

THE OBSERVER

Published Daily Except Sunday.

BRUCE DENNIS,
Editor and Owner.

Entered at the postoffice at La Grande as second-class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, single copy..... 5c
Daily, per week..... 35c
Daily, per month..... \$1.00

This paper will not publish an article appearing over a nom de plume. Signed articles will be revised subject to the discretion of the editor. Please sign your articles and save disappointment.

ONLY A FEW MORE DAYS.

The Union County exposition will open next week with a most gorgeous display of bunting, band music, high class displays and trade exhibits. And in that opening Union county shouts to the outside world, "Come and dwell with us."

No place in the whole universe is labor so well repaid as in Union and Wallawa counties. Here the man who tills the soil is sure of his crops. The man who raises fruit never sees a failure. The man who deals in lumber is positive of his output and a market for it. And the man who raises wheat on a large scale is certain to get a portion of the million dollars brought into this valley each year by that cereal.

Great is the Grande Ronde valley. Greater by far than most of us realize. With sure crops, with a well organized county, with good roads, with schools and churches already built, this county offers to the settler propositions that cannot in any way be duplicated in the northwest.

And the exposition next week will tell the whole story at a glance. There you will see just what can be done in this valley. You will observe what this soil mingled with a little labor will produce. You will witness the splendid fruit raised on land that a few years ago was thought to produce nothing but wheat. And you will see the La Grande mercantile establishments well represented.

Come and look it over.

WHY NOT HAVE ONE ELECTION?

Now that the primary election is over it would appear that the final returns are just about as uncertain as they were before. The primary would theoretically nominate a set of men for each of two theoretical parties, and the election would decide which of the two parties was to dominate, but here in Oregon, there being no clearly divided parties, where does it come in? The people are all howling over what a great thing the direct primary is, as it eliminates bosses from the party, but the same people are doing their best to destroy the party by Statement No. 1, so it occurs to me to ask, What good is the primary anyhow?

Theoretically, it narrows the field to two parties or so, but now it seems that it is still possible for other candidates to enter the field and the only result has been to eliminate a few undesirables. So I would suggest, why not abolish the primary altogether and have one direct election and have it over with and the man who gets

the most votes gets the office, all the same as direct legislation.

Let any man who has the money to canvass for signatures get on the ballot for any office he wants or make it free for all without any petitions and let everybody in. It seems to me this would be as logical as our direct legislation system. If then there are not enough offices to go around we can just create a few dozen or more by direct legislation, so that there will be enough.

In this glorious progressive state where every man is his own legislature, let us also have it so that each man has his own office.—Z. M. Chase in the Oregonian.

CAMPAIGN ON EDUCATION.

Most heartily does The Oregonian approve the following plank in the platform of the Methodist Episcopal conference held recently at Hillsboro.

"We should take the month of October for a campaign of education. Our churches should be open for the full discussion of the question; literature should be circulated through our Sunday schools; school houses all around our towns give us an opportunity and street meetings are fruitful of results among a class not reached by our pulpits.

But this effort should be put forth to spread the gospel of temperance, of total abstinence from the use of intoxicating liquor, not in the tried and ineffective cause of prohibition. And not only in October, but throughout the year, should the followers of John Wesley preach the doctrine of shunning vice wherever people gather to hear them.

It may safely be assumed that if saloons of the United States had to depend on support from the membership of the Methodist church, 99 per cent of them would go out of business at once. Do prohibitory enactments affect the attitude of Methodists toward the evil of intemperance? Isn't it true that education—most of all, spiritual education—has taught them to abstain from intemperate use of liquors? Statutes do not get at the root of evil; least of all statutes that cannot be enforced. The cure for intemperance lies where the great body of Methodists learned it—in the education of the mind and heart.

Elder Ford A. Ellis enters the People's Forum today with a rather strange communication. In one sentence he seems to admit that public sentiment is not with the local option law, while in the next he urges the necessity of continuing it. The Elder apparently has the correct understanding that the local option law is not backed by public sentiment even though a majority voted for it two years ago.

A man from North Powder says: "I regret that so many people confuse our community with Baker county, when we are really a part of Union. I have a high regard for Baker but I want to be classed in the Grande Ronde valley, the garden spot of the earth." That North Powder man is not only patriotic, but he is sensible.

Whether it be called states rights or not, the mining congress at Los Angeles was right when it voted for state's to have control of their resources. But congress may not see the matter as did the miners.

Well, Roosevelt, is a hummer. He

can come the nearest contradicting himself and yet receive the people's glad hand of any man in existence today. Compare the New York state platform with some of the speeches the Colonel has been making.

Nothing but praise is heard for the fair at Enterprise. The La Grande visitors admit that Wallawans know the game and above all they point to the hospitality that was extended during their visit.

Now that an airship has beaten a train, stock in airship companies should begin to soar.

THE LOT OF HARDSHIP.

