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ADVERTISING RATES
Display Ad rates furnished upon application
Local reading notices 10c per line first insertion, 5c per line for each subsequent insertion.
Resolutions of condolence, 5c per line.
Cards of thanks, 5c per line.

BAD ROADS COST \$600,000,000

The Observer is in receipt of a bulletin from the University of Oregon, by F G Young, professor of economics treating on country roads from which the following statements are taken.

In 1895 the US Director of the office of Public Roads Inquiry from statistic gathered from 1160 countries in the US pertaining to the average cost of hauling farm products and farm supplies from the shipping points, in which 10,000 of the most intelligent farmers were consulted found that the average cost of getting a ton of product to a shipping point from the farm was \$3.02 in the whole United States, but in the States west of the Rocky mountains the average cost of moving a ton over the country roads to a shipping point was \$5.12.

Ninety-nine per cent of all the commerce of the United States which is transported by steam is first moved over county roads and that it costs as much in some cases to haul goods to and from the railway station over the country roads as it does to transport the same amount of goods from ocean to ocean by rail or from continent to continent on ocean going ships. The average cost throughout the nation of moving a ton of freight over the country roads for one mile is twenty-five cents and that the cost of hauling a ton over good country roads is 8 1/2 cents per mile or one third of the average cost over all the roads, good and bad.

Taking the total amount of farm products moved over country roads in the United States, together with the necessary hauling of farm supplies and other material over county roads, we find the total cost of hauling done on these roads is not less than \$900,000,000 annually. Taking into account also the loss sustained by reason of the failure to reach market with perishable articles, the failure to cultivate products which would be marketable if markets were always accessible together with enforced idleness of farmers and teams through periods of muddy roads, we deem it entirely safe to say that \$600,000,000 of this \$900,000,000 can be saved to the farmers when good roads become universal. This \$600,000,000, is the annual bad road tax the farmers pay.

The \$600,000,000 which bad roads cost the farmers of the US annually is four per cent per annum on \$15,000,000,000 a sum greater by two billions dollars than all the railroad in the US (199,685 miles) had cost to construct and equip up to 1902.

The present wet weather may be a little unpleasant to the town people, but it is insuring splendid crops for the farmers.

There are few counties in the state whose exports of their varied products require a train lead every other day to carry such products to the markets of the world. Such is the present conditions of Union county and has been for several years.

While diphtheria is prevalent throughout the city parents should exercise special care over their children and call a doctor at the first symptom of a sore throat. Diphtheria if taken in hand in time is not a difficult disease to handle. Do not trust in patent medicine or the old family doctor book. This disease will not permit of any experimental practice.

Health Is Youth

Disease and Sickness Bring Old Age
Herbine, taken every morning before breakfast will keep you in robust health fit you to ward off disease. It cures constipation biliousness, dyspepsia, fever, skin, liver and kidney complaints. It purifies the blood and clears the complexion. Mrs D W Smith Whitney, Texas, writes April 3 1902: "I have used Herbine and find it is the best medicine for constipation and liver troubles. It does all you claim for it. I can highly recommend it. 50cets a bottle—Newlin Drug Co."

Don't Borrow Trouble

It is a bad habit to borrow anything but the worse thing you can possibly borrow, is trouble. When sick, sore, heavy, weary and worn-out by the pains and poisons of dyspepsia, biliousness, Bright's disease, and similar internal disorders, don't sit down and brood over your symptoms, but fly for relief to Electric Bitters. Here you will find sure and permanent fulfillment of all your troubles, and your body will not be burdened by a load of debt disease. At Newlin Drug Co drug store. Price 50c. Guaranteed.

IN A HURRY?

THEN CALL

WM. REYNOLDS

The transfer man.

He will take that trunk to the Depot or your home in less time than it takes to tell it.

Wagon always at your service.

Charges moderate. Day phone 1751, night phone 1863.

**I. HARRIS
THE MEAT MAN**

Is still doing business at the old stand. Will be glad to see all his old customers as well as new ones. As good prime beef cattle is now scarce, I have on hand a fine selection of cured meats, hams breakfast bacon. About the fifteenth of May, I will have a fine assortment of young prime beef, which are now fattening. Do not forget that I now have as good fresh beef as there is on the market as well as fresh fish and poultry.
Prompt Delivery Phone 1601

BRICK BRICK

Brick furnished in any quantity or any style. No contract too small or too large. See samples of our pressed brick.

**GEO. KREIGER,
La Grande, Oregon.**

RED FRONT LIVERY BARN

Wm. Smith, Prop.
Safe and reliable rigs furnished at all times. Special accommodations furnished to commercial travelers.
Phone. 3-5

WM. SMITH FEED STORE

Hay, Grain and feed. Free delivery to all parts of the city. Mountain trade a specialty. Phone 1961
Horses, harness and wagons bought and sold


THE CHICAGO STORE

This Store Closes at 6:30 p. m. except Saturday

SPECIAL NOTICE
All Mail Orders Given Prompt Attention

First in a Series of Extraordinary Sales

MAY SALE

\$2  **\$2**

SPECIAL SALE

ON

Gordon \$3 Hats

All Styles in Gordon Hats During this Sale will be sold at the very low Price of

\$2.00

We also carry a complete line of hats in all the new shapes and colors. You will find in our stock, a selection equal to any city store.

MAY SALE

25% **25%**

SWEEPING SALE OF SKIRTS

We will Place on Sale our entire line of Ladies' Skirts at a Discount of 25 per cent. Remember that these Skirts are not old shop worn goods but of the latest Designs and weaves.

**SALE COMMENCES MAY 4,
AND ENDS ON MAY 13**

MAY SALE

RADIUM

Radium Silk, Newest,
Brightest, Best Reasonably
Priced.

Radium Silk is now on sale. At first sight a woman can distinguish it from the so-called silks, which are part silk and part material treated to look like silk but which will lose their lustre when handled. Every strand of Radium Silk is guaranteed all silk. For evening gowns, waists, petticoats, dropskirts, or slips, or any other use to which silk can be put, it is equally serviceable.

MAY SALE



SHOES

We have just Received a complete line of fine Oxfords, in all the newest shades

MAY SALE

WASH GOODS

We have a full line of wash goods of every description. Also have a complete line of the very latest

**EMBROIDERIES,
ALLOVERS,
LACES, ETC.**

The Chicago Store
USE RADIUM SILK
NAME ON SELVAGE

Murphy Bros
WE SELL GILBERT'S
CELEBRATED Dress Linings