

LaGrande Evening Observer

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF UNION COUNTY AND THE CITY OF LA GRANDE

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Many, O Lord my God are the wonderful works which thou hast done; if I would declare and speak for them, they are more than can be numbered. Psalm 40:5.

TAX SUPERVISION

Three measures on the November ballot are sponsored by Governor Meier and the Oregon Taxpayers' Equalization and Conservation League, with the purpose of protecting taxpayers from burdensome taxation on real property.

First is a constitutional amendment known as the "Tax and Debt Control Constitutional Amendment - Purpose: To make the power of state, counties, municipalities and districts to levy taxes and incur indebtedness subject to such limitations and control as may be provided by general law."

This amendment is merely an enabling measure to pave the way for a general law proposed under the title of "Tax Supervising and Conservation Bill-Purpose: To provide for a local non-salaried tax supervising and conservation board of three members for each county, appointed by the governor, to review budgets and regulate tax levies of the county and of all municipal corporations therein; for appeal from any order of said board, either by the levying body or by ten interested taxpayers, to the state tax commission; providing for said board holding hearings and making advisory recommendations as to special tax levies and incurring indebtedness, also compiling statistics and publishing information concerning public finances; repealing present tax supervising and tax conservation law."

The third measure provides for increasing state income tax rates and reducing exemptions in order to ease the burden on real property; we will not discuss this bill here, however.

The tax supervising and conservation bill deserves a great deal of careful consideration on the part of the voters, especially those who pay taxes.

The bill would create a board of three members in each county, appointed by the governor for a period of three years, one term expiring each year, serving without pay. The county court is to provide office space and pay the salaries of such clerks as the board may require for the compilation of accurate statistical information on the bonded indebtedness and annual expenditures of each tax levying body in the county—such as county court, city governments, school districts, road districts, and water districts.

Every such tax levying body must submit to the board a copy of its proposed budget, which it will be the duty of the board to consider carefully and approve, reject, or reduce any item therein. The decisions of this board shall be binding, except that any tax levying body or group of 10 interested taxpayers may appeal to the state tax commission, whose decision shall be absolutely final.

The theory of this tax supervising and conservation bill is excellent. The board in each county is supposed to act as the watch-dog of the taxpayers—"responsive to the will and necessities of taxpayers rather than to the demands of tax spenders"—and constantly on hand to co-operate with and advise the officials of all tax districts in the conduct of all their financial problems.

There is undoubtedly a great need for just such supervision as these boards would provide. As the Taxpayers' league points out, "The present setting of local government has brought about a practical absence of concerted financial responsibility. Each separate governmental unit is busy with its distinct part in levying taxes, borrowing money, and planning expenditures. Each one taxes and spends in its own way, with little consideration for what overlapping units may be doing along similar lines. Thus a crushing tax load is stacked, part by part, on the bended shoulders of the taxpayers."

There has been some objection to the plan on the grounds that it would violate the principal of home rule—the sacred right of each little community or district to decide for itself how much money it will spend and what obligations it will assume. This objection, however, seems hardly justified; for, though the board members are appointed by the governor and may be removed by him, and though the state tax commission may prevent any tax levying body from increasing its expenditures or incurring greater debt, neither the board nor the state tax commission can prevent the people of any county or district from voting increased levies and indebtedness upon themselves if they so desire. The board and the commission act merely to prevent tax levying bodies from increasing tax burdens beyond the wishes of the people.

A more logical objection to the measure is the fact that it will be extremely difficult to find three men in each county who are capable of performing the duties outlined for the members of the tax supervising board. In some counties of Western Oregon, much more populous than Union and Walla-walla counties, there are so many cities, towns, school districts, and other tax levying districts that it would be a big job for any man giving his full time to the job to become familiar with all the problems involved in passing upon their budgets. Clackamas county, according to the editor of the Oregon City Enterprise, has 231 tax levying bodies within its borders. Could three men, in their spare time, consider the budgets of all of these 231 districts, become familiar with the conditions existing in each one, compile complete financial statistics, hear all arguments presented in defense

of their actions, and pass upon every little item of every budget presented? COULD they do it, even if they were WILLING? And is it possible to find three men who would be willing to assume all this responsibility with absolutely no compensation for their services, and no provision for transportation and other necessary expense?

This is a serious objection, but there is such desperate need of a scaling down of the burdens of taxation that the taxpayers can hardly be blamed for being willing to "try anything once." So we say, "Give the plan a trial." Its failure would work no serious injury upon the people, and its success would be of immeasurable benefit. If the governor can find the men, all well and good. If not, we can try something else.

Other Papers Say:

HE ISN'T ANYBODY ELSE Here's another interesting editorial clipping. It is from Frank Jenkins' column and was taken from the Medford Mail Tribune.

