

THE OBSERVER

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Editor and Owner.

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LA GRANDE ATTORNEYS FIRST.

It was left for Attorney Crawford and Attorney Cochran to take the initial step in preventing disfranchisement in a way of Oregon voters and we believe that as the matter becomes better known over the state these attorneys will have the earnest thanks and support of the entire commonwealth. The disfranchisement is plain to anyone who can read the constitution and also the law recently enacted preventing a voter from casting his ballot for more than one candidate for national delegate or presidential elector.

Portland's newspapers attempt to laugh at the idea of bringing a test case of the law. Why? Because, under the present procedure Portland and Multnomah county can with no difficulty whatever name all delegates to national conventions and all presidential electors. The old time selfishness so pronounced in the Willamette valley is again asserting itself, while the Eastern and Southern Oregon country with fewer population are expected to fall in line and drill as of old.

But the clamor that will eventually be heard from the sparsely settled sections of the state when the people in those sections realize they are practically without representation will cause a halt. It may not come at once but

It is sure to finally come. In taking the action they have Attorney Crawford and Attorney Cochran stand at the head of a movement that has a basic principle of right and will in time prevail, regardless of what construction a supreme court or popular opinion of the Willamette valley may decide.

THE GAME LAW AND ELK.

Sportsmen must not kick too much on the enforcement of the game law. Especially is this true of Union and Wallawa county sportsmen, for the strict enforcement of the game laws means that the government will shortly put elk on the reserves of these two counties. The Observer has information which seems to be authentic that elk would have been placed here this year but for the lax enforcement of the state game laws.

This being true it behooves everyone who is a real sportsman at heart to aid in bringing about rigid enforcement of the law and thus encourage the department to fulfill its intention. There is nothing that would add more to our rough hills and rugged mountains than to be known all over the country as the home of the American elk.

THE TRIP TO MEDFORD.

At a meeting of the Commercial club board last evening the proposed trip to Medford in January was thoroughly discussed and so many have voiced their approval of such a junket that the board is firmly of the opinion it will be a success.

The plan is to take one or more Pullman cars from La Grande loaded with merchants and any others who will go and spend a week in the Willamette valley and southern Oregon. Included in this trip will be a visit to the Retailers' convention at Medford after which the cars will stop at all the important cities of the valley and La Grande people will study the municipal movements, the plans of doing business and investigate what each community is putting to the front in the way of attracting settlers and homeseekers. The fund of information thus obtained first hand will be of untold value to this city.

To get the matter thoroughly before the people a big banquet has been planned and a "get together" event will take place at which every prospective industry for the city will be discussed. The date of the banquet has been set for December 11th, the night following the city election.

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Arcade Theatre

REFINED ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL PEOPLE.

"ADVENTURES OF BILLY"—picturing the influences that surround such a wail as Billy, the newsboy. A BIOGRAPH. "DISAPPOINTED OLD MAIDS"—A lively comedy. "AT THE THRESHOLD OF LIFE"—This picture produced under the auspices of the National Kindergarten association "WHIFFLES' HARD LUCK"—flies being in need of money, succeeded in raising the wind. During the absence of Mr. Williams for a few days, MR. BIRNIE will handle the pictured melodies and today will sing a very pleasing ballad, entitled "MINE."

Too Early.

One raw February morning an instructor in the University of Michigan was calling the roll of an 8 o'clock class in English.

"Mr. Robbins," said he. There was no answer. "Mr. Robbins," in a slightly louder voice.

Still no reply. "Ah," said the instructor, with a quiet smile. "come to think of it, it is rather early for robins."

The instructor was the late Moses Colt Tyler, who later became professor of history at Cornell, and it shows him in the pleasing light of a man who could be boyishly gay at a gray and cheerless hour—no small feat, if one stops to consider an instructor's provocations to morning dullness.

Horse Riding in Ancient Times.

Stirrups were unknown to the ancients. Along the public roads there were placed stones to enable the horsemen to mount. Stirrups were used to some extent in the fifth century, but were not common even so late as the twelfth. Horseshoeing is a very ancient art. It is represented on a coin of Tarentum of about 350 B. C. It is said that William the Conqueror brought the first iron horseshoe to England.—London Graphic.

