

THE OBSERVER

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BANKING REFORM.

It is recognized by bankers, financiers and business men that changes are needed in our banking and currency laws. It is because of the necessity of these changes that the National Monetary commission has studied for three years and then submitted a proposed banking plan which provides for a national reserve association and the unification of the banking system under a systematic arrangement. The commission's report is the central point in the consideration of banking reform because it represents the opinions of the men who have been the students of European systems and the results of their investigations at home and abroad.

The recurring disastrous money panics in this country; the wide and disturbing fluctuations in interest rates; the yearly straits on the money markets in the movement of the crops; the enormous use of the country's surplus funds in stock speculation in New

York, our national unpreparedness for defense in times of international financial disturbance; our reliance on Europe for the financing of our high foreign trade—all of these things and others have long shown plainly the inadequacy of our system of banking and currency. The National Monetary commission, in endeavoring to recommend a reform of our system, has made a study of all the defects and has sought to provide remedies. Many of the suggestions made by the commission in their report appear to be feasible and remedial in form, provided it can be assured that money control will not be secured by a small percentage of the banking interests of the country. The one thing to be feared in the proposed change is allowing a small unit of banks through the judicious placing of stock to control the proposed national reserve association and through it the banking resources of the country. If no such control can be gained, the proposed plan will receive the support of those who are interested in having our banking system changed to respond more quickly to the needs of business.

The faults of the American banking and currency system are many. In the main, they are known only to bankers and business men, but their effect touches every man and woman in the country. For this reason the proposed change in the banking plan is worthy of serious study in order that existing evils may be remedied. The chief defects in the banking system may be summed as follows:

Cash reserves of the banks are scattered over the country in 23,000 small holdings, instead of being concentrated in a central reservoir where they can be most effectively used for the general good.

Bank note currency cannot respond in volume to the needs of business because the amount of notes outstanding is dependent, not on business needs, but on the market for government bonds.

There are no means of preventing the disastrous disruption of domestic exchanges in times of trouble.

There are no means of protecting our national credit in international finance.

Commercial paper, issued for agricultural, industrial and commercial purposes, has no broad market in the United States as it has in Europe. The result of this is that the country's surplus loanable funds instead of being used for the material development of the country, are largely used in New York for stock speculation.

Banking facilities are not well distributed over the country and there is a lack of unity, steadiness and reasonableness of interest rates needed for the development of trade in all sections of the country.

Millions of tribute is paid to Europe to finance international payments.

The national government, acting as custodian for its own funds, disturbs the money market and should be divorced from the banking system.

A plan that corrects these evils will place the American banking and currency adequate for the needs of the country.

A Talk About Clothes

Each year the standard of "ready to wear" clothing is improved until it seems impossible to improve in designing, tailoring or workmanship. It is possible now for you to step in and select your suit right from our racks without the delay and extra expense of the custom tailors work.

We Carry Three Distinct Lines

Each one designed and tailored especially for a certain purpose.

Stouts

You (Mr. Large man) can be fitted just as easily and perfectly as though you were slender. Our patterns as well as styles are selected especially for you.

Regulars

For the man of medium build, we are showing an excellent assortment of spring styles and patterns.

Slims

You, too, (Mr. Slender Man), can save \$5.00 to \$20.00 on your clothes bill, by coming here and making a selection from our line of high grade suits for slender men.

WE'RE EXCLUSIVE AGENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING HIGH GRADE CLOTHES

BENJAMIN CLOTHES.

(Made in New York.)

\$20.00 to \$35.00

SINCERITY BRAND SUITS.

\$15.00 to \$25.00

SOCIETY BRAND SUITS.

(Strictly for Young Men.)

\$20.00 to \$30.00.

Boys' Suits \$4.00 to \$7.50. Young Men's

EIDERHEIMER-STEIN SUITS.

(For Boys and Young Men.)

Suits \$12.50 to \$17.50.

The Quality Store

WEST'S

The Quality Store



Some new shapes in spring

Millinery for Men

Gordon \$3 Hats

Stetson \$4 and \$5 Hats.

Styles that are becoming to any head and shades to wear with any suit. Come in and see them.

Arcade Theatre

HIGH CLASS PHOTOPLAYS.

"UNMERITED SHAME"

..... PATHE (American)
Strong dramatic story.

"THE PEANUT INDUSTRY"

..... Lubin
Industrial, Dealing with a subject that very few of the vast army of peanut users know much about.

"THE OLD FLORIST"

..... ENSSAAY
A pretty picture of sentiment.

"TO SAVE HER BROTHER"

..... EDISON
A splendid western melodrama.

"A DARK DECEPTION"

..... LUBIN
A comedy that will please, A laugh in every foot of film.LAURA GREEN WILLS
In Latest Popular Song.

Four reels, 4,000 feet of film.

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

A Working Capital of Over

\$215,000 00 Inspires Confidence in This Bank

The stability of this institution,
The substantial men behind it,
Its reputation for progressiveness,
Its large loaning capacity,
Its spirit of accommodation,
Have attracted customers whose deposits aggregate over \$700,000.00.
Promote your interests by allying yourself as a depositor with this strong and successful institution.

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON.

