

**East Oregonian**  
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.  
Published Daily, Weekly and Semi-Weekly at Pendleton, Oregon, by the EAST OREGONIAN PUBLISHING CO.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES.**  
Daily, six months, by mail..... \$5.00  
Daily, six months, by mail..... 2.50  
Daily, three months, by mail..... 1.25  
Daily, one month, by mail..... .50  
Daily, one year, by carrier..... 7.50  
Daily, six months, by carrier..... 3.75  
Daily, three months, by carrier..... 1.95  
Daily, one month, by carrier..... .65  
Weekly, one year, by mail..... 1.50  
Weekly, six months, by mail..... .75  
Weekly, four months, by mail..... .50  
Semi-Weekly, one year, by mail..... 1.50  
Semi-Weekly, six months, by mail..... .75  
Semi-Weekly, four months, by mail..... .50

The Daily East Oregonian is kept on sale at the Oregon News Co., 147 1/2 street, Portland, Oregon.  
Northwest News Co., Portland, Oregon.  
Chicago Bureau, 909 Security Building, Washington, D. C., Bureau, 501 Fourteenth street, N. W.

Member United Press Association.  
Entered at the postoffice at Pendleton, Oregon, as second class mail matter.  
Telephone ..... Main 1  
Official City and County Paper.

**A PLAIN SORT OF HUMAN.**  
I'm only a plain sort of human,  
Too often in Trouble's control;  
I never discovered a comet,  
Or walked half a mile to the Pole.  
But I'm walking the way  
'Neath the blue sky or gray,  
And just shakin' hands  
With the world every day.  
It's good to be plain, and just  
human;  
To tell the Sun "Howdy!" and  
know  
His life-giving light is your protection,  
If he shines on the green or  
the snow.  
Oh, I'm walkin' the way  
'Neath the blue sky or gray,  
With a hearty "Good-mornin'!"  
To Life every day.  
—Frank L. Stanton in Atlanta  
Constitution.

**VERY, VERY PECULIAR.**

Here is something from the last issue of the Milton Eagle:  
"The main reason for the proposed division of Umatilla county is for the purpose of reduction of taxes and to provide for a more efficient administration of the county's affairs as well as convenience to taxpayers."  
But if "Orchard" county "reduces" taxation to the same extent Hood River did it will bring about a reduction upward instead of downward. E. A. Schiffer, of this city, owns some property in Hood River. The last year that property was in Wasco county he paid \$85.50 in taxes. The first year of Hood River county's existence his taxes amounted to \$138. It was an increase of \$52 or of 61.4 per cent. This increase was but natural. Two county governments cannot be maintained as cheaply as one. A county with a small assessed valuation cannot hope to escape with as low taxation as a county with a large assessment. When the divisionists "estimate" that the creation of "Orchard" county will reduce taxation they are talking for votes. They are not even sincere with themselves.  
As for a "more efficient administration of county affairs" that is a peculiar argument to come from Milton under the circumstances. At this time most of the county officers are from "Orchard" county. The assessor, the school superintendent, one commissioner, the sheriff, the clerk and the treasurer are all from that region. Are they to be indicted as inefficient?  
"Convenience to taxpayers" is also a strange plea to come from a town located but a few miles from the Washington boundary and which would be inconvenient of access for all sections of "Orchard" county save that region immediately surrounding Milton and Freewater. That is a strange argument to use against Pendleton when this city is in the geographical center of Umatilla county and has transportation lines leading into the city from every direction.  
But then the whole "Orchard" county scheme is a peculiar one.

**FOR CAMPAIGN PURPOSES.**

"Dope" that is being given out by the secessionists up at Milton state that the present population of Umatilla county is 23,550, that when "Orchard" county has been created it will have 8500 people and Umatilla county will still have 25,000. Ah, but the last federal census gave Umatilla county but 18,000 people. The last state census taken five years ago made the same showing and there are good reasons for believing the present census will not reveal many more inhabitants than were in this county at that time. But of course facts as to population are not desired by the divisionists any more than do they want facts relative to the increased taxation that will result if their plan is carried out. The divisionists are

making their "estimates" for campaign purposes. Yet they should have some regard for the truth.

