

### P. O. Receipts In 1931 Show Only Slight Decrease

#### New Equipment Installed and Service Improved Considerably During Latter Part of Fiscal Year

That the progress of the city of La Grande has not been affected in as large a measure as other communities of this country is indicated by statistics compiled from the records of the United States post office department located here.

The last calendar year ending December 31, 1931, showed total La Grande postal receipts amounting to \$42,986. For the same period ending December 31, 1930, total receipts were \$45,147, or a comparative loss for the year 1931 of 4.8 per cent. Total postal receipts for the entire country showed a loss of 33 per cent over the same period. There should be considerable satisfaction in the comparison of the losses of the entire country with the postal receipts losses of La Grande.

The present Federal building which houses the La Grande post office was built in the year 1911. In that year the postal receipts amounted to \$15,632.

This comparison of figures indicates the steady growth of the post office since its removal to the new building.

The postmaster, R. R. Huron, has been in his present capacity for the past 10 years. With the growth of the post office, 17 employees are now required to distribute the mail. In addition to Claude Mackey, assistant postmaster, there are seven clerks, six full-time carriers, and one half-time carrier within the city limits. Two rural carriers distribute R. F. D. mail through Mount Glen and Ladd Canyon road districts.

During the past few years new territory has been added from time to time, increasing the limits about 25 per cent and taking in many people of the city who previously had no carrier service.

The post office department has continued its policy of replacing old and obsolete equipment with that of a more modern type. Just recently several new carrier cases were installed which are used in sorting the mail for each route and placing it in order so that it can be handled without difficulty or waste of time by the carrier while he is on his route. There are places for both letters and papers, arranged according to the street addresses, and when the carrier is through sorting he places the mail in his bag in perfect order so that it is easily handled on the route. Additional equipment for the handling of in-

sured mail has also been installed. The increase in volume of parcel post during the year 1930 made it necessary that a special parcel post truck be assigned to this district. The installation of these new types of equipment has made it possible to handle the mail in a more efficient and thorough manner.

Another department of the post office which has shown a steady and gradual growth is the postal savings established 20 years ago, it has shown its largest increases during the past two years.

Mail collection boxes are placed in convenient locations throughout the city. The mail placed in these boxes is collected regularly. Special provision is made for the collection of mail on Saturday, Sunday and holidays at certain downtown boxes.

At the present time La Grande is not favored with a direct air-mail stop. Air mail to the east is carried to Boise, Idaho, by fast mail train, where it is transferred to government air mail planes, thus affecting a considerable saving in time to points east and south of Chicago. Likewise, air mail to points in California and other southern states is transferred at Portland to mail planes.

The Federal building not only houses the post office, but other government departments. On the second floor offices are provided for the navy recruiting station, government forest ranger, county agricultural agent, as well as offices for internal revenue and postal inspectors.

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**CORRECTION**  
 We wish to make a correction in a news article appearing on Page Six, of Section One of our Confidence Edition relative to amount of taxes paid to the state of Oregon for the year 1931 by the Consolidated Freight Lines on mill per ton per mile basis as being \$4,989.35. This amount should be \$49,893.50.  
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### La Grande Has New Transfer Company

On October 1, 1931, the La Grande Transfer & Storage company started in business prepared to give complete and satisfactory service. They have specialized in the transfer and hauling of live stock to the surrounding markets and have been very successful. They operate two one and one-half ton trucks. In addition to transfer and hauling, they also conduct a storage warehouse, having ample space for storing large quantities of merchandise or household goods as well as crating and packing goods for shipment. Their warehouse is also the freight terminal for an auto freight line.

### Pioneer Trucking Concern Continues Expansion Program

Just 21 years ago, Frank Cleavinger saw the need for a transfer and baggage business in La Grande. So he started in with two teams and two drays and during that length of time, the business has progressed until at the present time he has eight trucks, the largest one 4 3/4 ton. His large trucks are specially equipped for long distance hauling while his smaller trucks are used for light deliveries about the city.

During the early part of Mr. Cleavinger's trucking career, his headquarters were in the old Lilly Hardware store. About five years ago, however, he moved to 211 Depot street, but since business has warranted another move and he is now located at 204 Depot street, where his headquarters are larger and with storage space in the rear.

The Cleavinger Transfer & Baggage company operated the first transfer truck in La Grande in 1914. That was before the present large trucks were manufactured and the truck used first was a Ford touring car from which the body had been lifted and a truck body built on. Two years later Mr. Cleavinger purchased his first truck, a three-quarter ton truck. The following year a two-ton truck was purchased and since then the line has been added to at various times.

Mr. Cleavinger owns a large garage on Third street, near his residence, where the trucks are stored when not in use.

The Cleavinger Baggage & Transfer company also handles crating and packing of all kinds and they make shipments to other cities. The large moving truck is seven feet six inches wide, six feet and two inches high and 15 feet and eight inches long, giving plenty of room for packing furniture in security.

In addition to transfer and baggage storage, crating and packing, the business hauls box and chain wood from the Mt. Emily Lumber company mill.

The offices and warehouse are located at 1506 Jefferson avenue and are owned and operated by G. E. Oelbette.



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CONFIDENCE is the basis of all credit — and credit is the life-blood of our economic structure. The confident patient is the one who soonest recovers his health — and the confident community is the one which blazes the trail to prosperity and happiness. We believe that Union and Wallowa counties constitute the most favorably situated region of all Eastern Oregon, and that their natural wealth and human resources amply justify the utmost confidence in their future progress.

LA GRANDE BAKERY is a strictly home-owned institution with an enviable reputation for progress in serving the needs of the people of Union and Wallowa counties. Here is a sample of our weekly food values at the Dutch Shop:

SPECIALS FOR SATURDAY

Fresh Strawberry Pie	20c
Date Nut Cup Cakes, doz.	15c
Daffodil Cake	34c
Boston Cream Pie	30c
Braided Tea Rings, 2 for	25c

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