AP)—Athena high school was finally eliminated from tournament play today by the University high school of Eugene in a colorful game whose score was 32 to 20.

In the first quarter Athena failed to score a field goal and the University high had run up 13 points before the opponents had a basket. McLean for University high was high point man of the game with 12 points, while Weber for Athena scored 9 for his team.

Summary: University High (32) Fg Ft Tp 3 9 3 Milligan, f 1 2 0 Buck, f 1 3 0 McKenzie, f 0 1 1 Graham, g 3 1 1 McAllister, f 5 2 1 Huffman, f 0 2 1 Harcombe, c 0 0 0 Totals 12 9 11

Athena (20) Gossel, f 0 0 0 Lee Jenkins, f 3 2 3 Weber, c 3 3 0 Pickett, g 0 0 4 Lowl Jenkins, g 1 1 3 Totals 7 6 10 Referee, Coleman; umpire, Jackson

PALMBERG PROTESTED ASTORIA, Ore., Mar. 18 (AP)—A protest made again Walter PalMBERG, star forward on the Astoria high school basketball team which is in the state tournament at Salem, was declared without foundation today by parents and players when word was received here that Emerson Sims, Portland attorney, has made a complaint to the state association.

PalMBERG's parents exhibited a baptismal certificate signed by several witnesses showing his birth as Mar. 7, 1912, making his present age 20 years. Sims is said to have declared he saw a birth certificate indicating PalMBERG is 21 years old. Bill PalMBERG, the player's brother, left today for Salem to show the certificate to interested persons before the game with Benson high of Portland tonight.

Supporters of the team here were irate today, declaring the protest was made to keep PalMBERG out of a crucial game at the last moment, lessening Astoria's chances for the state title.

It was in these that he travelled from one end of the country to another and made his name and his songs known to householders in the remotest sections. He played in "The Heart of Paddy Whack" from 1914 to 1916 and starred in "Macushla" from 1919 to 1921.

Some of his best known other parts were "Ragged Bobbin," "O'Neill of Derry," "Eileen Ashore," "Barry of Ballymore," "The Gate O'Dream," "Shameen Dhu," and "Honest John O'Brien."

MR. TOWLER GIVEN MASONIC RING BY L. H. S. STUDENTS

(Continued From Page One)

began to take a real interest in our school. Now as seniors we are just beginning to understand what a diploma from La Grande High school really means. It means an exceptionally high scholastic standard and a high mark in athletics, music, and drama. It speaks for a school spirit that has carried us through victory and has carried us through defeat without lowering our morale. Whom can we thank to the greatest extent for these facts? We students know that the answer to this question is Mr. Towler.

"In appreciation of this fact, the student body wishes to present you with this Masonic ring."

Mr. Towler responded with an acceptance talk, and expressed his appreciation of the gift and his regret at leaving La Grande.

"You know that sentiment has a strange way of getting mixed up with the every day ways of life," Mr. Towler said. "It is manifested in a good many ways as we travel along the road of life, and I think this morning sentiment has got mixed up with things in particular. I will always look back on this as one of the bright spots in my life. I do not know whom to thank for this gift but I have a feeling that all of you are back of it."

"You know, one of my good friends said to me this morning, one whom I have known for years. Even nature has set the stage for you by putting on a nice rain." This kind of weather will help me to get acclimated to the weather in Astoria. The green verdure on the stage is also a proper setting.

orchestra follows: Chorus: Helen Melville, Cecelia Reynaud, Ola Mae Hough, Vivian Gallagher, Catherine Spaeth, Orvaline McWilliams, Dorothy Walker, Marie Floberg, Maravine Kiddle, Mae Waldroff, Eida Berry, Ruth McGuire, Madeline Gallagher, Barbara Coolidge, Elizabeth Milne, Ruth Murchison, Frank Tyler, Wallace Kaapke, Paul Walker, Roscoe Hurley, Lenn Pierson, Donald Herr, Carl Helm, Malvin Kavanagh, Robert Cunniff, David Hiatt, Wilfred Zaugg, Myron Wheeler, Fred Hertzog, Thomas Wright, Norman Hogsensen, Ralph Geibel.

Orchestra: Genevieve Flexer, Clara Norris, Lawrence Lawrence, Fillmore, Everett Reynolds, Bernard Powell, Alys Jeanette Cooper, Maclizabeth Cooper, Andrea Alsworth, Gertrude Conrad, Isabel Williams, Ralph Geibel, Ernest Briggs, Ned Jones, Robert Long, Alvin Bork, Paul Finlay, Norma Hanks, Roswell Weeks, Catherine Scully, Fredis Hayes.

Others connected with the management are: business managers, Claude Whiteside, Lenore Headley, electrician, Robert Zweifel, assistants, Carl Douhan and Arthur Steffen; stage manager, Howard Cantrell, assistants, Merle Carbine, George Webb and George Courtney; property man, Raymond DeLong, assistant, Onzie Edwards; make-up chairman, Joan Fidcock; committee, Lill Hoffmann, Greta Larson, Alys Jeanette Cooper, Evelyn Bruce, Wilma Hansell and Jeanette Blanchard.

Mr. Towler has done service both to La Grande and to the educational program of the state, serving on several committees and in a number of capacities. He was a member of the committee chosen from representatives of high schools and colleges to work out an entrance blank for admission to college, which is still being used. The committee also recommended several college entrance requirements which were selected by the colleges.

In state educational activities, Mr. Towler has been chairman of the resolutions committee of the Oregon

Teachers association; chairman of the department of high school principals in the same association, and it was during his year as chairman that the elementary and high school principals were separated into two divisions, and the high school principals association organized.