They're telling this one on a resident of the Willamette valley: "I haven't voted for the last six or eight years. I'm reported to have said, 'but I'm going to register and vote this year. My dog is 30 years old and he never has voted."

"We're both going to register and vote this year, and we're both going to vote for Roosevelt. TEDDY made us a good president before, and he'll do it again."

Just how many people in this vast country, do you suppose, will vote for Franklin Delano Roosevelt this fall under the impression that they are voting for Teddy Roosevelt?

We wonder about that, too. An incident similar to the above, except that the speaker was a woman and she did not mention having failed to vote in previous years, has come to us from Creswell. When two specific instances are reported, there must be many instances unreported.

All this seems very strange. How can the word of the death of the distinguished, spectacular and eminent capable Theodore Roosevelt have escaped these people all these years? The actual date of his death was Jan. 6, 1919. Were he still living he would be 74 years old. How can people have forgotten the glasses, the mustache and the teeth of the famous Teddy? How can they have confused the nicknames of the two men? It would take a considerable stretch of the imagination to make "Teddy" short for "Franklin."

Do rather imagine Franklin Delano Roosevelt is called "Frank" by his intimates.

A point is made of the relationship between the two Roosevelts by many persons who are fully aware they aren't one and the same man. The facts on the subject are these: Franklin Delano Roosevelt was a fifth cousin of Theodore Roosevelt.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt was Alice Roosevelt's first husband. Alice Roosevelt was married to Nicholas Longworth, the famous Teddy. How can they have confused the nicknames of the two men? It would take a considerable stretch of the imagination to make "Teddy" short for "Franklin."

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Rebekah Lodge Will Be Hostess At Convention

Officials, high in the state organization of the I. O. O. F., will visit in La Grande next Friday when the La Grande lodge of Rebekahs will be hosts to the district convention, according to an announcement made following a meeting of the Odd Fellows last night at 7:30 at the temple.

Distinguished visitors will be R. H. Jones, of Prineville, grand master; W. D. Blank, of Tillamook, grand patriarch of the encampment; and Mrs. Maud Rogers, of Enterprise, president of the Rebekah assembly.

A special drill has been arranged by the local Rebekahs for presentation at the convention. Business sessions will be held during the day and the women of the Christian church will serve dinner in the banquet room in the evening.

T. R. Jr. To Speak For Hoover Oct. 24

MANILA, Oct. 15 (AP) — Theodore Roosevelt, governor general of the Philippines, will deliver a Republican campaign address Oct. 25 in behalf of the candidacy of President Hoover for reelection.

Governor Roosevelt announced today the address will be transmitted to the continental United States by short wave radio and broadcast over a national hookup.

The speech will be made here during the early morning hours of Oct. 25 and will be heard by American listeners on the evening of Oct. 24 as Manila is west of the international date line.

According to present plans the governor will begin his speech at about 6 or 6:30 p. m. (P. S. T.), Oct. 24.

UNION PERSONALS

By Mrs. L. Z. Terrill (Observer Special) — A program of special interest will be given at the Women's club next Thursday afternoon when Mrs. Mabel Doty, La Grande librarian, will give a talk on some of the late good boys. These talks have proven very popular in other towns where Miss Doty has given them and club members are looking forward to the program with interest.

The Garnation club opened its social season Thursday afternoon when Mrs. G. A. Schindler entertained at a noon luncheon. Covers were laid for twelve including Mrs. Alex Slater, Mrs. J. H. Jacobs and Mrs. Tex Knight. Bridge occupied the afternoon hours and first prize was awarded to Mrs. Walter Cook, guest prize to Mrs. Alex Slater and consolation to Mrs. George Hoffman.

Mrs. Elsie Foster, of Portland, and Mrs. C. H. Bidwell, of Island City, called on Mrs. Fannie Bidwell on Wednesday.

Herbert Haller returned Thursday evening from San Francisco, having made the trip down and back by car in six days.

Mrs. Homer Cheney left Thursday evening for Nampa, having been called there by the death of her father.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jones returned Thursday evening from a trip to the United States, returning from the Seven Devils country. They made a hurried trip out of the mountains to escape an approaching snow storm.

Cecil Griggs and five of his P. F. A. students from the agriculture class left Friday morning for Portland to attend the Pacific International and will return home Tuesday. Wendell Green, Ray Zang and Willard Gannett will compose the High school judging team that will compete in the contest, and the other two boys are Robert Withycombe and Franklin Miller.

Mrs. Ernest Paulsen and snau daughter, Elleen, came down from Unity Tuesday to spend the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Ward.

Mrs. Worth Halsey recently enjoyed a visit with an old school friend from Nebraska, Mrs. S. Campbell, who with her husband was driving through Forest Grove for a visit with relatives.

