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SMITH & GREENE

Shoe Men

Maxwell Wins

Thrills followed thrills as speeding automobiles shot around the course of the Ingleside Race Course, on April 24th. In the second and final day events of the successful meet promoted by the members of Islam Temple of the Mystic Shrine.

The honors of the day were divided between Barney Oldfield, with his 200 horsepower Benz machine, and C. O. King, with his Maxwell 30 horsepower stock car. Oldfield lowered his previous record of one mile to 51.5-6, which is a new coast record for the circular track. With the exception of this performance, Oldfield had to take second place in the list of racing honors, as the world's champion met defeat in both the five and fifteen mile handicap events, and in both races King and his Maxwell were the victors. In fact, King proved the surprise of the meet, driving all of his races with much judgment and taking the turns with his car as close to the fence as did Oldfield. In the five mile handicap, Oldfield drove his Knox racer to the utmost, but the handicap was too strong and he could not get the lead away from King. Not only in the handicap events did King and his Maxwell prove stars of the first order, but in one of the first events of the day, the five mile race for cars costing from \$1200 to \$1600, which was one of the best matches of the meet.

The time for the five mile handicap was as follows: Maxwell, King, 4:40.20; Oakland, Nelson, 4:48.25; Chalmers, West, 4:49.20; Auto Car, finished fourth, and the Knox car, Barney Oldfield driving, fifth. In the event number eight, ten miles free-for-all handicap, King and his Maxwell again were the winners, the Maxwell's time being 19.20.

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United States Depository
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BANK VICTOR IN LONG FIGHT

THOMSON SCORED BY JUDGES IN RECENT DECREE.

Decision is Worth \$6,000 to Farmers and Traders National Bank.

A. B. Thomson, former register of the La Grande land office, was declared in the federal court this morning to have been strongly suspected of being directly interested in the questionable land operations conducted by S. W. Spencer several years ago, says a Portland paper. Judge Wolverton's condemnation of Thomson came in rendering an opinion against him and in favor of Walter Neidner, receiver of the Farmers' & Traders' National bank at La Grande. The court held that Thomson was liable to the full amount of the note, \$6,000, with interest thereon from August 2, 1902, to the present date.

This is the note said by J. W. Scriber to have been the commencement of his downfall. It was held in the bank over which Scriber presided. While Scriber was in Portland, Thomson went to the bank and persuaded Clerk McCully to turn the paper over to him temporarily, as he said he had merely given it in accommodation. When he got hold of it, he kept it, although demand for its return was made by Scriber. To fill its place in bank assets, Scriber forged another, instead of proceeding against Thomson as the receiver later did, and from the success attained in this, he says the career of counterfeiting and forging notes began.

In deciding that Thomson should pay the note to the bank, Judge Wolverton found that McCully's testimony was opposed by both Thomson and S. W. Spencer, but the records corroborated McCully. In referring to Spencer and Thomson's testimony, the court said:

"Spencer is discredited, by the fact that he admits that at the time he was engaged in shady transactions by which to obtain title to public lands from the general government.

From a full survey of testimony, it would appear that Thomson, while receiver of the land office at La Grande, was working on the transaction of Spencer's to obtain title to public lands, and that he made no effort to inform the government of such transactions. Indeed, it would seem that he had an interest therein, and was expecting to profit thereby."

Looked Like Money.
"Can you change \$10?"
"Ten dollars?"
"Yes."
"Say, if I could change \$10 I would buy the Standard Oil company and spend the change for a sandwich!"

SWORDS OF JAPAN

Old Samurai Blades Are Looked Upon as Sacred.

HANDLED WITH REVERENCE.

A Curious Formula of Etiquette Follows When "the Steel Bible of Bushido" is Drawn From Its Sheath by a Hand Which Grasps It in Peace.

If one were in a friend's house in Japan and should ask to examine one of the old samurai swords that rest in the lacquered sword rack in a place of honor there a curious formula of etiquette would be followed by the host.

He would go to a closet and return with a little square of silk in his hand. This he would wrap about the shark-skin handle of the sheathed sword before touching his bare hand to the sheath. Then, with his right hand grasping the silk covered handle and the fingers of his left gingerly raising the lacquered hilt from the rack, the Japanese host would lift the sword to the level of his forehead and bow to it.