He held the position on the resolutions committee of the National Educational association, representing Oregon; and was twice a delegate to the national convention at Washington, D. C., and at Atlanta, Ga. Since the founding of the district athletic association about eight years ago he has seen continuous service on that body, and was chairman for several years. During that time the district tournament at Union was worked out.

Activities in scientific fields have also been a specialty of Mr. Towler. He is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Ecological society. He has done research work in both education and science and has had articles published in scientific magazines. He is a life member of the National Education association; of the National High School Principals' association; the Oregon High School principals group; the Oregon State and the Inland Empire Teachers associations.

In community activities, Mr. Towler has been a member of the chamber of commerce for several years and has worked on the educational and Eastern Oregon Normal school committees of the American Legion, the latter for several years; and is a charter member of the Lions club, first vice president and a member of several committees. Mr. Towler is also a member of the Masonic organizations, and of the advisory board of the DeMolay and Rainbow organizations.

Excellent Singer Since coming to La Grande Mr. Towler has taught several Sunday school classes and has been active in choir work. He has also been prominent in musical activities, being a member of male quartets and other musical organizations.

Mr. Gralapp, who succeeds Mr. Towler, received his B. A. degree from Willamette and is now working on a masters degree in education at the University of California. He has been in the science department for four years in La Grande High school, since coming here from Longview, where he was in the science department and also head athletic coach. Of four years spent in the Hermiston High school, the last two were in the capacity of principal. Mr. Gralapp served in the World war and at close was first lieutenant and adjutant in the 32nd Machine Gun battalion in the regular army.

Mr. Longfellow today announced that Arnold Gralapp's place in the science department will be taken by Arthur E. Wight, of Lebanon, Ore. Mr. Wight will arrive here Sunday. Mr. Wight has a bachelor of science degree from Oregon State, a master of science degree from the University of Utah, and two years of practical experience as a mining engineer. He has been contracted for the remainder of this year.

Those initiated were Fred King, Cecil Chrisman, of Wallawa, Orval J. Millard, Orval Wright, Earl Simmons, Tony D. Smith, of Union, L. C. Moorhead and John W. Farrell.

A minstrel show will open the program at Baker, with 10 blackface comedians taking part. They will be Herbert Browning, Foster Simms, Robert Carey, Norfuan Deslett, Victor Eckley, Claude Berry, Wren Howell, Rube Zweifel, Harry McCarthy and Raymond O. Williams.

The minstrel show will be augmented by music by the male quartet, Sherwood Williams, George Birnie, E. E. Hurley and Paul Mautner. James McNamee and Chester L. Thompson will present a skit, "The Strange Love of Mr. McNamee." Alice Jeanette and Maclizabeth Cooper will furnish a violin act. A tap dance will be presented by Dorothy and Virginia Campbell, and a group of dances will be arranged by Miss Helen Mary Clark. Musical numbers by the Hendrickson children will also be a part of the program.

GAMEST KID IN AMERICA' DEAD AFTER 177 DAYS

(Continued From Page One)

ordinary fellow," wrote Davie Goldstein of Toronto, Ont., and some youngster in Perth Amboy, N. J., wrote only "To the gamest kid in America," and the card reacted Clarence.

Clarence was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hastings of King Ferry on Cayuga lake. When he was first stricken in September, he was taken to Auburn city hospital. The institution was not equipped with an artificial respirator such as the one in city hospital here so he was transferred in an ambulance.

Within a day the body of Clarence Hastings, the lad who knew how to fight, will go home.

Fur trapping, Montana's oldest industry, still is the occupation of more than 900 professionals.

'SONIA' STAGED AT HIGH SCHOOL TO LARGE CROWD

(Continued From Page One)

place in Russia, with a surprising climax.

The costuming was particularly effective with frequent change of costumes. In the second and third acts the mixed chorus appeared in Russian apparel, proving very effective.

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La Grande, Oregon

We Invite a Comparison of Quality and Price

LOCAL RAW MATERIAL, LOCAL labor, and Local Capital are used in the manufacturing of "MT. EMILY" meat Products.

Table listing meat products and prices: Pot Roast Beef (Genuine A grade Steer) 13c, Beef Boil (Rib Boil) 25c, Steaks (Loin & T-Bone) 19c, Hams (Mt. Emily' Heavies) 12c, Hams (Mt. Emily' Regulars) 17c, Picnics (Sugar Cured) 9c, Shortening (Pure Lard, Vegetable Oil and Beef Suet) 25c, Lard (Mt. Emily' Cellophane Wrapped) 39c, Lard (10-lb. Pail) 87c, Weiners (Medium or large size) 23c, Hamburger (No scraps, whole carcasses) 23c, Sausage (100% Pork) 29c.

GROCERY DEPARTMENT

Table listing grocery items and prices: Federation Flour (A High Patent Hard Wheat Flour) 49-lb. Bag \$1.09, Monarch Food of Wheat (The same as Cream of Wheat) 28-oz. Pkg. 16c, Honey (A High Quality Local Product) 5-lb. Pail 39c, 10-lb. Pail 75c, MONARCH TEA (Green or Black) 1 lb. 69c, 1/2 lb. 35c, Purity Flour (A Good Soft Wheat Flour) 49-lb. Bag 85c, Fountain Oysters (Very Fancy Small Oysters) 3 Cans ... 33c, Oranges (Large and Sweet with Thin Skins Fine Quality) 2 Doz. ... 55c, Cauliflower (Large White Heads) Each ... 19c, Red Devil Matches (A Real Buy) 2 Cartons ... 29c.