CAPITAL \$ 100,000.00
SURPLUS 115,000.00
RESOURCES 1,000,000.00

United States Depository

The caterer that furnished the De-
Gould bridal cake has brought a
suit for the price, \$2,200. It was a
five-story cake with basement, but the
suit is another story.

Grace Roosevelt, Theodore, Jr.'s
daughter, is six months old and never
has had her picture taken. That's the
record for a Roosevelt.

La Follette says woman suffrage
has passed the stage of argument.
This will be discouraging news to
the ladies.

Reverence for old age is all right
in its place, but is wasted on butter
and eggs.

According to reports, the road from
Idalarod to Seward, Alaska, is very
gold dusty.

Dr. Solor is the new president of
Paraguay. He is not related to Dr.
Sun of China.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

February 15.

1763—Seven years' war between Aus-
tria and Prussia and their al-
lies ended with the peace of Hu-
bertsburg.

1804—New Jersey passed an act for
the gradual abolition of slavery.

1820—William Ellery one of the Rhode
Island signers of the Declara-
tion of Independence, died. Born
Dec. 22, 1712.

1833—Joseph Peace, the first Quaker,
admitted to membership in the
British parliament on his af-
firmation.

1864—First detachment of federal
prisoners received at Ander-
sonville prison.

1870—Construction of the Northern
Pacific railroad commenced at
the Dalles of the St. Louis.

1872—First session of the first legis-
lature of British Columbia.

1898—United States battleship Maine
destroyed in Havana harbor.

1905—Gen. Lew Wallace, author of

"Ben Hur," died in Crawfords-
ville, Ind. Born in Brookville,
Ind., April 10, 1827.

1911—Premier Asquith, in the British
house of commons, promised day
home rule for Ireland.

"THIS IS MY 82ND BIRTHDAY."

S. Weir Mitchell.

Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, famous both
as a neurologist and writer, was born
in Philadelphia February 15, 1830, and
received his education at the Univer-
sity of Pennsylvania. He graduated
in medicine at the Jefferson Medical
college in Philadelphia and was well
known as the author of numerous
medical works before he essayed fic-
tion. He now is the author of more
than a score of popular romances, of
which "Hugh Wynne," "The Adven-
tures of Francois," "Constance Tres-
cot," "The Autobiography of a Quack"
and "The Red City" are among the
best known. Dr. Mitchell also has
produced a number of biographical
studies and several books of poems.
His latest story, "John Sherwood,
Ironmaster," depicts the finding of a
man's higher nature through the phys-
ical breakdown that necessitates out-
door living.

Congratulations to:—
Mme. Carcella Sembrich the famous
singer, 54 years old today.
Elihu Root, United States senator
from New York, 67 years old today.
Peter S. Grosscup, former judge of
the United States Circuit Court, 60
years old today.

Redmond P. Roblin, for a number
of years premier of Manitoba, 59 years

old today.

Albert B. Cummins, United States
senator from Iowa and Republican
presidential aspirant, 62 years old to-
day.

THE MAN WITH NOTHING TO SAY

Our national candidates now are on
hand
Discussing on public affairs,
Explaining that all other policy plans
Are not as near perfect as theirs,
But the masses at Uncle Sam's fam-
ily board
Are anxiously waiting the day
When their votes will deliver their
highest reward
To the man who has nothing to say

One man trains his hair in the pom-
padour style
And offers to set 'em the pace,
And a son of Ohio renowned for his
smile
Will certainly enter the race,
There are other aspirants with bees
in their hair
Ambitiously seeking the fray,
But they haven't a ghost of a chance
anywhere
With the man who has nothing to say.

Teddy the silent is the man of the hour
Teddy's the man of his time,
He's topped all the ladders of fame
and power
'Til he hasn't a place to climb;
He can be as reserved as the man in
hearse
Or roar like a lion at bay;
'Tis the wisest of men who know when
to converse
And when to have nothing to say.
M. L. CARTER, Sandridge.

COLONIST
FARES

DAILY

March 1 to April 15, 1912

From the middle and eastern portions
of the United States and Canada to all
points in the northwest on the

OREGON-WASHINGTON RAIL
ROAD & NAVIGATION CO.

From CHICAGO \$33.00
From St. Louis \$32.00
From OMAHA \$25.00
From Kansas City \$25.00
From ST. PAUL \$25.00

Proportionately low fares from all
other points. Direct service from
Chicago, St. Paul, Omaha and Kansas
City over the C. & N. W., Union Pa-
cific, Oregon Short Line and O.-W. R.
& N.

Lives Protected by Automatic Block
Signal.

YOU CAN PREPAY FARES.

While these rates apply westbound
only, fares may be prepaid by deposi-
ting value of the ticket with your lo-
cal agent and an order will be tele-
graphed to any address given. Aid
in telling of our vast resources and
wonderful opportunities for home
building.

Illustrated and reliable printed
matter will be mailed to anyone to
whom you wish it sent, by address-
ing:

Wm. McMurray, General Passenger
Agent, Portland, Oregon.



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,
all of that goodness and nutriment so peculiar to the best quality
chocolate. It is a food, drink and medicine all combined, at low

Selder's - La Grande