It is Ever the School in Which Greatness is Taught.

There is a purpose in circumstance. Nothing in our lives is for naught. All things which have been given us, even our chains, are meant for our making—meant for the working out of our goodly destiny. Bunyan in prison, apparently cursed by sunless hours of solitude and loneliness, was a greater Bunyan than if he had been free to roam afield. The walls which shut his body in could not confine his soul. It escaped them and went out into all the world to lift to higher levels the hope and vision of mankind. The log cabin in which Lincoln was born lent its ruggedness and simplicity to the man himself and has become a shrine which men approach with reverent feet as to some holy place which love and truth have glorified. The hard lot is ever the school in which greatness is taught, and the best scholars are those who perceive the purpose of difficulty and do not grow bitter as they grapple with it. The very genius of progressive living consists in a capacity to appreciate the day and what the day holds, to find in all seasons and events a divine conspiracy to refine the soul and make it a greater soul, to hail hardship with grim gladness and bless the hills which must be climbed, to look with kindly eyes upon every human thing to accept with complacency the small circle of opportunity until it has been shown that we are worthy to move in a wider one. Along no other path may we come to our best and largest estate of being and serving.—Richard Wightman in Metropolitan Magazine.

Her Little Joke.

"When Harold proposed to me," said Maud, "I told him to go and ask papa." "But you don't really care for him?" said Maymie. "Of course not. But I do so love to play little jokes on papa." —Washington Star.

Nothing is little that is our duty, and a common life with homely surroundings is the best discipline for most of us.



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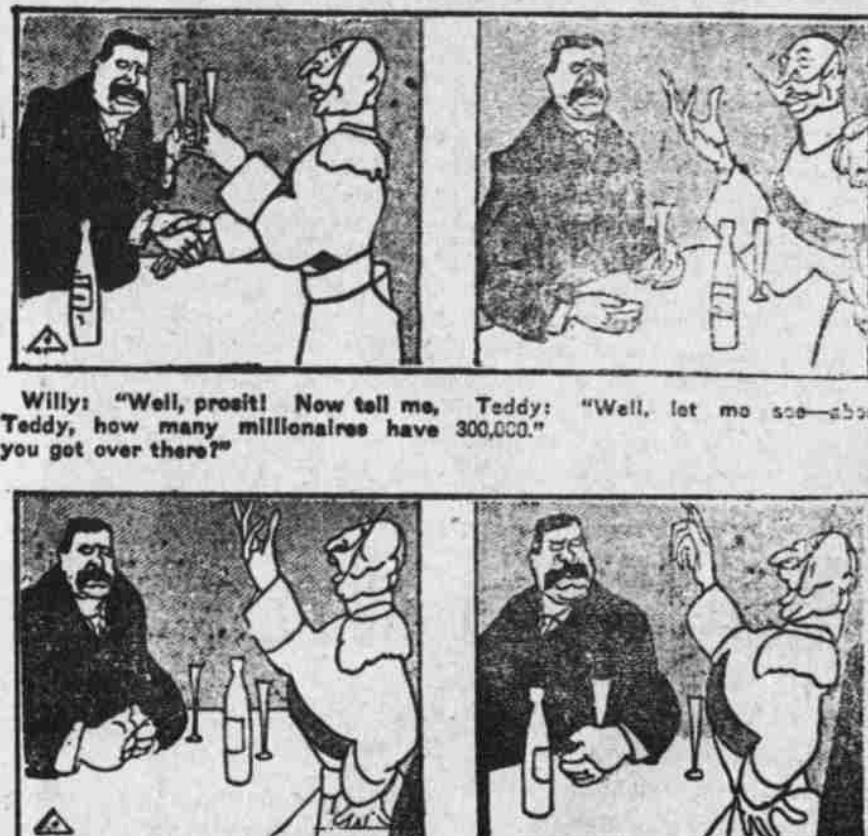
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IN BERLIN.



Willy: "Well, prosit! Now tell me, Teddy, how many millionaires have you got over there?"

Teddy: "Well, let me see—about 300,000."

Explained. "He can't tell a lie."

"Honest?"

"He must be a man of great integrity."

"Oh, yes, that's the good thing."

Three hundred thousand! Could we get a few of them over here? Say one or two thousand! If we promise them some title, say *commercenrat* or *geheimrat*."

"No, that doesn't attract Americans."

"Now I have it. The nobility!"

"Oh, no, that isn't for Americans. Not at all. But we pay cash for things. How much will you take for your whole Germany?"

—From Der Floh, Vienna.

The Cookbook.

Whipped cream is the best sauce to serve with shortcake.

A dash of curry is believed by some epicures to be an improvement to fried and poached eggs.

A cup of milk added to the water in which oatmeal is cooked makes it much richer and adds a great deal to the flavor.

A spoonful of sugar added to the water for basting meat will give it a rich brown color, and the flavor will be much improved.

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