Special Rally day services are to be held for both the Sunday school and church services of the Methodist church on Sunday. The record attendance at Sunday school stands at 190 and efforts are being made to shatter that record.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Dean, who went to Salt Lake City with Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Blodgett to attend the conference of the L. D. S. church, returned Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Nelson, of La Grande, looked after their farm during their absence.

Members of the M. W. and Gleaner classes of the L. D. S. church went to Cove Friday evening to attend a class party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Escer.

Members of the Thimble club met at the home of Mrs. Lillian Cross Wednesday for a covered dish luncheon and spent the afternoon working on the quilt for the Woodcraft home at Riverside, Cal.

Colonial Traveling

The roads in Colonial days were very poor and speed of travel depended greatly upon the condition of the weather. When Mrs. Washington joined her husband in New England after he assumed command of the American army it took four days for her to travel from Mount Vernon to Philadelphia.

Nothing Venture

By Patricia Wentworth

Chapter 6 MYSTERY FROM THE PAST At 8 o'clock on the morning of Aug. 16 Jervis Weare was married to Nan Foreyth in St. Bartholomew's church. Outside it is a peculiarly ugly church. And when Nan passed from the bright morning sunshine into the dim of the interior she found it smelted of musky petalums and vanilla—a very depressing smell.

Mr. Page gave her away disapprovingly, and the section were the only witnesses. She looked once at Jervis, and saw him as a tall, aloof shadow. She could guess at the truth she could not see. When she took her hand and put the ring on it, his was hot and dry. He rammed the ring down, and there it was. They got up from their knees and went into the vestry. She wrote herself for the last time Nan Foreyth.

"And now your father's name here, Mrs. Weare." It was the two things coming together that took her off her balance. Mrs. Weare—and her father dead in a far country, not knowing. Tears stung in her eyes, the register disappeared in a mist. She closed her eyes, her momentary hand, the ring on them, bent and wrote, "Nigel Foreyth," and stood aside while Mr. Page and the sexton signed.

They talked to the house in silence. Jervis was not dark like the church, and the two windows were open to the garden. Nan stood by the windows so as to get as near to the garden as possible.

"I wanted to tell you that Mr. Page is seeing about that ten thousand dollars. Have you a banking account?" "The color runs for the first time. 'Oh, no,' she said.

"You will have to have one. You'd better see Mr. Page about it, and when you have opened the account he will pay the money in. Then, as regards yourself, I have signed a settlement which gives you five thousand a year."

"I didn't want you to. I can get a job." Mr. Jervis Weare assumed a lordly tone.

"As to that, you can please yourself. Twelve hundred and fifty dollars a quarter will be paid into your account."

"I can't take it," she said in a voice which distress pierced Jervis Weare's self-absorption.

He reacted with a feeling of acute annoyance. "Do you mind considering my position in a moment? Do you really expect me to marry a girl and leave her penniless? Why should you have married me if you were going to take up your position as being robbed."

"Why? Nan could have laughed and sept at the question. If he had been in the Palace of Truth, she would have said, 'Oh, my dear! Why? To save you from being robbed. To save you from the sort of girl you might have married. To save you from picking someone up off the streets. But since these were things to be hidden at any cost, she frowned, looked at him gravely, and said, 'I hadn't thought of it like that.' Her lips spoke quickly.

"The hurt, angry child disappeared. A rather lofty stranger said in tones of self-politeness.

"The decree is already signed. I would prefer not to discuss the matter any more."

"Nan gave a little nod. 'Very well,' she said. 'Good-bye.' He said, 'Good-bye' with an air of relief. Then, with her hand still in his she looked past him and saw the photograph. It hung with other photographs above the mantelpiece. Nan did not look at the other groups at all. She saw a lawn set about with trees; an old man in a chair, a woman standing beside him, and a third figure—a man walking across the lawn, his back to the camera. It was at the third figure that Nan stared.

"Who's that?" she said. "His name is Leonard—Robert Leonard—a connection of—my

grandfather's. I don't think you are very likely to have met him."

"You are thinking it's very strange that I should ask questions about Mr. Leonard, but I've got a reason. Will you please tell me where he has been for the last 16 years?" "Why do you want to know?" "Because I think I saw him once 10 years ago."

"Why the photograph doesn't even show his face?" "Nan wasn't remembering a face; she was remembering a just that square, thickset figure, and just that turn of the head."

"Tell me," she said. "What do you want to know? Ten years ago—19 years ago, will, exactly 10 years ago he was up on visit from Latin America staying with my grandfather. I remember that because I know he was staying in the house where I nearly drowned myself out on Crayston rocks."