**ROOM FOR TWO OR MORE.**

In an optimistic mood the La Grande Observer recently had the following:  
"A day or so ago the Observer was represented on an O. R. & N. train. In the coach were a number of strangers and the conversation was centered on Eastern Oregon. Naturally it drifted to the different towns and the future each has in store.  
"Pendleton was mentioned and many nice things were said about the civic pride there, the splendid spirit of progress noticeable among the business people, for the business men of that town are certainly hustlers; Baker City was mentioned and as usual no one could see what Baker had to make her the splendid town she is. But finally La Grande came in for her share of the talk.  
"There is a town that should be the best in Oregon, outside of Portland," said a traveling man. "There is positively more to back La Grande's future growth than any other city in either Oregon or Idaho possesses outside of the metropolitan centers."  
Certainly the Observer is to be pardoned for its feeling of confidence in the future of La Grande. By nature La Grande is fortunately situated and it is destined to grow and prosper. La Grande is fortunate just now in that it has a newspaper that is trying to get the old timers "out of the woods" and enlisted in the campaign for a greater La Grande.  
But of course even with its splendid backing La Grande can never become the commercial center Pendleton is destined to be. This city above all other eastern Oregon towns is blessed with a fine geographical location. Pendleton is the metropolis of an empire that is now just starting upon a period of actual development. When this tributary country has been settled up, when the Umatilla Central has been extended southward to connect with the "east and west" road and when electric lines furnish rapid transit service between this city and neighboring points there will be "nothing to it." Pendleton's growth will be as certain as is the law of gravity.  
Yet La Grande will be a good town, too.

**IT IS FINE NEWS.**

The announcement that the Boise & Western is to be built across the state from Ontario to Bend and will be Hill's "east and west" road is one of the best pieces of news eastern Oregon has ever received. Such a road will open up an empire greater in area than that of many states. It is a country that will sustain an enormous settlement, especially after the proposed irrigation enterprises have been carried out. After this east and west road has been built and after the roads have been constructed into the Deschutes country, the interior should take on a boom such as has never been witnessed before in the history of the west. Never before was so large an empire opened to settlement and development at one time.  
In the track meet at Athena Saturday the Milton professor tried to protest the Pendleton high school stars on the ground that they had won races before and might do so again if allowed to participate in the meet. What childish notions do get into the heads of some of those east end people.  
Of course after Hill and the Harriman system have built their east and west roads they will want connection between those roads and Pendleton. The Umatilla Central would make a good connecting link.  
The coming campaign will be busy enough without any county division fight.

**EDWARD'S ROYAL RELATIVES.**

Following are the connections of the late King Edward VII with the royal houses of Europe:  
Denmark—Edward's Queen, Alexandra, was the oldest daughter of Christian IX, the late King of Denmark. Frederick VIII, the present King, was Edward's brother-in-law.  
Germany—Kaiser Wilhelm II is the son of Edward's eldest sister, and was the dead King's nephew.  
Russia—Czar Nicholas II is the son of Queen Alexandra's sister, Marie, and the husband of the daughter of Edward's sister, Alice.  
Spain—King Alfonso XIII is the husband of Victoria Ena, the daughter of Edward's sister, Beatrice.  
Greece—King George I is a brother of Queen Alexandra.  
Norway—King Haakon VII is a son of Frederick VIII of Denmark, brother of Queen Alexandra, and is married to his cousin, Maud, King Edward's daughter.  
Sweden—King Oscar II's son is married to Margaret of Connaught, daughter of the King's brother, the Duke of Connaught.  
Belgium—King Philip II is a nephew of the late Leopold II, who was an uncle of Victoria, King Edward's mother.  
Holland—Queen Wilhelmina is related through old King George III.  
Saxe-Coburg and Gotha—Duke Leo-

old Charles Edward is a son of Edward's brother, Duke of Albany.  
Waldeck—Princess Helene, sister Duke Frederick is the wife of Duke Leopold of Albany and Saxe-Coburg.  
Wurtemberg—King William II is related through the late Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck, cousin of Queen Victoria, and mother of the new Queen of England.

