

THE OBSERVER

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"A BITULITHIC AGE."

The Observer is in receipt of a communication from a taxpayer of La Grande who takes the city council to task for what is termed excessive street improvement and closes by stating that if things continue this is to be a "bitulithic age." The communication shows a distaste for bitulithic pavement and the cost of it, the writer making claims that if present conditions continue the local taxpayer of La Grande will be so much under the galling yoke of bitulithic age that there will not be an iron pot left to cook with.

There is not the least doubt that many taxpayers do feel the heavy expense of improvement, and in some cases it is working more or less of a hardship on them. But the fact remains, if La Grande is ever to be the

city we all claim for her improvements must be made. The same history has applied to every city in the country. When the time came for improvement it hit some very hard, but later no one would think of abolishing the improvement for the expense incurred.

Now, regarding bitulithic pavement. The Observer believes in getting the best pavement at least money for the people. So far as known bitulithic pavement, when properly laid, is recognized as the best pavement. This is not a boost for bitulithic, it is a statement of cold fact which any individual can ascertain by proper research. Kansas City, Mo., has just finished an investigation of different pavings from an economical point of view, and although bitulithic has been used little in that city the board of investigation has decided it is the best pavement now on the market. But bitulithic must be properly laid to give results.

In La Grande this newspaper feels, as we have always felt, that the city council made no mistake in selecting bitulithic as the hard surface pavement of the city. The expense is heavy, but the people should get a good article for what they spend when buying it. Other cities have made the test and La Grande can only be guided by what others have done, for it is very doubtful if there are three people in the city who really know much about laying pavement except what they have learned from other cities.

The taxpayer who wrote the communication is justified in a sense to make complaint, because it is perfectly human to speak out when improvement tax is levied. That is to be expected, but on sober second thought this same man will doubtless say, "If we have to improve I want the best." That is what we all want. And while it does seem a heavy expense let us all hope that the improvements now being made will so enhance the valuation of La Grande that three times the cost of paving may be added to the selling price of all real estate.

It is the only way to have a city, and if we want to advance we must expect expense.

MEXICO AND PEACE.

Diaz will step down and out in Mexico and Madero will take the reins of government. This means what? Many will say it means peace, but there is yet a question. Remember, the Mexican population is not blessed with the degree of intelligence that might have been, and it is doubtful if there will not now be an uprising against Madero. Such a turn of affairs will convince the world that Mexico is in no shape to have self-government; that the republic which has existed in name only, cannot be a republic in fact until an educational campaign spreads over that territory. It may be that Diaz, who ruled with an iron hand, under the name of republic, did as well as Madero will do. Time alone will tell this.

At any rate Mexico is still at boiling heat and there may be an unsettled condition there for some time to come.

But what think those now in the United States who were nursing the opinion that Taft and Wall street were working to create war in Mexico so that this country could take possession?

Taft has again proven his statesmanship—little talk but action at the right time.

FOR THE BAND CONCERTS.

Today President Lewis, of the Grande Ronde Cash company, took up the work of raising sufficient funds to insure band concerts for La Grande this summer. This is a free will offering from the business people and Mr. Lewis has no hesitancy in saying that his confidence in the city is such that there will be little or no trouble in raising enough money to insure the band support for four months during the summer season, thus enabling the organization to give open air concerts to the public.

Band concerts mean a great deal to a city the size of La Grande. They are worth all they cost just to get the home people out once a week and associate with each other. Every city has more or less of a stiffness that is burdensome. This is not intentional as a rule, but it is acquired by constantly following the groove in an individual way. To congregate and listen to good music means a closer association of the population, better acquaintances and better feeling.

When Mr. Lewis calls on anyone for a subscription for the concerts there should be no hesitancy. It is money well spent and everyone gets the benefit of it.

PARENTS CAUSE DELINQUENCY.

The delinquent girl came in for special attention during the Child Welfare exhibit in Chicago and the net result of the exhibit was so gratifying that Mrs. Emmons Blaine, Miss Jane Addams and Charles E. Polwison of New York, and other sociologists hope to make it a national and an annual affair. Judge M. W. Pinckney of the "girl's day" and he laid most of the blame for delinquency among girls upon their parents, basing his statement upon 475 cases in his court last year. "The parents were either dishonest," he said, "intemperate, shiftless or immoral. A bad environment, as I define it, is one which allows 1,125 children in the same block, as is the case in the Ninth ward. Temptation is the result of low wages, of callous employers. Every human being loves pleasure. If wages are so low as to forestall it the result will too often be delinquency. Delinquent girls are the most important, the most neglected, and the least understood of our social problems. It is a problem, too, which becomes more serious each year. We do not meet her needs. I have found that the average girl becomes delinquent from one of three reasons—parental neglect, environment or temptation."

WOMEN IN WALL STREET.

They Are Good Winners, but Drown Their Losses in Tears.

To many brokers women are hoo-doo, and some stock exchange houses refuse absolutely to have anything to do with the fair sex. The majority of brokerage firms try their best to keep women's speculative accounts out of their offices. Some houses are obliged to take women's accounts as a matter of personal friendship, but they will not open accounts for other women, no matter how well they may be introduced.

