

## THE OBSERVER

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## IS HE RIGHT?

The Observer is in receipt of a letter from a young man who writes, stating his plans for the future and asks the opinion of this paper. Here are his plans:

"I have worked around towns on salary; have made what many would say is a good wage. I have few bad habits, yet I find it impossible to save any money and get a start in life. Asking myself what I should do and determining to do something I have spent considerable time in forming my decision. But finally I have come to this conclusion—I am going to the state agricultural college of Oregon and learn what I can of farming on economic lines. What do you think of the idea?"

Our answer to this young man's question is: "Do it, and do it now." Do not delay such a good intention; carry it out to the letter, and when you attend the college specialize on hogs, alfalfa and potatoes. Raise something the people have to consume. Hetty Green, in her advice, always urges one to deal in life's necessities, and when you get ahead of Hetty, you have got to find another world to live in.

Yes, attend the O. A. C. and put your whole soul into your work. You will find plenty of help of the right kind if you show you have anything in you. For Oregon's school is hard to beat. Learn to make a hog develop in the best way and you have solved the problem of existence.

It is a matter of regret that there are not more young men bent on doing what this young correspondent alleges he is going to do. We need more producers, and must have them.

## RAILROAD TO COOS BAY.

Announcement of a railroad to Coos Bay is nothing new for it has been an annual announcement for years. This time however it seems stronger than ever before and more confidence is attached to the statement. Another thing which figures into the matter is the story of an English syndicate that is ready to spend some money on that territory in the way of railroad build-

ing. This has caused the Harriman interests to get busy just as Hill caused them to get busy in Central Oregon.

Poor old Oregon. If she had had the Santa Fe or the Hill interests in here years ago there likely would not be nearly as much undeveloped country, but the railroads in this state have known only one thing—dividends. Building for future was not in their line unless they were forced to do so. They are similar to the mine owner who takes out the rich pay streak but refuses to spend money in development work.

Luckily this state is so full of resources that other railroads are bound to come unless the present system reaches out to isolated points, and in time Oregon will have transportation. But each mile will be forced, all of which makes a splendid feeling among the people for the railroad.

## CREDIT TO WHOM IT IS DUE

Some of Portland's newspapers made a hard fight against the election of Mayor Rushlight, but he was elected. Those papers told of his connection with vice and his promises to the underworld. But the first thing that Rushlight did was to put John Coffey at the head of the police department. Everybody nows John Coffey to be on the square. Now, Coffey and Rushlight together are shaking down police men who have been grafting, weeding out gambling dens and putting to flight all manner of criminals who had expected from newspaper talk that Portland was to be a wide open town if Rushlight won. But, strange to say, the same newspapers who fought him for mayor fail to give credit for what he is doing in the right direction.

Continuation of his policy will win out, and when backed by a lieutenant such as John Coffey that policy will very likely be continued. Apparently the Rushlight administration, though quite young, has more laurels already belted than did the Simons administration with twice the age on it.

Union county has no disposition to abandon the plan of working county prisoners on the public roads. It is a good movement as all officials of the county will agree. Yesterday Sheriff Childers took several prisoners to Elgin to improve certain portions of county road in that district. As a result the county will receive some value for money paid to feed prisoners and the public will readily appreciate the betterment of roads. Thus far this county has had good luck with prisoners put on public work, and it would seem that Union county is several roads in advance of Judge Webster, Phil Bates and all the rest of the good roads advocates for this is one of their pet ideas.

In demanding that land companies fill their promises to investors Governor West will have the entire support of all people who want to see a square deal in business. The chief executive refuses so far as he is able to let companies say one thing and do another. A washing of dirty real estate linen in this state will mean much and will inspire a confidence in the state by outside small investors which does not now exist.

With Cecil Galloway as fire warden for this section of the country it is believed by all lumbermen that less destruction will follow from forest fires. Mr. Galloway has been in the saw mill business himself, he knows the value of caution in and around saw mill and logging camps, and with his instructions carried out by all operators Eastern Oregon will not be burnt over this year as in the past.

Portland has just awakened to the need of a public market. Nearly every city in the United States half the size of Portland has had such a market for years. But Portland is usually content with what she has. With her Willamette valley egotism she sits tight, grasps what is in sight, and is afraid to make a move lest it affect some individual interest.