KING OF THE ASPS.

This Reptile, the Most Venomous of Snakes, is Death Itself.

The most venomous of snakes is said to be the Echis carinata of India. It is about eighteen inches long and of a gray color. The creature is death itself and carries in its head the secret of destroying life with the concentrated agony of all the poisons.

The Echis carinata is tolerably common in India, being found in nearly every part of the peninsula.

Fortunately, however, for man, it is not, like the cobra, a house frequenting snake, for its aggressive habits would make it infinitely more fatal to life than its dreaded relative.

This king of the asps does not turn to escape from man, as the cobra will, or dash into concealment, like the koriat, but keeps the path against its human assailant and, pitting its own eighteen inches of length against its enemy's bulk, challenges and provokes conflict.

A stroke with a whip will cut it in two or a clod of earth disable it. But such is its malignity that it will invite attack by every device at its command, staking its own life on the mere chance of its adversary coming within the little circle of its power. At most the radius of this circle is twelve inches. Within it at any point lies certain death, and on the bare hope of hand or foot trespassing within its reach the Echis carinata throws its body into a figure of eight coil. Then it attracts attention by rubbing its loops together, which, from the roughness of the scales, make a rustling, hissing sound, erects its head in the center and awaits attack.

It is said that no one, having once encountered this terrible reptile, can ever forget its horrifying aspect when thus aroused, its eagerly aggressive air, its restless coils, which, in constant motion one over the other and rustling ominously all the while, stealthily but surely bring it nearer and nearer to the object of its fury.—Harper's.

His Motion.

"De mection had to disband very sud den." "Did you make the motion to adjourn?" "I did." "How did you do it?" "I made a motion like I was reaching for a razor."—Pittsburgh Press.

Properly Placed.

"John," exclaimed the inebriated printer's wife, "when you come home in that condition at this unseemly hour I hardly know what to call you!" "At's awright, m'dear," enjoyed the printer. "Just put me in the 'too late to classify' department."—Judge's L. Library.

MUSIC BATHS.

Holmes Says They Are to the Soul as Water Is to the Body.

One must be educated no doubt to understand the more complex and difficult kinds of musical composition. Go to the concerts where you know that the music is good and that you ought to like it, whether you do or not.

Take a music bath once or twice a week for a few seasons and you will find that it is to the soul what the water bath is to the body. I wouldn't trouble myself about the affectations of people who go to this or that series of concerts chiefly because it is fashionable.

Some of these people whom we think so silly will perhaps find sooner or later that they have a dormant faculty which is at last waking up and that they who came because others came and began by staring at the audience are listening with a newly found delight.

Every one of us has a harp under the bodice or waistcoat, and if it can only once get properly strung and tuned it will respond to all outside harmonies.—Oliver Wendell Holmes in "Over the Teacups."

An Inconvenient Place.

Leopold de Meyer of Dresden, a brilliant and popular pianist of his day, was once summoned to play before the sultan of Constantinople. Going thither, he borrowed a grand piano from one of the Austrian secretaries of legation and had it set up in a large reception room at the palace. There he awaited the coming of the sultan, but when that intelligent monarch entered the room he started back in alarm and demanded of his attendants what that monster was standing there on three legs. Explanations followed, but were in vain. The legs had to be taken off and the body of the instrument laid flat on the floor, and Leopold de Meyer, squatting cross legged on a mat, went through his program as best he could in that awkward attitude and without pedals. But the commander of the faithful was delighted, and when the last piece was played gave the artist over \$5000 as backhush.

O. A. C. SHORT COURSES

Begin Jan. 3, Continue Four Weeks

You Are Invited

Every citizen of Oregon is cordially invited to attend the short courses of the Oregon Agriculture College, beginning Jan. 3. Eleven distinctive courses will be offered in Agriculture, Mechanic Arts, Domestic Science and Art, Commerce, Forestry and Music. Every course is designed to help the student in his daily work. Make this a pleasant and profitable winter outing. No tuition. Reasonable accommodations. For beautiful illustrated bulletin, address H. M. TENNANT, Registrar, Corvallis, Ore. Farmer's Business Course by Correspondence.

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