Wall street men do not have a high opinion of the average woman's business sense. Most women have an idea that one needs only to get a "tip" from some "insider" in Wall street to be sure of making "barrels of money"—for new gowns, hats and jewelry.

The dictum of Wall street is that women are good winners, but bad losers. It is difficult to reason about money and business with an angry or weeping woman. Her view of Wall street and all its works suddenly becomes entirely emotional, and only a broker with infinite patience can calm her. Many a time a stock exchange house has taken a woman customer's loss rather than face her tears.—Strand Magazine.

The Queer Carabao.

The carabao is said to be slower than a camel and more obstinate than a mule. Every one seems agreed that the chief ambition in life of a carabao, if he has any at all, is to lie down in a puddle of water with just his nose and horns sticking out. Consequently considerable commotion rules the wagon train when it approaches a stream that must be forded. The soldiers who are walking behind the carts as guards may aside their rifles and begin to belabor each animal. In the middle of the stream the excitement reaches its highest pitch. The carabao will begin to stretch his neck and bend his knees and grunt—infallible indications of his intention to lie down. Everybody works like a beaver to prevent him from accomplishing this fell purpose, but their labors are not always successful. They may get him over the stream, but this is unusual good fortune.—Harper's Weekly.

Young Men:
It's Your Turn

We've been selling clothes, day after day, for your fathers; we've been selling them for your young brothers. We want to see more of you young chaps of college age and those beginning business and professional life.

This is the store for you Young Men. We like to see every customer who comes in; but we feel worse to miss you than any one else. And, besides, we've made special preparation for you.

These Ederheimer-Stein clothes we are showing for young men are worthy of you. Lots of clothing isn't up to your standard. This make we have is; you miss the best clothes from the leading makers if you miss getting your spring suit here.

These clothes are tailored by hand. They're moulded and shaped so that when you put on the coat it sets as if it had always been part of you. It's a comfort to wear such clothes. It's satisfactory when you can count on them being right, staying right, looking right.

There is style in these clothes you don't often find. Coats are form fitting, full chested; trousers are peg top. Every line contributes something to the good looks and good value.



Society Brand

CLOTHES FOR YOUNG MEN

are styled, shaped and built especially for the Young American Gentleman ... We invite every young man to visit our store and see these two great lines of young men's clothing.

N. K. WEST

The Quality Store

Arcade
THEATRE

"A Visit to Massau, Bohemia"

..... Lubin
A travelogue giving good illustrations of the scenery on the Bohemia islands and the people who live there.

"The Way of the Transgressor" Sellg
This picture is a sermon on the results of evil doing and as such should be judged.

"Between Two Fires" Edison
An elaborately worked out film. The scenery is good and some of the pictures about the chateau are of a quality which made them very interesting and together with a strong love story make a splendid picture.

"His Best Girl After All" Lubin
This film gives a warning to men not to leave their wives for the society of other women. It's a Lubin.

Mr. Cowan has a good song. Greenaway drums and effects.

Old Friends and New

Winning permanent, lasting friends is the work of time, and this bank numbers among its clients hundreds of banks and business houses with whom it has had close relations for a great part of the twenty-four years of its existence.

Our friends have helped to make this one of the largest and strongest banks in the West. We have helped in their making, too.

We welcome new friends and will attend to their wants with the same fidelity which has cemented our relations with our older ones.

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON.

CAPITAL \$ 100,000.00
SURPLUS 100,000.00
RESOURCES 1,100,000.00

UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY

Fred J. Holmes, Pres. W. J. Church, Vice Pres.
F. L. Meyers, Cashier Earl Zundel, Ass't. Cashier

NEW KIND OF HEN SHOW.

Spokane, Wash., May 23.—(Special)—Problems of continent-wide interest are to be solved at the first American Egg Laying contest in Spokane beginning next November and continuing 12 months. It is free and open to the world. Plans are to have at least two entries of six chickens each from every state and territory in the union and provinces in the Dominion of Canada. Among other things this information is sought:

Will 200 chickens support an average family?
What breeds are best for commercial eggs?
What is the actual cost of producing eggs?
What are the prime requisites for successful egg-culture?
What state, province or territory produces the best layers?

John C. Lee, a former newspaper man, now a poultry rancher at Hill-yard, Wash., who originated the congress idea, has submitted tentative plans to A. C. Ware, chairman of the poultry and game committee of the Spokane chamber of commerce, for formal discussion and action at the next monthly meeting of that body early in June.

"This is not to be a competitive exposition for fancy breeds or feathers nor a money-making scheme," Mr. Lee said, "but an educational affair in the best sense of the term. There will be no medals or cash prizes, though diplomas and ribbons may be awarded for the best producers. Primarily, we are seeking accurate information which is not now available through the regular channels.

"Present plans are to set aside a tract of land near Spokane and erect the necessary buildings for the care of the fowls. Experts will be placed in charge and a record kept of every pen, the money returns going to the owners. We believe we can accomplish good results here, as we have an even climate and none of the diseases common to the chicken family, such as cholera and gapes."

J. H. PEARE,

La Grande's Leading
Jeweler

Opposite U. S. Land Office on A dams Avenue.