

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS
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OUR JERRY IS A WARRIOR BOLD.

Out of the mountainous Wallowa country came a man whose name is Jerry and whose last name is Rusk. Chasing under the common place events of a law practice he decided to run for the legislature. He did so. He was elected. Then, with the natural qualifications for a leader sticking out from every hair in his head, his colleagues made him speaker of the house. A statesman from Wallowa, if you please, and he handled the house of representatives. It is said, with marked ability.

When the session was over Jerry stuck around the valley for a while and the news of war with Mexico startled the country. Our Jerry, still a leader, decided the smell of powder would harm no man and in fact his patriotic blood became aroused. He wired the war department that he had a bunch of Rough and Readies who would fight and die for their country if necessary. All was excitement around the state capital, for it seemed that Jerry was about to muster in a regiment of fighting "sons-o-guns."

But finally the war department answered the Wallowa man's message and declined the offer, not even saying the country deemed it inadvisable at this time to have the rich Oregon blood sacrificed on a Mexican battlefield. So there will be no Rough and Readies sent under command of Col. Jerry. Shame on the war department. Why blast such a splendid showing of patriotism? Why prevent Wallowa county from being the home of a great general? Why permit this unpleasantness in Mexico to continue when with one company of Oregon's Rough and Readies could have wiped all greasers from the face of the earth, and a citizen of this state might possibly have taken Roosevelt's position when he charged up San Juan hill?

THIS IS VERY LIKELY TO OCCUR

Today there is a lawyer in La Grande, from Chicago by the name of E. W. Pease. He is investigating the west with the intention of buying fruit land for a number of clients. After visiting all the other apple producing sections he has looked over the Grande Ronde valley and this is what he said to the Evening Observer:

"I am very much pleased indeed with what I have seen here in the way of fruit lands. The prices are what attract me and as soon as I investigate the quality of fruit, if it proves good, I have my mind made up as to where my clients will buy fruit lands."

Mr. Pease will find the quality of the fruit all right and therefore he will advise all of his people to come to this valley for fruit lands. He further stated that in his opinion people in the valley do not realize what they have in the way of lands, and in the future many of the present residents will be buying Grande Ronde apple land at twice and three times the prices now asked.

It is always good for a community to have outside people come in and investigate her resources. Those who see all the time by eye come accustomed to the good things and get to thinking that just across the ridge there is something a little better, when as a matter of fact they have the cream of the country at their very door.

The warm sunshine is drying up mudholes in the residence section and

perhaps in a few days the street department can get the grader and plow at work. Every citizen should endorse bills for overtime in that department if the streets are only made presentable. La Grande should never permit another winter to overtake her with such unspeakable streets to travel upon. It shows lack of civic pride, lack of enterprise, in fact lack of everything but village custom.

IMPORTANT TO THE LUMBER INTERESTS.

There is soon to be named a new state board of forestry for Oregon and that board has the handling of \$60,000 to be used in fire protection. So far Eastern Oregon lumbermen have not been active in making recommendations as to the personnel of this board, but they should be. The vital thing to the lumber interests is fire protection, and La Grande's extensive industry has a right and it is its duty to join with other Eastern Oregon concerns and request a proper official to be named on that board.

Lumber manufacturers of La Grande are not prone to be asking things of the state and never have been, but as a matter of intense business interest they should take a stand for some one to be selected on that board who is amply qualified to assist in spending the protection fund in a way that will bring results.

From across the valley comes a rumbling that Union is already holding meetings for her horse show all of which means the loyal blood of that community is going to pull off something this year a little better than ever before—and it has been pretty good every year.

With an extra session of the legislature looming up before us why should not Oregon be happy? Not every state in the union can afford a double shot from every legislature that meets, yet Oregon seems to.

THE FARMER AND THE 'PHONE.

(New York Press.)

It must be rather a hasty legislator who is trying to impose a "rubber-neck 'phone" bill upon New Hampshire. Three, four and five party telephone lines are common in that state, and the legislator is aiming at persons who butt in on telephone talks, or who stealthily take down the receiver and eavesdrop. For either offense he wishes to impose a fine of \$10. His intentions are honorable, but he has been in too great a rush. Latest advises from New Hampshire say it is not unusual for a telephone talk in the rural districts to last from seven to 12 minutes. Subjects of the widest variety are taken up by telephone, discussed at length, and never dropped. Instead they are let gently and slowly down. Surely it is not reasonable to expect a farmer's wife not to butt in on a talk of such proportions when she may have only one minute in which to catch the rural free delivery man before he starts on his once-a-day trip and ask him to bring over a yeast cake.

