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THE OBSERVER

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Editor and Owner.

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NOT HURTING COAL INDUSTRY.

The area appraised as coal land by the geological survey during the fiscal year 1911 was 7,821,508 acres. The area classified as non-coal land was 2,386,444 acres greater than that so classified in 1910. On the other hand the average price fixed per acre and the total appraised value are notably less for 1911 than for 1910. The difference is due to a concentration of work in the lignite and low-grade sub-bituminous fields of eastern Montana and Wyoming, where the appraised values under the regulations are the minimum fixed by law.

The charge has been made that the classification policy of the survey has been harmful to the coal industry of the west by placing prohibitive prices on the public coal lands. The fact

that the coal production of the Rocky mountain states in 1910 showed an increase of 14.7 per cent over the production of 1909 indicates that the western coal industry has not been seriously injured. It is a further significant fact that the sale of coal lands during the four fiscal years since the adoption of the government's classification policy has been over 12 per cent greater than during the four preceding years while the increase in receipt from the sales has been 30 per cent.

It is claimed that a whale lives 300 years. Had Jonah stayed to the finish he might as well have lived in Philadelphia.

Texas has a man that weighs 500 pounds. He is one of the state's heaviest taxpayers.

A footpad held up three men with a briar pipe. Talk about strong pipes.

A man in Chicago dropped dead while buying grand opera tickets. The prices must be higher than usual this season.

At the same time "Rest in peace until we meet again" is no inscription for a widow to place on her husband's tombstone.

The Standard Oil company has been finally dissolved, but there is more oil left in the can.

A new town in Oklahoma has been named Kern. It should be a close second to Bryan, Texas, and a great place for whiskers.

London has grown weary of wriggly dances on the stage. Civilization may in time become civilized.

The Seattle man who, because of a scarcity of water, used champagne to shave with, couldn't keep mum about it.

Kansas Lining up for Clark.

Hutchinson, Kas., March 13.—Nearly all of the 617 delegates who will comprise the democratic state convention to be held here tomorrow have arrived in the city. The democrats regard the outlook for the success of their party in Kansas this year as being unusually bright and the convention promises to be an enthusiastic and harmonious gathering. The work of the convention will be confined to the election of delegate at large to the Baltimore convention and the selection of a national committeeman. The predominance of the Clark sentiment is so marked that it is not believed the Wilson adherents will attempt seriously to prevent the endorsement of the Missourian. The indications are that the name of no other aspirant for the democratic presidential nomination will be mentioned.

SIRES AND SONS.

Lord Loch, lord in waiting to King George of England, is well over six feet in height and is the tallest man about the court.

Theodore L. Weed, who has just been appointed director of the postal savings system, is a Connecticut man and has been in the government service since 1898.

Ogden Mills Reid, son of Whitelaw Reid, proprietor of the New York Tribune and United States ambassador to Great Britain, has been elected presi-

dent of the Tribune association and will take a leading part in directing the newspaper property.

John Grier Hibben, Princeton's new president, is fifty-one years of age, is a graduate of the university and has been teaching there for twenty-one years. He is also president of the American Philosophical society and is an ordained Presbyterian minister.

James A. Tawney, former congressman and a leader in the house, is to become president of a St. Paul fire insurance company soon. He is a native of Pennsylvania, but moved to Minnesota in 1877, where he followed his trade as a machinist until 1881. He announces that he is out of politics forever.

Sporting Notes.

Harry Johnson, formerly of the Ohio and Pennsylvania leagues, and Thomas Carter, formerly of the Pennsylvania State league, will be on the staff of umpires of the Western baseball league the coming season.

Denton T. ("Cy") Young has sent to the Boston National league baseball team his signed contract for his twenty-second year in major league baseball. He is the oldest pitcher in point of years and service in big league baseball.

Though Martin Sheridan vehemently says he never will go in another all around competition, the signs along the trail read that Martin may take a wallop at the Pentathlon, the five event contest, and the Decathlon, the ten event contest, at next summer's Olympiad.

Egg Flips.

Asheville, N. C., claims to possess a dog which catches hens and holds them until they lay. Why not add that the intelligent animal is himself a setter?—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

Some people are fearfully behind the times. For instance, a visitor here went to a grocery store to buy an egg, just as if they keep such things anywhere but in jewelry shops.—Charleston News and Courier.

A hen near Tarrytown laid an egg

in a snowdrift and to protect it put two shells on it. A really perspicacious hen would have laid an egg with fur on it. The owner should kill this stupid fowl.—Rochester Union and Advertiser.

Pert Personals.

Now that Lillian Russell is engaged again old Sarah Bernhardt has decided to try to "come back."—St. Louis Republic.

One gasps to think of the experiences that must come to Hotty Green's yet unmarried son during this leap year.—Chicago News.

Mr. Rockefeller is very fond of Edwin Markham's poetry. Mr. Markham is the man who wrote "The Earth Is All I Want."—Buffalo News.

If the Persians could only get Kipling to write a poem on the situation there is no reason why they should not become reconciled to it.—Charleston News and Courier.

A Useless Verdict.
"Yes," said the old traveler, "I was on a jury once. It was a murder trial. I didn't want the fellow hanged and so stuck out against the other eleven for nine days, locked up in the jury room, when they gave in, and we brought in a verdict of not guilty, and then I was ready to stab myself with spite."
"What about?"
"Cause the mob had hanged the prisoner on the very first day we were locked up."

Soiled Wall Paper.
A wall paperer advises to get a roll of cheap cotton batting for cleaning soiled wall paper. With a piece of the batting go over the surface of the paper lightly. Then with some more batting go over the paper with greater pressure. The result is astonishing. To keep the paper looking well this treatment should be given occasionally.

The Poor Poets.
Assistant Editor—Here's a poem from a fellow who is serving a five years term in prison. Managing Editor—Well, print it, with a footnote explaining the circumstance. It may serve as a warning to other poets.—Exchange.

Favor Roosevelt in Oklahoma.

Guthrie, Okla., March 13.—Unless the unexpected happens, Theodore Roosevelt will get in his first body blow in the fight for the republican presidential nomination here tomorrow, when the republicans of Oklahoma will meet to name ten delegates and ten alternates to the national convention at Chicago. The Roosevelt supporters are expected to be in absolute control of the convention, notwithstanding the fact that the state organization has fought tooth and nail in the interest of President Taft. The delegates to the state convention instructed for Roosevelt outnumber the Taft delegates nearly two to one. The Roosevelt supporters point to this fact as one of great significance because, they declare, it represents the first chance the people have had to choose between the two candidates under a primary law. While ready to admit that they have lost the fight so far as the state convention is concerned, the Taft people believe they will be able to capture some of the district delegates, thus preventing a solid Roosevelt delegation from Oklahoma.

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"COTTON FROM FIELD TO FACTORY" Eclipse
A very instructive picture.

"THE MATE OF THE ALD-ON BESSIE" Selig
A strong dramatic picture.

"TRUE TO THEIR TRUST" Eclipse
Featuring the children of a lighthouse keeper. A splendid picture.

"THE WIFE OF A GENIUS" S. & A.
A fire in a large hotel, good acting and fine photoplay make this an unusually fine film.

LAST NIGHT OF ROMIG SISTERS.

"THE PROFESSOR'S DAUGHTERS" Pathe
The Prof. has seven daughters who loves seven boys much to the disgust of the Prof. You must see how they work father till they get married.
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