

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS Editor and Owner.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Daily, single copy 5c
Daily, per week 15c
Daily, per month 65c

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

CONGRESSMAN MURDOCK.

This evening Victor Murdock will lecture in La Grande. Just what he will choose for his subject makes little difference, for it goes without saying regardless of the subject chosen the congressman's talk will lead up to and include insurgency.

Mr. Murdock is one of the original insurgents. He was elected to congress in Kansas, probably to his own surprise as well as many others, but he at once took the bull by the horns, as it were, and began making himself heard. Many things he advocated needed attention, but like most insurgents, or better yet, like most mem-

Arcade Theatre

"Thumb Prints"—Vitagraph. Drama. Identification of a criminal by the thumb print. A strong dramatic story worked out by the popular Vitagraph players.

"The Backwoodsman's Sus-licion"—S. and A. Drama. A western story by the western company.

"During Cherry Time"—Lubin. A delightful comedy full of real life.

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

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

A Strong Modern Bank

Efficiently conducted, not only in the interests of its stock holders, but of its depositors and patrons as well; With officials well known and trusted in the community. With capital, surplus and undivided profits of \$210,000.00 and total resources of \$1,000,000.00.

The La Grande National Bank offers to firms, corporations and individuals the best banking service, and its officers ask a personal interview with those contemplating changing accounts or opening new ones.

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON.
CAPITAL \$ 100,000.00
SURPLUS 105,000.00
RESOURCES 1,000,000.00

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

bers of the human family when they start on one course, he probably went too far in some instances. That, however, is a matter for the public to decide.

But the fact remains that Vic Murdock taught the insurgent game in Kansas. He is the master of the art in that state, and from his school has sprung such characters as Joseph Bristow, now in the senate from Kansas, and Walter Roscoe Stubbs, a widely quoted governor. Murdock has this over Bristow: It never could be charged that he was a member of the old machine and that the machine first made him as in Bristow's case. Murdock may have been too young to have had the same experience, and again, he might not have permitted the machine to do as much for him as it did for Bristow.

Regardless of all this, Victor Murdock is an insurgent of strong type. He is a forceful young man, a keen thinker, and those who hear him this evening will enjoy what he has to say even if they cannot entirely agree with him.

KANSAS CITY'S CIVIC CLUB

"If you should call on Mayor Brown of Kansas City, on any Monday afternoon, you would see him holding what he calls his 'mayor's cabinet'—a heart to heart session with a representative group of merchants, doctors, lawyers, engineers, and journalists about the affairs of the community," says Munsey's Magazine editorially.

"Here is a precedent which helps to divorce politics from the business of running a city. It happens because a clear headed and practical man is in the mayor's chair. When Mr. Brown assumed his office he said:

"I don't think that any man is able to run a city as it should be run if he must depend solely upon the advice, counsel, and assistance of party leaders and politically elected officials. I know that I am not wise enough to do this. I need help."

"So he asked a group of private citizens to meet with him and the heads of the various city departments once a week, and to talk over the city's business frankly and informally.

"The hard sense of the local merchants is projected into the question of appropriations. The seasoned experience of leading doctors is used to protect the health of the community. The best minds at the city's bar help to safeguard the taxpayer, and so on. In short, a large and varied talent is crystallized for the general good. The cabinet has nothing to do with legislating; its function is to inject practical methods into the city administration.

"This Kansas City experiment marks a radical departure from the system which has created more inefficiency and graft in our civic affairs than anything else. Kansas City is showing the way. She is making public business really public."

WAS TAFT'S POSITION PROVEN?

Those who so bitterly attacked the president upon his reciprocity plan now have an opportunity to see if they will not admit that the president was eminently right in his contention that reciprocity would have been a good thing for the United

States. There has been sufficient time elapsed since the Canadian election for this proof to put in an appearance and the proof has not been very tardy in doing so. The very fact that Canada rejected the measure would indicate that it was a good movement for this country, and the further evidence of price soaring in immediately following the announcement of the result in Canada shows beyond question that the large combinations of capital in this country appreciated the effect of the measure.

There is this about Taft, and whether you are a democrat, insurgent or regular, you must not overlook it. He is the best and deepest thinker in the party today. He is positively honest and sincere and no matter what members of his party may contend against him, he will, if successful, in his outlined course, bring the country out on a prosperous road.

At present the future for Taft looks dark. No one can see success even if he is nominated, but to people who have the love of this nation uppermost in their heart, this is not discouraging. Better by far stay with Taft even if he loses than to be a fly-by-night and shift from one ism to another for the sole purpose of being with the popular side.

Now, listen. When Taft comes to Oregon the Portland Commercial club is going to entertain him at dinner. It was intended to have China pheasants on the menu. But an Oregon reformer, hearing of the intended plan arose in his wrath to protect the proud birds, and the Commercial club laid down, withdrew the pheasants from the menu and will probably feed the president on choice cuts of Grande Ronde beef. Yet the same reformer shouted himself hoarse with joy when Roosevelt went to Africa and killed more game than the entire state of Oregon could consume in a week's time. Who was it coined that word, consistency, anyhow?

