

THE OBSERVER
BRUCE DENNIS

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THE FELLOW WHO KNOCKS SANTA CLAUS.

One of the most pleasant features of the Christmas just passed is the positive evidence produced on every hand that Santa Claus still continues to do business at the old stand; that the pretty story which has survived ages with various degrees of popularity is today even in stronger favor than ever before.

Beware of the man or woman who knocks Santa Claus. Heed not the wisecrack who sits tight and with prim mouth utters regret at the world rejoicing over a fable. Trust but slightly him who will take a youngster upon his knee and endeavor to break down the beautiful pictures of Santa Claus that childhood sweet and pure has painted. For the person who is so calloused to the finer things of life is unfit for association either of the children or older people.

Age does not bar the happiness derived from Kris Kringle tales. For some one has very truthfully said,

"Men are only boys grown tall,
Hearts don't change much after all."

Some years ago even the churches imagined they could find something that would be more interesting than the old Christmas tree. A material age had prompted many to the belief that old fashioned things were doomed, therefore chimney corners and toboggan slides and Christmas baskets and fireplaces were tried to displace that sacred old tree which our mothers and grandmothers rallied around when they were children.

And what was the result? Everyone knows. Nobody warmed up to the new

fangled idea of Christmas observance. Churches saw a decline in attendance at Christmas time. It seems to us about that moment some good old mother who had not learned that talking in a low tone of voice was a mark of aristocracy, came walking down the aisle of a country meeting house with her hands outstretched singing "The Oldtime Christmas Tree is Good Enough For Me." That settled it for the whole country plunged headlong back to the good old days of evergreen trees, of Santa Claus and his reindeers. Then some person with wrinkled brain thought he would supplant the reindeer with an automobile. That lasted but one season and was not popular at that.

So, in the year 1910 we find everything in proper adjustment and a thoroughly old fashioned Christmas pulled off in La Grande. Nature provided a beautiful blanket of snow and the weather was ideal. The churches did their part and seemingly each individual did his. La Grande was full of happy, contented, home-loving people yesterday. So far as known there was no suffering in the community and but little poverty. The Santa Claus knocker was not recognized and the whole world was bright.

A good time to count your blessings. Don't you think so?

HOW CAN UNION LOSE!

Eastern Oregon is living under a heavy tension at present for the next two or three days awaiting the decision of Governor Jay Bowerman regarding the location of the branch hospital for the insane. He has visited all sites offered, has made a personal investigation of the claims of each community and is now weighing the evidence.

We believe that Union will be chosen, for when the one question of merit is to be considered, as we understand it is to be in this case, undoubtedly a community with as much to offer as Union has cannot be surpassed by either of the other two aspirants—Pendleton and Baker.

Economy of operation is a big factor to such an institution and the hot water near Union insures a minimum expense for fuel. In fact no fuel will be needed to heat the building which means a saving of probably \$25,000 each year. This item alone is of sufficient weight to offset many disadvantages, if they can be produced against Union.

Taking everything into consideration we cannot see how Union will lose in this contest.

Senator Bourne has gone to the expense of mailing out a sworn statement of the money he expended in the last campaign. He also encloses what several eastern papers have concerning his views of Oregon's method of government. That is all right, Senator, no one is complaining about your expense account, and Oregon knows she has the best government on earth, but what we want in this state is more statesmanship and less office seeking. Let us all form a night school and give the national questions a little study, for Oregon cannot afford to leave her welfare in the hands of eastern senators and representatives. Aldrich never did think much of Oregon, Senator Bourne and several other eastern senators share the views of Aldrich. And to be brutally frank, what Oregon wants Senator Bourne to do is this: Do a little thinking and working to head off and offset the work of his colleagues who are interested wholly in the east. Yes, Oregon's plan of government of all right from start to finish but is Senator Bourne carrying out the wishes

of the people, or is he devoting his time and energy trying to build a road for his return to the senate? This is something for the people to decide?

LOCAL THEATRES

Game Cocks to Show Here.

Jim Crow the famous fighting cock will be a part of the show at the Orpheum commencing tonight. The entire program changes today and the house ad tells the story. The program is longer and local people who saw portions of the program at Pendleton declare it to be an excellent attraction. The house is confident of pleasing every individual attending this week.

Johnson-Jeffries Pictures Coming.

An advance agent for the Johnson-Jeffries Reno fight was in the city yesterday and completed arrangements for bringing the pictures here next Saturday. They will be "staged" at the Orpheum theatre.



Cecile Gordon the original Brinkley Girl at the Orpheum.

The Cactus as a Food Plant.

Did you ever suffer the pangs of thirst? Did the seductive High Ball, the voluptuous Stein or the all sufficient Tin Cup ever become an impossibility in your scheme of things? If you were dying of thirst and your canteen was empty and there were no thirst emporium handy, do you suppose that you could eat a Cactus?

