

THE OBSERVER

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MR. McALLISTER ON FINANCIAL MATTERS.

J. W. McAllister, once a representative in the lower house of Oregon's legislature, has an article in the People's Forum today in which he says many things, but more specifically calls attention to the question of taxation as it applies to the liquor question.

Now, if there is any one condition that makes the steam gauge on the tax chest shoot skyward it is the alleged local option law. That very thing has caused many localities to grow tired of it, especially when the ineffectiveness was apparent as it is in Union county.

If Mr. McAllister's argument is to be followed then all of the taxable property in La Grande should not be compelled to assist in paying the expense of the two murder trials now before the court, for each of these cases came from the rural part of the county, and if you will investigate you will find neither of the murders was caused either directly or indirectly by liquor.

But we have all heard Mr. McAllister's arguments along other lines and while he is a splendid citizen, a successful man, has been honored to political office by his neighbors in the past, yet there are some things that the majority of Union county people cannot agree with him upon.

And one of these issues is the present one that is under discussion. Two years ago great claims were made as to what prohibition would do for La Grande. Have these claims been fulfilled? Ask anyone who has lived here, even the honest advocates of alleged prohibition. Have those claims been fulfilled?

Men and measures are only judged by results. What other communities may have done is not particularly interesting to Union county, or at it is not of as much interest as what is best to do at the coming election to better conditions and make this county a better place to reside in and for the investment of capital.

Mr. McAllister's idea of arraying the country against the city will not stand the test, for as a rule the men who reside in the country have friends among the people of the city and vice versa. And these friends will be unwilling to either start a city-country feud or lend their support to seeing one started. Especially is this good reasoning when it is considered that La Grande could not be the splendid little city she is without the Grande

Ronde valley and the Grande Ronde valley land values would in no instance be what they are without an organized municipality such as La Grande is.

When you enter the booth on election day to vote weigh all sides carefully and sincerely removing prejudice and agitation, and let your judgment rest on results of those who were foremost in pledging what would be accomplished if Union county accepted their teaching and belief two years ago.

IMPORTANCE OF WATER COMMISSIONER.

People should not treat the office of water commissioner too lightly, for it is very important. Being a new office only created at the last session of the legislature, many fail to understand what part it plays in the state's affairs. Of course, in the Willamette valley and other sections where there is no irrigation the commissioner is not considered but all over Eastern Oregon there should be a desire on the part of the voters to elect a man to the place who is qualified.

George Cochran, of this city, is the Republican candidate. He was chosen by the direct primary and is therefore the party nominee. Locally everyone knows Mr. Cochran's ability for the place, but for the benefit of those who are not familiar with his record, it is but proper to state a few facts.

When the present commissioner, F. M. Saxton—who was appointed to the office—had a case in this section of the state it proved to be the first case that had come before him. George Cochran was attorney for one of the parties interested and when the water court was ready to hear testimony it was found that no rules of procedure had been laid down by Mr. Saxton and in fact scarcely anything had been done to point out a path for the court to proceed or for the property owner to get into the new court. Mr. Cochran was the man who blazed the trail in these matters, and while he showed every courtesy to Commissioner Saxton, that official not only accepted the suggestions of Cochran, but those suggestions were woven into a code of rules that are operative today in the water court and are used all over the state.

If it is ability the people are seeking for their water commissioner it will be well to investigate the statements made above and convince yourselves that we are speaking the truth.

A BALLOT THAT IS THE LIMIT.

Copy for the official ballot is now in the hands of the printer, and for size, unwieldiness and monstrosities it is the limit. It is a bulletin of foolish whims and fancies, so far as the measures are concerned, evidently fathered by fanatical and whimsical individuals. To read it one would think that Oregon had just been discovered and that a herd of hair-brains had stamped into this state, each of whom was bound to run it to suit himself.

It is no wonder someone has advocated the short ballot. It is no wonder that people are clamoring that something is wrong. For something is decidedly wrong when the intelligent element of voters will permit their public affairs to reach the chaotic condition they are today reaching in Oregon. Initiative and referendum, the

spirit of which is good have been baselessly abused, and are being used in election for personal gain and to curtail liberties, reduce property valuation in some localities and enhance it in others.

How long it will continue the good Lord only knows. Probably this will last until the bread and butter problem becomes so strenuous and complex that attention will be diverted to it instead of creating more offices and increasing taxes.

SOLDIER AGAINST BANK CLERK

When the Spanish-American war was on, where was Bowerman?

Enlisted under the flag of his country. At the same time where was Oswald West?

He was clerking in a bank and wearing good clothes.

Today Bowerman and West are each running for governor of Oregon.

Do you want the soldier boy or do you want the bank clerk to fill the governor's chair?

Don't worry about Pendleton. She is a wild west town and has not gotten over the tendency to throw eggs and shoot out the street lights. Didn't she have a thoroughly wild west round-up a few weeks ago? But Pendleton will come out all right. Watch her.

The moonlight rainbow is a new excuse for spending young people to stay out late at night. But if it was not the rainbow something else would suffice for an excuse.

Wellman did not at first succeed but he will fly, fly again.

ELECTION BET A DOSE OF CASTOR OIL

MAN AGREES TO DRINK AN ENTIRE BOTTLE.

Claims Wallowa County by Three Hundred and Makes Wager.

Enterprise, Ore., Oct. 25 (Special)—So firmly convinced that Col. Ivanhoe will win the re-election of district attorney a citizen of Enterprise has made a strange wager. He agrees if Ivanhoe's majority in Wallowa county is less than 200 that he will drink the contents of a bottle of castor oil.