"Nan had turned very pale. 'Mr. Leonard found you?'" "Oh, no. It was a British fellow who was taking photographs. Ferdinand Francis rubbed into Nan's mind—important, efficient, and immensely talkative. And then he was gone again, and she saw the thickset figure of a man coming from behind the Crayston rocks and walking away towards the headland. He was walking away from her, and he was walking away from Jervis, who lay half in and half out of the pool with a hole in the back of his head and the tide coming up. She said breathlessly.

"I want to know about Mr. Leonard. What happened to him after that?" "He went back to Latin America?" "Where is he now?" "Down at Crayston. He's got a chicken farm."

"Thank you," said Nan. She put out her hand again. "Good-bye," she said. She had wanted to add something—but what? (Copyright, 1932, by J. G. Bennett.) (To Be Continued)

VICIOUS RUMORS CLOUD CAMPAIGN

Those best remembered have usually been aimed at candidates who were victorious.

Origin of the subterranean campaign rumors is usually hard to trace, but there is frequently a suspicion that they emanate from a source close up toward the party's high command. Either the Republicans or the Democratic national committee people can work themselves into high indignation over the other committee's alleged propagation of them.

Sometimes they even take official notice and issue substantiated denials.

Perhaps the chief rumor circulated against Hoover this year has been the allegation that he was a British citizen and had voted in England. Republicans say "millions" of photostatic copies of a page from a London voters' roll bearing Hoover's name have been distributed widely.

No Evidence There is not the slightest evidence that Hoover ever voted in London. Yes, Republican, Publicity Director Henry J. Allen has felt it worthwhile to issue a new denial by Assistant Secretary of State Castle, who said he had checked the records again.

The British voting charge was old stuff, having been investigated and denied by Secretary Kellogg in 1928.

Al Smith suffered far worse than Hoover from whispered attacks in 1928, but no one supposes they cost him the election, even though they were as vicious and absurd as any barrage of false gossip ever laid down at an individual. And no one supposes that the whispering campaign will decide the contest of 1932.

Wanted!

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Jay Brothers—Auctioneer R. F. D. No. 1, Allice, Oregon. 9-15-1 mp

Curtier's Tablets for stomach trouble at Moon Drug Co. 10-12-1 m

See us first if it's cleaning and pressing. Prices reduced. ZWEIFEL'S CLEANING—Main 176 10-5-1 m

Moon's—Agents for Curtier's tablets. 10-12-1 m

Crazy Crystals on sale at Moon Drug Co. 10-12-1 m

COLD WEATHER Is coming. Now is the time to have the broken windshield or slide glass replaced in your car. Take it to Richardson's Art and Gift Shop for quick service and most reasonable prices on all glass work. 10-10-1 t

CALL FOR COUNTY WARRANTS Union County General Fund Warrants, Series 1932, Number 1989 to 1991 inclusive, are called, and same will be paid when presented at the Office of County Treasurer of Union County, Oregon. Interest ceases on said warrants after date of Oct. 15, 1932.

FLORENCE BACON, Treasurer of Union County, Oregon. 10-15-2 t

Friend Charley, owned at Lexington, Ky., has been ridden to six straight triumphs on the running tracks this season.

Tommy Yarr and Marchmont Schwartz, Notre Dame coaches, are 23 years old, and Frank Hoffman, another coach, is 22.

CLEANING PRICES REDUCED!

Phone Main 56 for Quotations

Standard Laundry & Cleaning Co.

"Wife Saving Station" Phone Main 56

NOTICE!

I have purchased the interest of J. L. Waller in the firm of Gaither and Waller, and will continue the business as THE GAITHER ICE AND FUEL CO. All accounts due Gaither and Waller are due and payable at my office.

T. H. Gaither

Phone Main 528 Jefferson & Elm

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1. Long-tailed parrot with grumpy glunge. 2. Sharp points. 3. The megalomaniac of the seed plant. 4. Spread loosely. 5. Tumor. 6. Small nut. 7. Forward. 8. Deep mud. 9. Not that. 10. Kind of turp. 11. Not that. 12. Solitude. 13. Close loop. 14. Sort of pig. found in sen. 15. Birthplace of Abraham. 16. Lake. 17. Large oil cans. 18. Old word meaning a point. 19. Humble. 20. Lead astray. 21. Having a marriage. 22. Strike. 23. Caliber. 24. Part of a play. 25. Japanese unit of measure. 26. Author of "Sentimental Tommy". 27. Casual observation. 28. Bird. 29. Swine. 30. Slave. 31. According. 32. Thumping. 33. Crooked. 34. Whiter. 35. Handler for small animals. 36. Provides and serves food. 37. Punged into water. 38. Scarce. 39. Repeating of. 40. Fashion. 41. Grate. 42. Down. 43. Command. 44. Obtained. 45. United. 46. A son of. 47. Noble var. 48. Not at home. 49. Strangled for silver. 50. Double prefix.

Grid for the daily crossword puzzle with numbers 1 through 50 indicating starting positions for words.