

THE OBSERVER

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AS OTHERS SEE US.

The Boise Capital News recently printed the following editorial on "A Nine-foot Ballot" and it is so sensible and timely that it is given here:

That is the length of the ballot which Oregon people will have to work through on election day, and in some counties where there are various county and precinct laws "initiated" and where others will be submitted on "referendum," the ballot will be still longer.

Is it any wonder that the state of Oregon has been driven to the expedient of publishing a newspaper for the purpose of attempting to inform the people of the state of the various and sundry details which are to be submitted to them for settlement?

The length of the ballot in Oregon over that of other states, is due chiefly to the excessive number of laws to be submitted to the voters for enactment.

What business concern could succeed where each stockholder demanded the right to a full expression of his views and of his voice in every detail of the business? Suppose the railways, before taking any action upon any matter should first submit the question to each hand every stockholder of such railway for approval or disapproval; such a railway would not be able to transact business enough or satisfactorily enough to warrant holding its right-of-way. The public would be disgusted with such service and justly too.

Yet the initiative and referendum proposes to place the details of state government into just such a position, and the recall proposes to make it possible for a small percentage of the people, the stockholders, to keep the natural running of things disturbed and agitated, by demanding a vote upon the question of whether or not any or all of the officers from the highest to the most subordinate, shall continue in the service.

If it is a good thing for the state, it would be a good thing for the nation; why not demand that all laws enacted by congress shall first be submitted to the people by the referendum, before becoming effective? True, a few, like the present tariff law, for instance, might never have become a law, but meanwhile the old one would have remained, and it certainly is no worse, or better, just as you look at it.

The point is this: Under the direct primary the people have a direct voice in the selection of the men to conduct the business of the state. They do not

have to trust to inefficient and poorly selected men, unless they wish to do so. Terms of office are short, why is it not better to trust these men to transact the business of the state as it should be transacted for such a short period and then either retain them or turn them out as their service may deserve, at the end of the time?

That is the way all other business is done; why transact public business with less sense than private or corporate business?

THE COUNTY POOR FARM.

Of all the campaigns this is the one that sparkles with shikanery. Listen to what a man by the name of B. F. Wilson of Union has to say in a letter to the voters. Wilson says:

"The county poor farm costs upwards of \$200 a month. It can be run at a maximum cost of \$100 per month."

This one statement shows the nature of the man who would delude voters into supporting him. He either is ignorant, or else he is wilfully attempting to deceive, for the fact is, the county poor farm is practically a self-sustaining institution. The crops taken from the land pay the expense of the farm.

Mr. Wilson has been county judge and he should be sufficiently interested in county affairs to know about the poor farm. If he does know about it then he is placing himself in the attitude of a man who is trying to practice deception on the people.

But it is not necessary to take any statement in Wilson's letter to convince the people that he is the last man in the county for the judgeship. Look at his record. Figures do not lie. A Wilson administration would be the most expensive thing Union county could indulge in. It has proven so in the past, and there is no disposition whatever on the part of Union county to burn themselves on the same iron twice.

CHOICE CARLOAD JONATHANS EAST

NEW YORKERS WILL ENJOY DELICIOUS APPLES SHIPPED.

One of the Finest Shipments of Fruit Ever Made from This Valley.

Some people in Buffalo, N. Y., are going to know what kind of fruit is raised in the Grande Ronde valley for today Ramsey & Co. billed out a carload of Jonathan apples that certainly look good, taste good, and are good. It is a special order from some of the nabob New Yorkers who instructed Mr. Ramsey that the best was what they were seeking. With this instruction the fruit man scoured the valley for first class fruit and then had it packed in the most approved manner.

In speaking of the shipment today Mr. Ramsey said: "I have never seen a nicer car load of apples. Colored as they are the most delicate touch of nature's coloring and sized to a uniformity, I want to say that to look at this shipment makes one proud that he is living in a country



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With our ample resources and facilities we can render you efficient service and handle your business to your entire satisfaction.

with such a wonderful resource as the fruit industry. And it is only in its infancy. No one dared let his imagination stretch to what is possible for this valley in the future."

