

THE OBSERVER

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Editor and Owner.

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COMMERCE TALKS IN FIGURES.

Small agencies sometimes accomplish greatest results in this universe of contrasts. It was a tiny mine that destroyed the great battleship Maine; a single bullet will lay low a forest monarch.

Three locked waterways connect Lake Superior with the lower lakes. The world at large knows comparatively little about them. They are not very long, nor very deep; their construction undertaken at various times in the last half century involved no spectacular engineering feats. The few millions involved in their building compare but weakly with those swallowed up in similar ventures elsewhere.

And yet these "Soo" canals are the greatest in the world. Exact statistics, gathered by the United States and Canadian governments, attest this fact beyond dispute. They are greatest when judged by the only legitimate standard, the effect they have upon the economies of transportation and the influence they exert in lowering and regulating freight traffic throughout a vast extent of territory.

These "Soo" canals carry more tonnage in eight months each year—the limitation imposed by weather conditions—than the Suez, the Kiel and the Manchester ship canals combined, all three operating 12 months annually. Add to the total commerce of these three that carried by the Erie, the Welland and the St. Lawrence system of canals, and still the "Soo" leads.

The figures for 1911 have not been compiled from official sources. In 1910 however, the "Soo" carried 62,363,212 tons of freight. The total staggers. The average mind fails to grasp its meaning.

If the United States government could be assured that the great Panama canal—costing, by the way, 25 times as much as the "Soo" waterways—would ever carry as much tonnage as these inland ditches, it would be relieved of a heavy burden of uncertainty. It is far from probable that such will be the case within the present generation. And, this, in spite of the fact that the Panama contributes to the trade of the world while the "Soo" is merely a connecting link between two fresh water bodies far inland.

Another contribution to the day's literature on the subject of great lakes commerce was the report of Col. Shunk, government engineer in charge of work in the Duluth district. Duluth, as most people know is at the head of navigation. Most of the traffic which passes through the "Soo" comes to or from Duluth. Business for one means business for the other.

Shunk says that, making proper allowance for the difference in the length of season, the Duluth Superior harbor does more business than any other harbor in America except New York, Boston, San Francisco and Seattle, for instance, are distanced by this comparatively unknown competitor in the northeast wilderness. The world has not yet had its eyes opened to what is going on here so

# Geibel's Store Afire

## With Red Tickets, And The Prices Are Burning Up The Goods

# Sale Opens Tuesday, January 2, at 9 O'Clock

Be There On Time	<b>Geibel's</b>	Come Come Come
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quietly and so effectively.

New York is already worrying lest it lose much of its transatlantic shipping, its harbor is crowded and expansion is practically impossible. Yet Shunk says that only about one-seventh of the capacity of the Duluth Superior harbor has yet been developed. How much, conservatively, would New York give for Duluth's potential harbor.

### POLITICS AND POLITICIANS.

Philadelphia democrats are planning for a big Jackson day banquet next month.

Superior, Wis., will vote January 23 on the question of adopting the commission plan of government.

The Georgia democratic state committee has decided to hold a presidential primary election some time prior to June 12.

Jud La Moure has been a member of the North Dakota senate ever since the state was admitted to the union in 1889.

Charles W. Pool, who was speaker of the Nebraska house two years ago, democratic nomination for governor, has announced his candidacy for the Maine and Rhode Island are the only New England states in which wo-

men have not been granted the right to vote for public school commissioners.

Former Speaker Joseph G. Cannon expresses the opinion that the republican party will win next year if it sticks to a stand-pat program.

Governor Harmon of Ohio for president and Governor Burke of North Dakota for vice president is the national ticket conceived by some of the democratic politicians.

In the Massachusetts election last month the socialists polled less than 15,000 votes, as against a total of nearly 40,000 votes cast for their party candidates in 1902.

New Mexico hopes to have the official recount of the returns of the recent election completed in time to inaugurate William C. McDonald as the first state governor early in January.

Louisiana's next governor will be selected at the democratic primaries next month. The contest is a spirited one between J. T. Mitchell, candidate of the regular organization, and Judge Luther E. Hall, candidate of the good government league democrats.

President indications point to a lively three cornered contest for the democratic nomination for governor of Illinois at the primaries next April. The prospective candidates for the nomination are Samuel Alschuler of Aurora, former Congressman Ben F. Caldwell and former Mayor Edward F. Dunne of Chicago.

Of the 26 occupants of the presidential chair six have been native born Ohioans, as follows: Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, McKinley and Taft. Virginia has furnished seven. Seventeen of the 26 were college graduates, the nine non-collegians being Washington, Jackson, Van Buren, Taylor, Fillmore, Lincoln, Johnson Cleveland and McKinley.

The attorney general of the state of Massachusetts has recently given an opinion in many of the textile op opinion against the system of grad-mills of that state. It is claimed that, in reality, this system is but another form of fixing, a practice which is prohibited under the laws of the state.