**SONG OF THE JOY RIDER.**

(As Tennyson Might Have Sung It)  
From the Chicago Record-Herald.  
I swoop around a sudden turn,  
I make a careless sally,  
And, feeling not the least concerned,  
Go zipping through an alley.  
Past thirty cops I hurry down,  
I bump o'er ruts and ridges;  
I scatter havoc through the town  
And flash across the bridges.  
I see the red light's warning glow,  
But do I heed it? Never!  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I tear on forever.  
I rattle over stony ways,  
I crash through traffic's jumble,  
And end their troubles and their days  
Who hesitate or stumble.  
With many a curve I, somehow, get  
Around the drays and buses,  
And no not stop to feel regret  
Because some teamster curses.  
I hurry, hurry, crouching low;  
I try to jump the river;  
For men may come and men may go  
But I tear on forever.  
I flash about and in and out,  
A thousand dangers daring;  
I hear the mad policeman shout,  
But have no time for caring.  
And here and there I gladly break  
A speeding streetcar's fender;  
I never hesitate to take  
A chance, however slender.  
I lay old men and children low,  
I make the horses quiver,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I zip on forever.  
I tear through lawns and grassy plots,  
I crash through leafy covers,  
I crush the sweet forget-me-nots  
And cripple happy lovers.  
I slip, I slide, I skid, I glance,  
I scorn the bumps and hollows,  
I sound a toot and take a chance,  
Too gay to care what follows.  
The public wants me squelched, I know;  
But do I mind it? Never!  
For men may come and men may go  
But I crash on forever.

**MOTHER-LOVE.**

Mother-love is mother-love  
The wide wide world around  
Mother-love is mother-love  
Wherever it is found;  
In palace or in cottage  
The city or the clan  
Mother-love is mother-love  
God's sweetest gift to man.  
Mother-love is mother-love  
The long, long ages through,  
Though years corrode all other love  
Still mother-love is new,  
A bloom that never fadeth,  
A fruit beyond decay,  
The fresh warm tints of mother-love  
Are beautiful for aye.  
Mother-love is mother-love  
However fortunes go,  
Mother-love is mother-love  
Though tides are high or low,  
Though self-respect may falter,  
And scorn of life prevail,  
Yet mother-love is mother-love  
And naught shall make it fail.  
Mother-love is mother-love,  
Most like the love of heaven,  
Though previous every other love  
To erring mortal given:  
Strain of immortal music,  
Glow of eternal morn,  
Love of all loves is mother-love  
Whence all our loves are born.  
—Robert Whitaker, Los Gatos, California.

**DECEIVERS, EVER.**

They were arguing about the alleged inborn strain of deceitfulness in woman and she retallied by citing the instances of men deceiving their wives.  
"I suppose," said he, "that you hold that a man should never deceive his wife."  
"Oh, no," she smiled back at him; "I shouldn't go so far as that. How would it be possible for the average man to get a wife if he didn't deceive her?"—R. M. Winans, in Lippincott's.

**THE REV. DR. PUTEMOSLEEP—DEACON GOODLEIGH WALKED RIGHT OUT OF CHURCH IN THE MIDDLE OF MY SERMON. I WONDER IF I OFFENDED HIM.**

Mrs. Goodleigh—Don't let that worry you, doctor. He has been a somnambulist for years. — Philadelphia Record.

**HOPSTETTER'S BITTERS**  
Any man or woman suffering from constipated bowels or imperfect digestion will be benefitted by the Bitters. It is for Sick Headache, Sour Stomach, Indigestion, Constipation and Malaria.

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**A REAL TONIC**  
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THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA

**EVERY SPRING IS GREENER.**

I was walking with the senator to catch the early train,—  
The senator with stocks and bonds galore,—  
And for fit commercial phrases I was cudgelling my brain,  
When quite unexpectedly  
Said the senator to me:  
"Somehow this spring seems greener than any spring before."  
"I see no especial reason, and it was not always so,  
But I've noticed it a dozen years or more."  
And I wonder whether others, when the green begins to grow  
Bright enough to catch the eye,  
Feel about it as I do:  
That each new spring is greener than any spring before."  
The senator is hearty, but his crown is growing gray,—  
His years are fifty-three or fifty-four,—  
And this may not be the reason, but I rather think it may,—  
For the contrast with the snow  
On his head perhaps may show  
Why the green each spring seems greener than any spring before.  
—William Herbert Carruth.

**WILLING.**

There is an old woman out in Market street in West Philadelphia, who has for years had a negro servant named Maria. Now Maria, even if her physical charms were such as to attract, is far beyond the marrying age, but no one has ever been able

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Is made from the choicest wheat that grows. Good bread is assured when BYERS' BEST FLOUR is used. Bran, Shorts, Steam Rolled Barley always on hand.  
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Will knock the worst cold in Two Days  
Comes in capsules. Not disagreeable to take.  
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