"The Cow and the Moon."

Musical extravaganzas, kladoscopic pictures, rapid change of scenery, gorgeous costumes and plenty of them, riotous fun and color, music and mirth seem to be what the theatre going public want. Chas. A. Sellon, who has appeared here in that favorite musical extravaganza, "The Cat and the Fiddle" seems to have gauged the public fancy, and this season is presenting a brand new entertainment of this sort and will be seen at the Stewart on Tuesday, November 1. It has the title of "The Cow and the Moon," most peculiar but at once interesting. It deals with earth beings and immortals from the Moon, and Molly, the vaulting cow who nimbly leaps over the Moon is sure to be great fun for the kiddies as well as the older folk. Mr. Sellon will be seen as happy a continuation of the character he played "The Cat and the Fiddle" and he will be surrounded by a cast of forty or more together with a large and capable chorus.

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, on the 5th day of August, 1909, creating Improvement District No. 4 and designating Washington avenue as such district, and in pursuance of a resolution adopted by said Common Council on the 28th day of September, 1910, whereby said Council determined and declared its intention to improve all that portion of Washington avenue, in said improvement district as hereinafter described, by laying thereon cement walk, the Council will, ten days after the service of this notice upon the owners of the property affected

and benefitted by such improvement, order that said above described improvement be made; that boundaries of said district to be so improved are as follows: All that portion of Washington avenue from the east curb line of First street, to the west curb line of Spruce street. Notice is hereby further given that the Council will levy a special assessment on all the property affected and benefitted by such improvement for the purpose of paying for such improvement. That the estimated cost of such improvement is the sum of \$8061.35. That the Council will on the 9th day of November, 1910, meet at the Council chamber at the hour of 8 o'clock at 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, Oct. 26, 1910. CITY COUNCIL OF LA GRANDE, OREGON. By D. E. COX, Recorder of the City of La Grande, Oregon Oct 27 to Nov. 7

Notice to Contractors.

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the office of the City Recorder until eight o'clock p. m. November 2nd, 1910 for the construction of 2068 lineal feet of cement sidewalk, said walk to be built in accordance with the specifications on file in this office, and to be five feet in width.

Said walk to be built on Main street both sides from First street to Fourth street, and on Fifth street from Depot street to O avenue on the east side. Council reserves the right to receive or reject any or all bids.

By order of the Council, October 26, 1910. D. E. COX, Recorder of the City of La Grande, Oregon. Oct. 27 Nov. 7

More Beets. The Wallowa train brought in six cars of beets this afternoon.

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—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.

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

WANTED—Responsible party to take the agency of Union and Wallowa counties for the Phelps Carbide Feed Acetylene Generator for individual

FOR RENT—Furnished rooms. Call at 1705 Front street.

FOR SALE—Good heating stove. Reason for sale too small for store. Dalton 1318 Adams avenue.

O. R. Coolidge has received a car of fruit paper. Mr. Coolidge in speaking of the shipment said the paper was of unusually good quality and all demands can be supplied.

Adcock and Fritz, the furniture men are unloading today a car load of furniture, the shipment includes some of the finest golden oak patterns ever offered in the city, the leather upholstered rockers that are now on display are models of beauty.

Mrs. Robert Pattison agent for GOSSARD CORSETS PRICES \$3.50 and Up PHONE Black 81 or Black 1481

The Up-Building of This Bank is due to the fact that we have ample capital and that we have adhered to a policy which has been conservative, yet along progressive lines. We offer to our customers modern facilities for the prompt and proper transaction of their financial affairs; ample vault and safe room for storing and safe-guarding of their money, notes, insurance policies and other valuable papers and such liberality of treatment as is consistent with prudent banking. YOUR account is cordially solicited. The United States National Bank, LA GRANDE, OREGON