

THE OBSERVER

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MAN CAN DO ONLY SO MUCH.

We believe one of the best versions of the fearful Titanic catastrophe is to view it as many viewed the defeat of Napoleon. Mortal man can only do about so much.

The steamship company had builded a boat that man thought was unsinkable. The Titanic was king of the seas, or was to be. So gigantic was the craft that its weight and size failed to rise and fall with the waves to any extent and it could brave the stormy sea, so its builders said, with little discomfiture to the passengers.

Yet on a calm sea, on a bright starlight night the big ship collided with one of nature's barriers and went down with its cargo of human beings. The lesson seems plain. Man can only build so strong and trying to overcome nature is only to meet with disaster in shipbuilding as well as in everything else.

Hereafter every ship will carry its necessary number of life boats and rafts. Man will not trust to seal air compartments or science when life is at stake.

WONDERS OF THE WIRELESS.

When Jules Verne wrote "Around the World in Eighty Days," it was proclaimed a wonderful bit of imaginary writing. Now the feat is in no wise remarkable.

When Shakespear put into the mouth of one of his characters the boast, "I'll put a girdle round about the earth in 40 minutes," he did not dream that one Guglielmo Marconi would some day 300 years later make this boast:

"I believe that in the near future a wireless message can be sent from New York completely around the globe, with no relaying and be received by an instrument located in the same office with the transmitter, in perhaps even less time than Shakespear's 40 minutes."

Marconi does not believe there is any limit to the adaptability of the wireless system, especially since he finds that the difficulties of land transmission are being overcome. While it is difficult to send land messages during the day, at night they are transmitted with ease. Already messages have been transmitted 2,500 miles, and further distances may be achieved before long.

While the wireless system will probably never supplant the telephone and telegraph, the developments so far prove that there is a big field for its operations. The theoretical aspect has given way to a practical working plan? The wireless has made good.

MOLASSES ON ROADS.

Road builders are interested in an experiment that is being conducted by Logan Waller Page, the director of the office of public roads, on some of the highways near Washington. He is using "blackstrap molasses," the very lowest grade from cane sugar and absolutely uneatable from beet sugar, with a lime water mixture for road dressing. It is said the experiment has shown the mixture to be excellent dressing.

Laboratory experiments show that "blackstrap molasses," mixed with lime water, forms calcium succrate, one of the stickiest substances known to chemistry. It has been sprinkled with a watering cart and is found to have a peculiar binding effect on sand. It is proposed to use a considerable amount of the dressing to ascertain if the combination will prove a successful binder. If the experiment is a success it will provide a splendid means of disposing of a by-product which gives considerable trouble to the sugar manufacturers, who find it impossible to get rid of it.

Senator La Follette is a gloomy chap, after all. He made the fight for Oregon and lost the state to Roosevelt who made no campaign here. He made the fight for his favorite senator here and lost that fight. Now he discounts the progressiveness of Oregon and indirectly questions her citizenship. But he has no right to do either. There is nothing the matter with Oregon. She is right clear across the board in this campaign and later developments will show that not an ounce of progression has been lost, and in fact, important progressive steps have been taken.

Speaking of the silent vote, of which

you have heard so much about for years, what do you think of Teddy's vote in Union county and in Oregon? There is no longer use to attempt to mistake his popularity among the people, and so far as the Observer is concerned there is no disposition to do so. When the people want a man they should have him.

Counting of votes is sometimes a critical climax to the election returns. H. M. Calk was counted in for senator six years ago and then on final count he lacked a few. I. R. Snook, county recorder, was in the same position this year. First he was in, then out, then in again, and now out again. But Snook is a good loser.

With the building boom slated for La Grande this season and with crop prospects the very best, what need La Grande fear? She keeps pegging steadily onward and is the recognized commercial center of Eastern Oregon at the present time.

But "General" Bragg, like Tennyson's brook, goes on and on forever. The second elective term, third elective term, etc., do not bother the school superintendent of Union county who is always on the job.

With Hug nominated for sheriff Elgin receives proper recognition, Hutchinson for commissioner and Forstrom for representative also makes Union know that she is an important part of this county.

A Pennsylvania court rules that "a voter's home is where his wife lives." Which leaves the bachelors to find their own homes, a feat sometimes difficult for some of them late at night.

A party of university students were recently shown the ins and outs of the New York stock exchange. But they weren't shown the downs and outs.

It has been discovered by a statistician that more divorces are granted in April than in any other month. House cleaning time and moving time.

The newly discovered deposit of iron ore in Pennsylvania is, said to be a "mother lode." Father's load was discovered by him lon gago.

Commissioner Hutchinson of Union. That sounds all right and will be reality after the November election.

Here's to Multnomah and her Lafayette.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

April 24.

1731—Daniel Defoe, author of "Robinson Crusoe," died. Born in 1663.

1743—Edmund Cartwright, inventor of the power loom, bor. Died Oct. 30, 1823.

1845—China issued an edict permitting foreigners to teach the Christian religion.

1862—Farragut's fleet passed Forts Jackson and St. Philip, guarding the entrance to New Orleans.

1877—War began between Russia and Turkey.

1891—Count von Moltke, celebrated German soldier, died. Born Oct. 26, 1800.

1898—Spain made a declaration of war against the United States.

1900—The senate refused to seat Matthew Quay, appointed United States senator by the governor of Pennsylvania.

1911—The Pacific Mail Steamship Asia was sunk off Finger Rock, China

"THIS IS MY 64TH BIRTHDAY."

Admiral Marix.

Rear Admiral Marix, U. S. N., retired, was born of Jewish parentage in Saxony, Germany, April 24, 1848. While still a boy he was brought by his father to America. He was appointed to the United States naval academy from Iowa and graduated in 1868. He was made master in 1870 and lieutenant in 1872, after which he was assigned to special service in the judge advocate-general's office, where he acquired knowledge which stood him later in such good steam when he became judge advocate of the Maine disaster board of inquiry, an appointment which made him prominent in an interesting chapter of American naval history. When President Taft was the governor general of the Philippines Commander Marix was a naval attache at the islands. When retired for age two years ago Admiral Marix was serving as chairman of the lighthouse

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BASEBALL NOTES

Bill Loudon, the former Newark player, looks like a fixture at third base with the Detroit Tigers.

With Jimmy Esmond at short, working like a dynamo, the Cincinnati infield has been displaying the real article

Derrill Pratt has been filling LaPorte's place at second base for the Browns and getting away with it in fine shape.

Manager Joe McGinnity has announced that only union-made sausage (sausage for hot dog) will be sold at the Newark park this season.

It was up to Pitcher Marty O'Toole to put the Pirates in the win column and the "\$22,500 beauty" turned the trick with a few fancy benders and a smile.

Senator McColloch. FOR RENT—Four nice rooms with State Senator Claude C. McColloch of Baker is here transacting business today. bath. 1808 Third street. Red 3952 4-24-tf



"The Squaw Man" has many thrilling scenes. This is one of them.