All this is reverential and with utmost gravity. The square of silk, preserved for no purpose but this and having its own name in the Japanese vocabulary, is to prevent the debilement of the handle by a hand which grasps it in peace. The bow is meant for the spirit of the swordsmith who forged this weapon. The reverence is for the sword itself, "soul of the samurai," in the Japanese poetical conception and aptly called by foreigners "the steel Bible of Bushido."

But this is only the beginning of the formality. When the Japanese host unsheathes the blade he does it with the edge toward his own body and the point directed away from his guest. When the guest receives the sword in his own hands he must be careful to keep the outer edge always away from the direction of his friend the host. If he wishes to examine both sides of the blade he must even turn his back so that never will the menace of the sharpened edge be directed toward his friend.

After the examination is completed the sword is returned to its scabbard, and the owner receives it with another bow and places it once more on its rack.

The etiquette of the sword is no empty thing. With the high spirited Japanese, who have not forgotten the many centuries of chivalry and of hand fighting behind them, the delicately curved and curiously welded sword of the samurai has a significance almost sacred. There is a philosophy of the sword no less stern than the use of the weapon.

In the old days when the Japanese fighters wore the war masks and the steel armor seen nowadays in the curiosity shops the boy was taught that as the shining blade must be kept free from spot and corruption, so must his soul be ever clean. Neglect of the blade brings rust; neglect of the soul an impure character.

Then the sharp edge was held out

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only as a constant guardian of personal safety and honor, but as a sacred disciplinarian to punish whenever its possessor stepped from the narrow path of the Yamato spirit of chivalry. Again, the sword was emblematical of true gentility, which is never overbearing or vulgar in deportment, but sternly self-repressive.

No man knows when first the forge for fighting weapons was set up in the dawn of Japanese history nor who was the man who first replaced the rude bronze blades of a primitive folk by the tempered steel of the Yamato blade. There is in the imperial collection of swords at the castle of Nara the weapon worn by the Crown Prince Shotoku, who compiled the constitution of seventeen articles in A. D. 603, the oldest sword known in Japan. From that weapon, which was straight and not curved as all other swords of Nippon are, down to the fall of the Tokugawa shogunate in the middle of the last century there is an unbroken history of the art of the swordsmith. Twelve centuries of recorded art in swordmaking and the names of over 10,000 names constitute the history of the sword in Japan.

The Japanese blade, placed almost on a par with the Damascus product in art and utility, differs from the Arabian weapon in one material detail of manufacture. Instead of having a uniform high temper, which gives the remarkable flexibility possessed by the Damascus blade, the Japanese sword has two tempers, a hard and a mild steel.

The edge of the blade is hard with the finest temper, the body and back of a milder temper, sufficient to give some elasticity. A Japanese sword cannot be bent half double with the pressure of a hand; it is nearly rigid.

Though sword manufacture has ceased to be in Japan today outside of the government arsenals, which turn out only the accepted military blade of the modern army, the country is filled with prized relics of the past art, and these are relics which the Japanese will not sell. A possessor of one of the old swords, keen and blue white in luster as the day it was forged, would sell his house, even himself maybe, before he would part with his iron Bible of Bushido for money.—Japan Magazine.

Form of Divorce in Old Rome.

In the earlier period of the Roman republic divorces were quite unknown and were rare right up to the time of the Sullan wars. In the old days the husband and wife who wished to separate appeared for the last time before the common hearth, a priest and priestess being present. As on the day of marriage, a cake of wheaten flour was presented to the husband and wife, but instead of sharing it between them they rejected it. Then, instead of prayers, they pronounced formulas of a strange, severe, spiteful character, by which the wife renounced the worship and gods of the husband. From that moment the religious bond was broken, and the community of worship having ceased to exist, the marriage without further ado was forever dissolved.—New York American.

