

THE OBSERVER

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Editor and Owner.

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BAILEY'S BABY ACT.

It is doubtful if this nation has ever experienced such a baby act from a United States senator as Senator Bailey of Texas attempted to put over recently when he resigned and retracted his resignation in a brief time. The Texas senator indicated by this action that he is not even the man his opponents had given him credit for being.

All will remember when he became entangled with the Waters-Pierce Oil company and there was a conviction in the public mind, although a friendly Texas legislature whitewashed his crime and told him to go and sin no more. But, while a legislature did the whitewashing, and later Bailey showed that the majority of Texas voters stood by him, there was no small part of that great state that believed him innocent. In all places of public gathering Bailey was freely discussed and it was easy to find many good men in Texas who had no use for the senator. That scandal died away and Bailey was the head of his party in the senate until he, like a schoolboy, resigned. Where the great mistake was made was when the Texas governor refused to accept the resignation. He should have wired Senator Bailey at once that he would fill the vacancy. But he did not and now the people of Texas and the remainder of the United States will have Bailey until his term of office expires. He will never be as strong again as he was before he resigned, and he was not so strong then as before he got mixed up with the Waters-Pierce Oil company.

How the prominent men of the country do crumble. The reason for this is that there are few really great men. Many become prominent, but the percentage of great men is very, very small.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE VALLEY.

The land sale made last evening when \$50,000 changed hands in order that experienced fruitgrowers could obtain a foothold here and develop a

tract of land according to their ideas means considerable to the Grande-Ronde valley as a fruit producing district. In the first place men are not giving up \$50,000 for experiments unless they have an abundance of confidence and in fact practically know what they are doing. There is no longer any question about the results of fruit culture here, if the proper methods are followed.

But this does not mean that anyone can lay off from his regular job a few weeks in the year and raise good apples. No, not by any means. Apple raising is a scientific industry. It requires more study than many people realize, and it also requires considerable good, healthy toil. The remuneration, however, is compensatory for this outlay of effort and the result is gratifying to all who stick by it. But there are dark days in apple growing the same as there is in running any kind of a business. No man should expect too much of fruit land unless he studies the business and is willing to work.

Summer events will soon be due, along with shirt waists and sailor hats. La Grande will do her part in entertaining this season, so be not afraid to put a little coin in the jackpot when asked to do so. This is the summer that La Grande makes her "coming out" announcement as the commercial center of Eastern Oregon, and denies contradiction.

A news story in last evening's Observer told of no deaths on the rails of the Harriman lines. This is worth consideration for it has cost the railroad company many thousands of dollars and deep study to provide against the possibility of accident. It is the one thing uppermost in the minds of railroad officials—to protect people who ride upon rails.

Pendleton tells of a \$90,000 wheat ranch being sold recently. But this means that Ole Oleson, neighbor to Peter Peterson, bought Peterson's ranch and instead of there being two families to feed there will in the future be only one. This is an instance where high priced real estate benefits no one except the buyer and the seller.

West has been named the "veto governor," but under conditions that existed this year this will be no handicap to him. No doubt he grandstanded quite a little, but the fact that he slashed the everlasting daylight out of a lot of bills is a satisfaction to the state as a whole.

The hobble skirt wedding in La Grande is another indication of the advancement of this city. Where is there another city in the northwest that can come forth with a hobble skirt wedding on the spur of the moment? None, not one, save La Grande.

With night riders in Idaho and a fist fight in the legislative halls at Boise that state is fast coming into the ranks of the reformers.

If W. J. Burns is not too busy perhaps he might be induced to search for the Haines murderers.

Indications for spring are very good indeed. Better get out the garden seed and sharpen the hoe.

Is Baker county going to have the



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GALL AND TALK IT OVER WITH US

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SURPLUS ..... 100,000.00  
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UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY

George Palmer, Pres. Fred J. Holmes, Vice Pres.  
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odum of letting the Haines murderers get away. It is well remembered that the slayers of Harvey Brown are still at large.

### THE DESIRE FOR CLEVERNESS.

(Vancouver (B. C.) World.)

A witness in a lawsuit this week, being asked if he had been to America in his youth, said that he went there to get clever, and added that the Americans are cleverer than we are, says the London Times. Very likely they are, for we are not a clever people; indeed, in the past we have been inclined to distrust cleverness. We have commonly used the word in a depreciatory sense, as when we say of a man that he is too clever by half or of a book that it is merely clever. Now that is all changed; and, like the witness in question, there are many of us who think they can learn to be clever, just as there are women who think they can make themselves beau-

tiful. But cleverness, like beauty, is only attractive when it is natural. It is well worth having as a gift, but the effort to attain it by force leads people to behave as if they were not human beings, but performing monkeys who had taught themselves their own tricks. Cleverness is a peculiar urban quality. The Greeks, who were a town people, were remarkable for it; the Romans, who loved the country, were not. So, in modern times, the French, who delight in town life, are the cleverest of nations; and we, who have always been a country-loving people, are not clever. But, like the Romans, we have been turned into a nation of townsmen against our natural inclination; and in the process we have, also like the Romans, fallen into a general insecurity of taste, trying to transform our natures to suit our new surroundings, not cultivating those innate qualities in which we can excel, but trying to as-

sume others in which we cannot.

### War Supplies Ordered.

(Continued from Page One.)

first soldiers arrived this afternoon.

### Cruisers Start Out.

New York, March 8.—The armored cruisers Tennessee, North Carolina and Montana, coaling here, will sail for the gulf tomorrow.

### Sees Japanese Connections.

Leavenworth, Kan., March 8.—Army officers here declare their belief that troops are being mobilized with the idea of ending negotiations between Japan and Mexico whereby Japan sought to acquire coaling stations west of the coast of Mexico. Equipment of the 13th infantry and the 3rd battalion of engineers is loaded here today. The infantry left this morning for Texas and engineers leave tomorrow.

### May Be Merely a Warning.

Washington, March 8.—Another the-

tory which does not conflict with the

occupation theory, is that the mobilization demonstration is intended as a warning to Mexico against closer relations with any other power which might strike at the Monroe doctrine.

Practically settling the doctrine at naught it is known that Japan is endeavoring to obtain a naval base on the western coast of Mexico where there are big Japanese colonies. It is learned on excellent authority the Mexican situation is the cause of the movement of troops.

### England Expresses Opinion.

London, March 8.—Mobilization of 20,000 American troops on the border is taken here as the first step toward the absorption of Mexico. It is generally admitted here by statesmen that should America annex Mexico England would accept the action and might help while Germany would vigorously protest as her interests there are large.