Even for the eavesdropper there is something to be said. At certain times of day, in certain seasons of the year, there is not much doing in a New Hampshire farm house. What more natural than to step to the 'phone, happen on the beginning of an enthralling conversation, and not to step away. True, an extremely fastidious person would hang up the receiver. A person with a New England conscience would both hang up the receiver and go out to the barn. But fastidious persons are rare, even on Fifth avenue, and it has long been known that the New England conscience is dying from overwork. We are not defending the eavesdropper. We only say his conduct is natural. Why not recognize this and have a sliding scale, instead of the proposed flat rate of \$10? A dollar fine for merely listening, even if nothing was heard, up to \$10 in such grave cases as that where the eavesdropper heard nothing good of himself.

THE ROOSEVELT DAM.

The United States reclamation service in its work of supply moisture to arid lands has given the world five of its largest dams. It was quite appropriate that one of the largest of these, a part of the Salt river project in Arizona, should be called the Roosevelt dam in honor of the man who as president signed the act which made its construction possible.

Col. Roosevelt, in connection with his visit to Phoenix, Ariz., will formally dedicate the dam named in his honor. In this connection it is interesting to note that the Nineteenth Na-

tion Irrigation congress at which it is expected Col. Roosevelt will be one of the principal speakers at Chicago, Dec. 5 to 9, has for its president Hon. B. A. Fowler, of Phoenix, Arizona, who for many years was president of the Salt River Valley Water Users' association.

This immense dam requiring over four years' work and costing in the neighborhood of \$3,500,000, is 280 feet high, length of base 235 feet and top 1,080 feet. The dam is higher than the Flat-Iron building in New York and could hide the capitol at Washington to the dome. Two four-in-hands could pass on the top. Most of the wall rests on stones big enough for a team and a wagon to stand on and weighing sixteen tons each.

The lake formed by the dam extends back in the valley 20 miles and holds enough water to flood 2,000 square miles of desert. The reclaimed land will make 25,000 farms, each large enough to support at least five people, making homes for fully 125,000 Americans. Each acre, it is estimated, will yield yearly crops valued at \$20 to \$125.

KILLING A MUTINY

Dramatic Incident in the Early History of Our Navy.

THE PLOT ON THE OLD ESSEX

Commodore Porter Got Wind of the Conspiracy Just as It Was Ripe, and His Prompt and Drastic Action Cowed the Crew and Saved the Ship.

There has never been a fleet mutiny or a squadron mutiny in the United States navy. The most notorious case in the naval history of this country was the conspiracy to mutiny on the brig of war Somers, which was discovered before it came to a head and resulted in the execution at sea of Philip Spencer, midshipman, son of the then secretary of war, and one petty officer and one seaman.

Another famous case was the one in which Commodore Porter acted with such vigor and promptitude that he completely crushed the rebellious spirit that had manifested itself and saved his ship.

When Commodore Porter was in command of the Essex in the early history of our navy there was an attempted mutiny on board. Here is an account of how it was suppressed, which is vouched for as authentic: "While the Essex was lying at the Marquesas islands, recruiting and refreshing her crew from one of the long and arduous cruises in the Pacific, Commodore Porter was informed through a servant of one of the officers that a mutiny had been planned and was on the eve of consummation; that it was the intention of the mutineers to rise upon the officers, take possession of the ship and after having remained as long as they found agreeable at the island to hoist the black flag and 'cruise on their own account.'"

"Having satisfied himself of the truth of the information, Commodore Porter ascended to the quarterdeck and ordered all the crew to be summoned aft. Waiting until the last man had come from below, he informed them that he understood that a mutiny was on foot and that he had summoned them for the purpose of inquiring into its truth. 'Those men who are in favor of standing by the ship and her officers,' said the commodore, 'will go over to the starboard side; those who are against them will remain where they are.' The crew to a man moved over to the starboard side. The ship was still at the anchor. Fixing his eyes on them steadily and sternly for a few moments, the commodore said, 'Robert White, step out.' The man obeyed, standing pale and agitated, guilt stamped on every lineament of his countenance, in front of his comrades.