We doubt that you could because of the millions of thorns that grow upon them. Did you ever hear that the greatest living authority on Horticulture, Luther Burbank of Santa Rosa, Cal., a perfect wizard in the plant kingdom, had propagated a Cactus without thorns?

Now this statement is not another of the wonderful that originate from that most wonderful state of California; it is simply an actual fact dressed up in suggestive language. If any of our dear readers come from that land of Doubt and Corn Juice (Missouri) all that we can say is that we are willing to prove the statement by showing you the wonderful exhibit that will be in the northern California Citrus fair at Sacramento during the convention of the Western Fruit Jobbers February 15th to 18th, 1911.—Bulletin.

NOBODY SPARED.

Kidney Trouble Attack La Grande Men and Women, Old and Young. Kidney ills seize young and old. Come quickly with little warning. Children suffer in their early years. Can't control the kidney secretions. Girls are languid, nervous, suffer pain.

Women worry, can't do daily work. Men have lame and aching backs. The cure for man, woman or child, is to cure the cause—the kidneys. Doan's Kidney Pills cure sick kidneys—

Cure all forms of kidney suffering. The following testimony proves it. Mrs. S. J. Gilman, North Union, Ore. says: "We used Doan's Kidney Pills in our family about two years ago found them to be an effective kidney medicine. One of our daughters had a severe attack of kidney trouble and was unable to control the kidney secretions. Several well known remedies were tried in this case, but no benefit was received until Doan's Kidney Pills were taken. The result of their use was a permanent cure."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other. Dec 26 28' 10.

Notice to Property Owners.

Notice is hereby given that the Council of the City of La Grande, Oregon, did on the 21st day of December, 1910, pass a resolution declaring its intention to improve Cherry Street from the North side of Adams avenue to the South side of Cove avenue by grading said Cherry Street to the proper grade and by building a wagon road crossing over the railroad track; all property owners are hereby notified that they may do said work or have same done, provided the improvements are made within 30 days from the last publication of this notice, otherwise the City will cause the said improvements to be made according to the City Charter.

D. E. COX, Recorder of the City of La Grande, Dec. 23, Dec. 28.

Notice to Stockholders.

Notice is hereby given to the Stockholders of the United States National Bank of La Grande, Oregon, that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the said bank, will be held at their banking house in La Grande, Oregon, on Tuesday, January 10th, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. for the purpose of transacting any other business that may come before the meeting.

Dated at La Grande, Oregon, this sixth day of December, 1910. T. J. SCROGGIN, Cashier.

Notice to Property Owners.

Notice is hereby given that the Council of the City of La Grande, Oregon, did on the 21st day of December, 1910, pass a resolution declaring its intention of improving "X" Avenue in front of lots 1 and 16 in Block 22, Riverside Addition to the city of La Grande by building a board sidewalk five feet wide thereon; All property owners are hereby notified that they may do said work or have the same done, provided the improvements are made within 45 days from the last publication of this notice, otherwise the City will cause the said improvements to be made according to the City Charter.

D. E. COX, Recorder of the City of La Grande, Dec. 23, 28.

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D. G. BRIGHOUX, Proprietor.

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S. A. GARDINIER, Prop. and Mgr.
VAUDEVILLE--PICTURES

WEEK BEGINNING DECEMBER 26

HASHIMOTO—Japanese Water Juggler and roller skater. An Orpheum feature.
YOUNG & MANNING—A plantation comedy entitled "A Coon't Temptation, introducing Jim Crow, the actor rooster an dwo straight game roosters who put up a ht fight with maifs.
TOT YOUNG—Banjo wizard and character comedian.
MISS GRACE MANNING—The girl of the Sunny South.
CECIL GORDON AND COMPANY—In the original Brinkley Girl.

Evening Prices 15 and 25c Boxes 50c

NEW PEOPLE MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS.

Matinees Wednesdays-Saturdays-Sundays, 2 o'clock and all Holiday Matinee Prices, 10c and 15c.

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Uptown office Main 720
Residence phone Main 25
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We Clean, Press, Repair and Make Clothes to Please You

HATS BLOCKED. GIVE US A TRIAL.

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JOHN B. RATTO

WILL APPEAR IN HIS

"Character Studies from Life"

at the Stewart, Monday, December 26

DON'T FORGET GEORGE GILBERTBANCROFT AT THE STEWARD, JANUARY 2ND.

Poultry Supplies

WE ARE PREPARED TO FURNISH GRANULATED BONE, OYSTER SHELL GRIT, SCRATCH FOOD, PROTEINA, FLAX SEED MEAL, ALFALFA MEAL, POWDERS AND TONICS IN ANY QUANTITY AT RIGHT PRICES.

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