The United Textile Workers of America, at their last convention decided after considerable discussion to affiliate with the International Federation of Textile Workers' associations. The membership of the International Federation is estimated at about 430,000 and its headquarters are in England.

Seventeen states make it mandatory for employers to report all accidents to an authorized state official so that accurate vital statistics can be readily obtained for the further advice and information of the people as to the needs of additional legislation for the conservation of life and limb.

### SARAH PLATT DECKER.

Mentioned as Candidate For Colorado United States Senatorship.



"THE BARRIER" IS LIKED.

In Spots Presentation Is Not up to Last Year's Production Here.

Finding no fault with the majority of actors in "The Barrier," a large audience Saturday night listened to Rex Beach's stirring story of the last frontier. In spots the cast was not up to the standard of last year, but for all that the play was well liked, of course, and the acting was not criticised.

### Birth Record.

Born, to Mrs. F. M. Berry, a nine-pound son. Dr. Dora Underwood attended.

Notice for Sale of Improvement Bonds. Notice is hereby given that the city of La Grande, Union county, Oregon, will receive sealed bids for the purchase of improvement bonds, in the sum of \$9,413.22, in denominations of \$500.00, bearing six per cent interest.



per annum, up to 5 o'clock p. m., January 3rd, 1912; said bids to be filed with the recorder of the city of La Grande and to be accompanied by a certified check for the sum of \$470.00. The successful bidder will be required to pay for said bonds within ten (10) days after notice that said bonds are ready for delivery.

La Grande, Oregon, December 20th, 1911.

C. M. HUMPHREYS,  
Recorder of the city of La Grande, Oregon. (De. 23-26-27-28-29-30)

We wish to call your attention to the fact that most infectious diseases such as whooping cough, diphtheria and scarlet fever are contracted when the child has a cold. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will quickly cure a cold and greatly lessen the danger of contracting these diseases. This remedy is famous for its cures of colds. It contains no opium or other narcotic and may be given to a child with implicit confidence. Sold by all dealers

### Treasurer's Call for City Warrants.

Notice is hereby given that there are now funds on hand to pay all outstanding warrants on general fund of La Grande city up to and including No. 9327. Endorsed ..... Interest on all warrants on general fund from No. 9021 to No. 9327 inclusive ceases from this date. La Grande, Oregon, Dec. 14, 1911. ROY W. LOGAN, City Treasurer.

You will find that druggists everywhere speak well of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. They know from long experience in the sale of it that in cases of coughs and colds it can always be depended upon, and that it is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all dealers.

### A GOOD POSITION

Can be had by ambitious young men and women in the field of "Wireless" or railway telegraphy. Since the 8-hour law became effective, and since the wireless companies are establishing stations throughout the country there is a great shortage of telegraphers. Positions pay beginners from \$5 to \$90 per month, with good chances of advancement. The National Telegraph Institute of Portland, Oregon, operates under the supervision of R.R.

and Wireless officials, and places all graduates into positions. It will pay you to write them for full details. 12-30-11

## Savoy Hotel

EUROPEAN PLAN

The rooms are good and Steam heated only one block from depot

D. C. Brichoux, Prop.

## Buckwheat Cakes

For Breakfast

We can supply you with Klingco's Pure Pennsylvania Buckwheat for your Hot Cakes. Cover them with Log Cabin Syrup

For Sale by

Pattison Bros.

Phone Black 81.

## What Makes a Strong Bank?

1. AMPLE RESOURCES—Our resources are \$1,100,000, composed of well secured loans and cash.
2. AMPLE CASH RESERVES—Our cash reserves are usually 26 to 30 per cent of our immediate liabilities (deposits subject to check, and always more than 15 per cent of our total liabilities, the amount required by law.
3. ADEQUATE CAPITAL—Our capital is \$100,000.00, and our surplus, which is profits earned and retained as additional capital, is \$105,000.00.
4. CAPABLE MANAGEMENT—Ever since its organization 25 years ago, this bank has been under careful management. Its officers and directors are men who have achieved success in the banking and other lines of business. The fact that we have safely weathered every financial storm during our career, and are today greater and stronger than ever is evidence of good management.

If you are not already a depositor or client of this strong and successful bank, become one now. If you are, tell your friends about us.

## La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON.

CAPITAL \$ 100,000.00  
SURPLUS 105,000.00  
RESOURCES 1,100,000.00

Fred J. Holmes, Pres.

W. J. Church, Vice Pres.

Cashier

## After a Cold Auto Ride

what could be more comforting or exhilarating than a nice cup of Hot Chocolate, which you will always find ready at this season of the year at our Soda counter? We give it to you pure and cheering, full of that goodness and nutriment so peculiar to the best quality of Chocolate. It is a food, drink and medicine all combined, at low cost.

Selder's - La Grande