

THE OBSERVER

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Entered at the postoffice at La Grande as second-class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Daily, single copy 5c
Daily, per week 35c
Daily, per month 1.00

Calendar for September 1911 showing days of the week and dates.

THE FUTURE FAIR.

This is the season of county fairs, but as yet there is not a big fair east of the Cascade range in Oregon.

ple are seriously considering betting a little money on such a proposition and it is very likely after the present fair shall have closed that a company will be formed to take over a piece of land and improve it with good buildings and a good race track.

HARRY McALLISTER, THE MAN.

The Elks of Portland have elected Harry McAllister to manage and arrange for the big 1912 convention, and no better selection could have been made.

BARRETT ON SPECIAL SESSION

Our joint senator offers a few remarks that should interest Governor West. "If the state finds itself at this time without needed laws whereby counties can build good roads, the people should place the blame where it belongs—

error is to tour central and southern Oregon in company with Samuel Hill, of Washington state roads fame. The so-called grangers and the farming community of Eastern Oregon are pretty well posted on Samuel Hill's road methods as advocated by him and it will take several trips by the governor to convince them that they want any of it.

"Eastern Oregon is in favor of good roads and good roads legislation, but any laws passed must place the selection of the roads to be improved and expenditure of the funds in the hands of the county courts, subject to the approval of the people of the county.

"We have no objection to a state highway engineer (or commissioners), whose work shall be advisory to the county authorities where state aid is made.

"The question of amount of state aid is debatable. My personal views are that the counties should pay three-fourths and the state one-fourth of the cost of permanent macadam roads.

"The only feasible way for the counties to construct any amount of permanent roads is through the county bonding act, such as the legislature passed at the last session with a small annual tax for state aid purposes. Although personally favoring some amendments, the laws as passed were good laws and safeguarded the taxpayer's right.

"By all means, let us have the governor call a special session to act on his vetoes, as the state needs many of the laws he vetoed, evidently for intended political effect."

DISPENSE WITH MOURNING.

"A southern physician of recognized skill and eminence urges that all outward symbols of mourning should be abandoned," says Munsey's Magazine editorially. "For many years he has expressed his views. He has won over a large number of people who see no reason why the heart should advertise its sorrow by the conspicuous insignia of gloom.

"There are, or have been, peoples wiser in their generation. The Romans of the days of the republic wore blue as a sign of mourning. It is the proper thing in Asia Minor now. The Turk mourns in violet, and the Persian in pale brown. Until a French queen set the present fashion in the latter half of the 15th century, white was the color of grief in Europe, as it is now in China."

COMIC OPERA COMING.

"Flower of the Ranch" Attraction at the Steward in a Few Days.

Presented by a company of some 40 people, "The Flower of the Ranch," a musical comedy, all the scenes of which have been laid in the rugged west, will be the attraction at the Steward October 3. The work enjoyed an extended run in New York two years ago, playing at two different theatres, a sufficient guarantee of its worth.

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Our Merchandise is our best advertisement Let us prove it to you.

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Song by Miss Stephenson—"Tonight Will Never Come Again."

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