Notice of Street Improvement To Whom It May Concern:

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Grande, Oregon, on the 8th day of June, 1910, creating Improvement District No. 1, 2 and 3 and designating Spruce and North Spruce Street from the alley between Adams Avenue and Jefferson Avenue to "Y" Avenue; Madison Avenue from Elm Street to North Spruce Street; Monroe Avenue from Elm Street to North Spruce Street; the alley between "S" Avenue and "T" Avenue from Block 150, Chaplin's Supplemental Addition to North Spruce Street; the alley between "R" Avenue and "S" Avenue from Elm Street to North Spruce Street; "T" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street; Jackson Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street; "U" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street; "V" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street; East and West through center block 137 Chaplin's Supplemental addition; "W" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street; the alley between "V" Avenue and "W" Avenue, from North Ash Street to North Depot Street; "X" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street; alley between "W" Avenue and "X" Avenue from North Fourth Street to North Depot Street; "Y" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street, as District No. 2, and in pursuance of a resolution adopted by said Common Council on the 8th day of June, 1910, whereby said Council determined and declared its intention to improve all that portion of said District No. 2, as hereinafter described by constructing sewers therein, the council will, ten days after the service of this notice upon the owners of the property affected and benefited by such improvements or order that said described improvements be made; that the boundaries of said

district to be so improved are as follows: Spruce Street and North Spruce Street from the alley between Adams Avenue and Jefferson Avenue to "Y" Avenue.—Madison Avenue from Elm Street to North Spruce Street, Monroe Avenue from Elm Street to North Spruce Street,—the alley between "S" Avenue and "T" Avenue from Block 150 Chaplin's Supplemental Addition, to North Spruce Street, the alley between "R" Avenue and "S" Avenue, from Elm Street to North Spruce Street, "T" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street, Jackson Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street, "U" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street, Depot Street to North Spruce Street, East and West through the center of Block 137 Chaplin's Supplemental Addition, "W" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street, the alley between "V" Avenue and "W" Avenue, from North Ash Street to North Depot Street, "X" Avenue from North Depot Street to N. Spruce Street, the alley between "W" Avenue and "X" Avenue from North Fourth Street to North Depot Street, "Y" Avenue from North Depot Street to North Spruce Street.

Notice is hereby further given that the Council will levy a special assessment on all the property affected and benefited by such improvement for the purpose of paying for such improvement. That the estimated cost of such improvement is the sum of \$33,972.39.

That the Council will on the 13th day of July, 1910, meet at the Council chamber at the hour of 8 o'clock, P. M., to consider said estimated cost, and the levy of said assessment, when a hearing will be granted to any person feeling aggrieved by such assessment.

La Grande, Oregon, June 22, 1910.
CITY COUNCIL OF LA GRANDE, OREGON.
By D. E. COX, Recorder of the City of La Grande, Oregon.

Call For Bids.

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the construction of 870 feet of sewer, to be built according to the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Recorder of the City of La Grande, Oregon, will be received at the office of said Recorder up to 4 o'clock p. m., on Wednesday, July 6th, 1910. All bids to be accompanied by a certified check for 5 per cent of each bid. The city reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

La Grande, Oregon, June 24th, 1910
J. K. SHEAK,
G. D. FLEMING,
W. J. CHURCH,

Health, Sewerage and Water Commission.
June 24-July 6

Notice of Street Improvement

To Whom It May Concern:

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Grande, Oregon, on the 9th day of Feb., 1910, creating Improvement District No. 17 and designating Jefferson Avenue, as such district, and in pursuance of a resolution adopted by said Common Council on the 17th day of June, 1910, whereby said Council determined and declared its intention to improve all that portion of Jefferson Ave. in said improvement district as hereinafter described, by building sidewalk 12 feet wide, the Council will, ten days after the service of this notice upon the owners of the property affected and benefited by such improvement, order that such above described improvement be made; that the boundaries of said district to be so improved are as follows: All that portion of Jefferson Avenue from the East line side of Depot Street to the West line of Lot 5, B. 113 Chaplin's Add.

Notice is hereby further given that the Council will levy a special assessment on all the property affected and benefited by such improvement for the purpose of paying for such improvement. That the estimated cost of such improvement is the sum of \$600.00.

That the Council will on the 13th day of July, 1910, meet at the Council chamber at the hour of 8 o'clock, P. M., to consider said estimated cost and the levy of said assessment, when a hearing will be granted to any person feeling aggrieved by such assessment.

La Grande, Oregon, June 22, 1910.
CITY COUNCIL OF LA GRANDE, OREGON.
By D. E. COX, Recorder of the City of La Grande, Oregon.
June 28-July 6