## THE CHOLERA SITUATION.

Notwithstanding the somewhat alarming headlines in the newspapers regarding the presence of Asiatic cholera in the United States, there is no cause for alarm. In the first place those in charge of the quarantine stations are thoroughly alive to their responsibility, and, consequently, there is little fear of many cases coming to this country. In addition to the usual methods for preventing those suffering with infectious diseases from landing in this country, the United States public health and marine hospital service has made additional regulations for the present conditions, in that all steerage passengers arriving from the ports that are likely to be infected with cholera are subjected to bacteriological examination and detention until such examination proves that they are not cholera bacillus carriers. The period of observation has also been extended from five to ten days. It should be remembered, further, that medical science has so advanced that even did the epidemic obtain a foothold in this country, it could easily be controlled, and the individual cases managed much better than would have been the case 25 years ago. To repeat, there is no cause whatever for alarm. —Journal of the American Medical Association, July 29, 1911.

## ESPERANTO DEFENDED.

Writing in a Portland paper, a Portland student of Esperanto points out some interesting reasons for and in behalf of the universal language, as follows:

I would beg a few lines to respond to criticisms made of Esperanto.

As to whether or not Esperanto will share the fate of Volapuk and cease to be studied in a few years, I think not. Volapuk failed, not because the world was not in need of a universal language, but because in practice it was found to be literally unspeakable. Its grammar was simple enough, but the body of the language was made up of words arbitrarily invented; they were hard to learn and worse to pronounce and understand. It was too stiff. That is to say many of its primary words sounded so nearly alike that they were not easily distinguished one from another when spoken by different nationalities.

Esperanto, on the other hand, not only possesses an exceedingly easy grammar, but the body of the language is made up from root words selected, as far as possible, with reference to the maximum of their internationality. The root of all Esperanto words may be found in some modern language, generally in two or more. The only change which is ever made is to adjust their spelling so as to make them phonetic and to bring them within the rules of the Esperanto orthography. In short, all parts of Esperanto have been thought out with the idea to make it practical as well as easy to learn.

That this aim has been reached has been abundantly proven by the wide use to which it has been put and is being put all the time. A thousand different titles—books and pamphlets—have so far been published in it, and one hundred periodicals appear regularly in different parts of the world. Numerous conventions have also been held, where the language was freely spoken and used by the nationalities participating.

The very wide use of suffixes and prefixes and word combinations which is provided for, gives the language great range of expression. This permits of a much smaller vocabulary than can be got along with in a natural language.

It is true that "usually the life of a universal language is brief." It is said that 40 or 50 attempts have been made

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to supplant Esperanto by other artificial languages brought out since the birth of the former. They have failed, because there was no need for them. Esperanto fills the bill, and there is now no more reason for bringing out another international language than there is for the invention of a new telegraphic alphabet to change the one invented by Professor Morse half a century ago.

## THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

- August 2.  
1684—Treaty of peace concluded at Albany between the Colonists and the Five Nations.  
1704—The English and confederates, commanded by the Duke of Marlborough, defeated the Bavarians and the French at Blenheim.  
1802—Bonaparte elected First Consul for life.  
1811—William Williams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence died at Lebanon, Conn. Born there April 18, 1731.  
1820—The Constitution sailed from Boston on her famous cruise.  
1820—Sir John Rose, Canadian statesman, born. Died August 26, 1888.  
1830—Charles X abdicated the throne of France and retired to England.  
1854—F. Marion Crawford, famous American novelist, born in Florence, Italy. Died in Sorrento, Italy, April 8, 1909.  
1861—Federal force under Gen. Lyon engaged the confederates at Dug Spring, Mo.  
1862—Orange court house, Virginia, taken by Gen. Crawford, of Pope's army.  
1882—Regina made the capital of the northwest territories.  
1910—The strike on the Grand Trunk railway was ended by interven-

tion of the Canadian government.

## "THIS IS MY 33RD BIRTHDAY."

Princess Ingeborg, one of the most popular members of the Swedish royal family, was born August 2, 1878. She is the wife of Prince Carl, a younger brother of the present king of Sweden. Before her marriage she was a Danish princess, being the daughter of the crown prince (now King Frederick) of Denmark. The marriage of Prince Carl and Princess Ingeborg took place in 1897. Their union has been blessed with two daughters, Princess Margaret, the elder being now in her 12th year, and Princess Martha a year younger. Prince Carl and his wife lead a most democratic life, which can also be said of the other members of the Swedish royal family. In winter they live in Stockholm, and in summer they take their children to a little villa called Parkudden, situated on the Djurgard, not a great distance from the capital.

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