"The commodore looked at him a moment, then, seizing a cutlass from the nearest rack, said in a suppressed voice, but in tones so deep that they rang like a knell upon the ears of the guilty among the crew: 'Villain! You are the ringleader of this mutiny! Jump overboard!' The man dropped on his knees, imploring for mercy, saying that he could not swim. 'Then drown, you scoundrel!' said the commodore, springing toward him to cut him down. 'Overboard instantly!' And the man jumped over the side of the ship. He then turned to the trembling crew and addressed them with much feeling, the tears standing upon his bronzed cheek as he spoke. He asked them what he had done that his ship should be disgraced by a mutiny. He asked whether he had ever dishonored the flag, whether he had ever treated them with other than kindness, whether they had ever been wanting for anything to their comfort that discipline and the rules of the service would allow and that it was in his power to give.

"At the close of his address he said: 'Men, before I came on deck I laid a

\$60,000 Bankrupt Stock

of the Morgan Department Store, Portland,
Or., Assigned to

N. K. WEST

Entire Stock will be Sold Regardless of Cost
or Former Selling Price.

READ THIS NOTICE

This Department Store was in Business
Only About a Year when it failed, and the
Entire Stock is Strictly New, High Grade
MerchandiseWatch for the Big Posters telling of the GREATEST
SALE EVER HELD IN EASTERN OREGON. Entire
Stock now being shipped to La Grande.

N. K. WEST

Assignee of the Morgan Department Store

train to the magazine, and I would have blown all on board into eternity before my ship should have been disgraced by a successful mutiny. I never would have survived the dishonor of my ship. Go to your duty.' The men were much affected by the commodore's address and immediately returned to their duty, showing every sign of contrition.

"But mark the sequel of this mutiny and let those who, in the calm security of their firesides, are so severe upon the course of conduct pursued by officers in such critical situations see how much innocent blood would have been saved if White had been cut down instantly or hanged at the yard-arm. As he went overboard he succeeded in reaching a canoe floating at a little distance and paddled ashore. Some few months afterward, when Lieutenant Gamble of the marines was at the islands, in charge of one of the large prizes, short handed and in distress, this same White, at the head of a party of natives, attacked the ship, killed two of the officers and a number of men, and it was with great difficulty that she was prevented from falling into their hands."—New York Post.

Nora Was Wise.

"Nora," censured the house butler, "if you must break the missus' vases, why don't you break the cheap ones instead of those expensive imported ones?"

"Oh, no," laughed Nora, with a gay flourish of her feather duster. "If I broke the cheap ones she would take them out of my wages."—Chicago News.

Be wiser than other people if you can, but do not tell them so.—Chesterfield.

Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given that James C. McIntyre has been duly appointed, and has qualified, as the Administrator of the estate of Frederick B. Small, deceased; and that all persons having claims against said estate must present the same, properly itemized and verified, to F. S. Ivanhoe, at his office, in the city of La Grande, Union county, Oregon, on or before six months after the date of the first publication of this notice.

The first publication of this notice is March 6th, 1911.

JAMES C. McIntyre,
Administrator of the Estate of
Frederick B. Small, deceased.
F. S. Ivanhoe, Attorney for Administrator.
Dly.—Mch 6-13-20-27, Apr 3.

Sheriff's Sale.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of an execution and order of sale issued out of and under the seal of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Union, bearing date the 4th day of February, 1911, and to me directed and delivered upon a judgment duly rendered in said court on the 31st day of May, 1910, in an action wherein O. W. Smith doing business under the firm name and style of Union Coal and Feed Co. was plaintiff and Jesse L. Smith, was defendant, said judgment being in favor of plaintiff as against said defendant, for the sum of \$144.33 with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, from May 31, 1910, and the further sum of \$10.80 for costs and disbursements, I will on Monday, the 20th day of March, 1911 at 2 o'clock p. m. of said day, at the front door of the court house in the City of La Grande, Union County, Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said judgment, interest, costs, and disbursements and accruing costs, all the right, title and interest that said defendant had in and to Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, in Block 22 of the town of Imbler, Union County, Oregon.

Dated this 18th day of February, 1911 at La Grande, Oregon.

F. P. CHILDERS,
Sheriff of Union County, Oregon.
Sat. Feb. 18-25 Mch 4-11-18

THE OFFICERS

of this bank will be pleased to talk with you at
any time concerning mutual business relations

WHEN the Federal Government, the county, the city and a large and growing list of commercial and private depositors entrust their funds to this institution to the extent of \$800,000.00, you may be sure that it is a safe one for you to identify yourself with.

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SURPLUS . . . 100,000.00
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