No strings are attached to the wager and the man stoutly proclaims that if he loses he will take his "medicine" like a man in full view of the public and that he will never complain. While he is not a politician and knows nothing of the game he is a man who travels over the county a great deal and sees many people.

LARGEST GAME FISH.

The Tuna Sometimes Attains a Weight of 2,000 Pounds.

Charles Frederick Holder, the California naturalist, thus describes that remarkable fish, the tuna: "The tuna is a pelagic fish, a free lance, an ocean rover, a sort of swaggering musketeer of the sea, the largest of what may be termed the game or bony fishes, attaining a maximum weight of nearly 2,000 pounds and an approximate length of fourteen feet or more. Such a fish is very exceptional, though specimens weighing 1,500 pounds have been taken on the New England coast. I once entered a school of such tunas in the Santa Catalina channel in a big launch. The school divided to port and starboard as we passed through it, and I had a view of one or two fishes that appeared to be more than half as long as the boat.

"These fishes spend the winter in warm latitudes and migrate north as far as the mouth of the St. Lawrence. They are found in the Mediterranean and north to the Loffoden island, yet so far the efforts of anglers, except at Santa Catalina, have failed to take them with the rod. Even here there is a stretch of but eight miles or so where they can be satisfactorily played and taken with rod and reel.

"This region lies on the north side of Santa Catalina, from Avalon to Long point, and to the east as many more, facing the north, and generally smooth—more like a Scottish loch than a fishing ground twenty miles in sea."—Chicago News.

TIME TO THINK OF Warmer Underwear

Three great lines of dependable underwear — unexcelled in quality



Next to the wear, the best test of underwear is when it comes back from the laundry.

ATHENA UNDERWEAR

while made from fabrics that provide warmth and comfort without bulk comes back from the laundry in satisfactory condition. The trimmings are not torn, nor do they have a ragged appearance. The garment (except for reasonable wear) presents the same dainty appearance that it did the first day you bought it. Such underwear is a real pleasure to the woman who appreciates refinement in dress.

Have you seen the line? If not, it's a good time to look.

STEPHENSON UNDERWEAR MILLS

MANUFACTURERS "Staley Brand" Men's Underwear. HIGH GRADE, FEEL SIZES, ECONOMICAL AND GOOD FITTING, DURABLE, COMFORTABLE TO WEAR. HEAVY AND LIGHT WEIGHTS. IN THE PIECE GARMENTS AND UNION SUITS. SOUTH BEND, INDIANA



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Come in today and look over our great line of wools. We can suit in price and quality.

N. K. WEST The QUALITY STORE

Better. "I always hope for the best." "Do you?" "Yes." "Can't you do better?" "Better than hope for the best?" "Yes." "How could I?" "Do a little hard work for it."

A True Sport. "I suppose you have a gay life since you moved to town?" "Oh, I burn up a dollar occasionally!" "Do you patronize the theater much?" "There isn't a week I don't go to the moving picture show."

Good Girl. "She is a wonderfully fascinating girl." "Can sing all the popular songs, I suppose?" "Yes." "I don't call that fascinating." "But she doesn't."

The Baffling Pursuit. What is there I can say or do. Pull off, put over or push through. Discover, execute or write. Attack or vanquish in a fight. What can I aid or start or stop. Advance or hinder, lift or drop. That I may soon be loafing round On fame's eternal camping ground?

I cannot grab a sword and fight. Because there are no wars in sight. Search for the pole I need not press. That's been discovered more or less. It useless is to rise and soar. For that's been done, I find, before. So how can I get in on the game And win a small degree of fame?

I can't a comet find or lose— They're getting common as old shoes. I can't strike Billy Patterson Or make the Keeley motor run. I cannot write Bill Shakespeare's plays Or even start the blue glass crane Or tear a lion limb from limb. What can I do to capture fame? All things are threadbare, old and tame

Want ads pay, one cent a word.

Leigh Hunt's Grave. In the serene silence of Kensal Green cemetery, London, Leigh Hunt's body lies at rest. A visitor, reaching over the iron fence to part the fragrant shrubs that shadow the tombstone, reads these words: "Write me as one who loves his fellow men." It was his own cheerful philosophy of life that Leigh Hunt expressed through the lips of his Abou Ben Adhem, and the sentiment is very touching come upon in this way.

Classified Advertising

FOR SALE—At a bargain, if taken at once, a No. 2, Smith Premier Typewriter in good condition. Call or write Lee Humphrey's store at Island City.

WANTED—To rena piano—No children. Apply at this office.

FOR SALE—Thirty-thirty Sav.

Mrs. Robert Pattison agent for GOSSARD CORSETS

PRICES \$3.50 and Up PHONE Black 81 or Black 1481

rifle and .38 caliber Colts revolver. Phone Black 272.

WANTED—Four or five ironers and mangle girls at once. A. B. C. Laundry.

WANTED—Position by a man as cook and wife as helper. Camp preferred. Call at Observer office, if

WANTED—position by man and wife as cook and helper. Camp preferred.

Would like to buy farm direct from owner. State particulars. Mrs. K. Chandler, general delivery.

FOR SALE—Household furniture, 2 iron beds, 1 rocker, sewing machine. Mrs. J. E. Coffey, 2202 1st street.

You Doubtless Appreciate

Prompt, Painstaking attention to the details of your Banking Business. This is where we can be of real Service to You.



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