The white slave traffic is getting into the light of day in Oregon, just as it should. Portland with her alleged decency, her pronounced determination not to permit redlight districts, appears to be the commercial center for white slavery in its worst form. Quite a few of the pious people who shout so much in the metropolis think they are free from sin because they do not see it. This may be a good plan to follow but it really does not accomplish much good in the end. Some one has said, "Better sweep the dirt into the middle of the floor rather than hide it behind the door."

(Continued from page one)

Morgan is putting up and his effort to inject real gold in to the \$500,000,000 'gold brick' the United States steel corporation 'sluffed' off on an otherwise substantial money market is wonderful. Just think of it—five hundred million dollars of watered stock in that one trust. Five hundred million dollars in stock given away as bonuses and sold to unsuspecting buyers who remained in ignorance of the watered state of affairs until a few weeks ago when the government report disclosed the institution has a water department amounting to \$500,000,000. Just imagine a mighty man like Morgan out fighting the government.

"If the government can get the trust business to a well-defined issue it can be fought out. Right now Morgan stands forth and says that the steel trust is operating within the precepts of the anti-trust law, is lawful and not in restraint of trade. The government is urged by Morgan to bring suit to settle the unquiet condition. In this Morgan is bluffing. It is a trust in restraint of trade and cannot escape dissolution under the 'reasonable' clause of the late Standard decision. It is all rotten and wrong.

"Give us officials who will actually prosecute, and let us have the trust problem simmered down to a well-defined issue and we will soon, as a nation, put the trusts out of business, for you know I don't see where the Standard was 'bumped' much by the recent decision.

"Morgan says his trust is lawful; the government says not. Morgan's reputation as the money king is at stake; holders of \$500,000,000 watered stock without a cent of capitalization back of it hope something will happen to save them their holdings. Don't

Stylish New Suits on Display



Just twenty of these attractive styles in garments that the custom tailor would charge \$40 or more to duplicate.

The Colors

Brown Tweeds with shading of Red, Green and Blue, Gray Tweeds and Diagonals, Blue Serges and the popular Double Faced Golf Cloth: in shades of Brown, Blue and Gray.

The Styles

Some with wide sailor collar effects and long roll lapels, and others in the popular Norfolk styles with belted back. Skirts are very plain tailored with or without panel effect in front and back.

The Price

\$ 27 . 50

See them on display in our windows and in our suit department.

Our Merchandise is our best advertisement.

N. K. West

The Quality Store

you thing the whole question is one of much interest?

Advices Anolle Contendere Plea.

"It seems to me that Mr. Morgan should hurry a plea of anolle contendere as did the officials of the wire trust a few days ago; it would certainly be cheaper than fighting the issue as he is."

Congressman and Mrs. Murdock—Mrs. Murdock is taking her first trip through the west, though the congressman stumped for Miles Poindexter in Washington last winter and is acquainted with the Pacific states—are guests today with Circuit Court Judge and Mrs. J. W. Knowles. The congressman and the judge are old cronies of boyhood days in Wichita.

Mr. Murdock—out and out politician that he is—has an eye for realty, however, and after touring the valley with Geo. H. Currey today came back confident that real estate about La Grande is worthy of investment.

suggested that the interstate commerce commission might have power to suspend such an order for 60 days and look into its reasonableness, and that if it be found unreasonable it should not be permitted.

I invited attention also to the complaint of the shippers that they did not have the power to direct the route over which their shipment should pass to destination. I recommended that this be given them, subject to such reasonable regulation as the commission might prescribe.

All these provisions in one form or another were enacted into the law. In addition, the house of representatives added to the jurisdiction of the interstate commerce commission the power to declare reasonable rates in respect of telegraph, telephone and express companies. A modification was made in the senate regarding the long and short haul clause, which gave more

discretion to the interstate commerce commission than that which it had theretofore exercised under the decisions of the supreme court. The time during which the commission could suspend the raising of a rate was enlarged to four months, and after that, if necessary, to six months longer, instead of the 60 days which I had recommended. I had submitted the question of the proper amendments to the attorney general and the solicitor general, to the chief of the interstate commerce commission, to Commissioner Prouty, and to Senator Townsend, then a member of the house of representatives, and I recommended to congress for inclusion in the bill the provisions which they recommended to me. The bill was enacted in the form in which I have indicated. There were certain amendments that I recommended that were not approved.

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Advertisement for Bask, For Flynn & Co's Havana Cigars, featuring the brand name 'TRIUMPH' and 'THE BEST HAVANA BLEND'.

Advertisement for B. B. Nutter, listing products like Paints, Wall Paper, Varnishes, Oils, Etc. and providing contact information for the store.

Advertisement for 'OUR FRESH TAFFIES' from 'THE PALACE of SWEETS SELDERS', listing flavors like Vanilla, Strawberry and Molasses.