

THE OBSERVER

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"MR. SINNOTT OF OREGON"

The above is the way Congressman-elect Sinnott will be spoken of in the nation from now on, but to the people of La Grande and Eastern Oregon he will remain just plain "Nick" Sinnott. He was here yesterday and delivered the Elks' memorial address and it was an address that will long be remembered. Not particularly for its flowery oratory, although there was a goodly share of that, but for the forceful, firm and resolute manner of the speaker.

Yesterday's event was anything but political and it is with a sort of apology to the Elks that we mention the political side of the speaker in connection with such an event, but that speech yesterday convinced all who were present that Eastern Oregon has made no mistake in choosing a congressman. At last we have the kind of a man we need; the kind of a man who will make good to the people.

Nick Sinnott is not an imported product. He is a native of Eastern Oregon. His talk yesterday went in to the hearts of all; his heart beats with the hearts of Eastern Oregon people and what he said seemed to touch the tenderest spots bring forth admiration on every hand.

La Grande will ever be glad to welcome Nick for we, as a people, will feel like "one of our boys" has come home for a visit.

EASTERN OREGON SHEEP.

Robert Stanfield of Umatilla county was in La Grande yesterday looking after several bands of sheep which he has in this valley. Incidentally "Bob's" neighbors elected him to represent Umatilla county in the legislature this winter, but that is not nearly so important as the opinion of this sheep man on the present outlook for that industry.

"I really cannot believe that President-elect Wilson or the Democratic congress will take extraordinary action regarding the tariff on wool. The facts are that all of we people of Eastern Oregon have been laying too much stress upon the protection the industry is receiving, yet at the same time none of us want to embrace the simon pure free trade on this commodity. But the general conditions are so vastly different now to what they once were in the sheep business that a lower duty will not change things entirely. In the last few weeks I have shipped 20,000 head of sheep into Canada and the duty was one dollar per head. This only illustrates the positive shortage of meat producing animals all over the world. There is an old law called Supply and Demand that is older than any other statute. That law is still working and the world has come up short on beef, pork and mutton which takes that commodity out of the hands of Republicans and Democrats alike to a large extent."

In speaking of proposed legislation for the state this winter Mr. Stanfield said he would wait until he got to Salem and see what was needed but added that he was against piling

up a mess of useless laws, the passage of which was merely intended to give orators a chance to air their ideas and play to the grand stand.

The eulogy delivered by George T. Cochran yesterday at the Elks' Memorial services was one of the best of its kind ever heard in La Grande. He approached his subject at a new angle and gave the audience new thoughts along this line which caused favorable comment from many. Without doubt Mr. Cochran's speech will live for many years in the hearts of all and especially of those who have departed ones.

STATE LIFE INSURANCE.

Wisconsin's plan of state life insurance no doubt will act as a model for other efforts along the line of interesting people in the matter of insuring their lives, because many will have more confidence in an institution backed by the state, than in companies on the stockholding plan.

At the same time the old line companies do not fear any loss of patronage, because they do not believe any insurance system will become popular without a large number of solicitors, and the state will employ none.

Two years ago the Wisconsin legislature passed the act providing for this, the first state life insurance fund law ever put in operation. The provision was made that two years should be given to perfecting the system, and hence the law has just been put into effect.

The act provides only for citizens of the state of Wisconsin. The applicant must be between the ages of 20 and 50, inclusive. Straight life, 20 payment life, 10 year endowment, endowment at the age of 65, and term to age 65 have all been provided for. The American table of mortality has been used, and the rates are no lower than those of the regular insurance companies.

There will be no agent's commissions to pay, since applications will go direct to the state insurance department. The medical examiners are provided for and will be appointive officers under the direction of the state board of health. Each year there will be a refund of savings and gains—the same as is now the case with regular companies writing participating insurance.

Whether the state will be able to do a very great volume of business by a mail application system is, of course, a question, but should not constitute an objection to the law. The particular advantage to be derived lies in the fact that many persons will be induced to take out a policy which has the state of Wisconsin behind it, who might never feel safe with other insurance companies. For this reason the act will be a distinct benefit.

Any system which can be devised to induce people to make proper provision for old age should receive the hearty support of the state and the government. The fear of a dependent old age is one of the present hopeless symptoms of our civilization. Take away this fear, and the future well being of everyone will be conserved.

UNION WOMEN VOTING.

Union and Island City Women to Be First to Cast Votes Locally.

Union, Dec. 2.—(Special)—Women of Union are voting today—the first to cast their vote in this county.

Island City, Dec. 2.—(Special)—To elect three councilmen, the people of Island City, women and men, will cast their vote tomorrow. There



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are no mayor or recorder vacancies this election.

APROPPOS TO ED. NARGAL.

Ed Nargal is the mystery man, The chief of the mysterious clan That has shown the world since time began

What seeming wonders can be done— Like putting out the burning sun, Or catching comets on the run, Or moving mountains just for fun.

Ed Nargal is the very "guy" That placed the stars up in the sky, And once he told a bull frog why All fragrant onions make folks cry.

Ed Nargal is the liveliest chap— In fact he never takes a nap. He loves the spirit of "Do it now"; Indeed always telling how Old Satan haughtily would rebel

Gaining letters in at— "To be continued when the author thinks of a word to rhyme here."

—MILTON STODDARD.

The United States has lost twelve million rounds of ammunition by fire, which may be considered another step in the direction of universal peace.

Marine Draftsmen to Organize.

Philadelphia, Dec. 2.—Marine draftsmen from all parts of the United States held a well attended gathering here today for the purpose of forming a national organization of their craft, along the lines of similar technical societies of a national scope. Several state organizations of marine draftsmen were represented by delegates and signified their willingness to become affiliated with the national body. The membership will be divided into three grades, members, associates and juniors, according to the applicants' training and experience.

Janitor Tours West.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 2.—On his first vacation in 14 years, Jordan Banga, Northern Pacific janitor at Wallace, Idaho, has started on a tour of the west. His trip is made possible by passes over four western railroad systems and will include visits in Spokane, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Salt Lake and Butte. Jordan Banga is an aged, white haired negro. He is one of the most widely known characters in the Coeur d'Alene mining district, and is acquainted with nearly all high officials of the Northern Pacific railway.

Eugene Has Strike.

Eugene, Ore., Dec. 2.—Strikebreakers are being imported from Portland to take the places of 50 men quitting the service on the Portland-Eugene Eastern railroad. It is stated the construction camp will have a full crew in two days. The I. W. W. headquarters have issued a statement demanding the strikers' demands be granted.

CHIEF JOSEPH LOVED RULER

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ment the necessity for attending to public duty.

When, 64 years ago today, Francis Joseph was somewhat unexpectedly called to the throne he found his realm in a state of indescribable confusion. The policy of his immediate predecessors had been harsh and repressive, and the great revolutionary war of 1848 caused formidable uprisings in both Austria and Hungary. These were sternly repressed and drastically punished. The ancient liberties of the Hungarians were curtailed and ultimately abolished, and Francis Joseph seemed destined to be perpetuated in history as one of the most despotic of European monarchs.

From this bad reputation he was saved by what seemed at the time a series of tragic misfortunes. In a short campaign in 1859 Austria was defeated by France and deprived of nearly all of her Italian territory. Then followed the crushing defeat inflicted on her by Prussia in 1866, and her expulsion from the German confederation.

This series of national humiliations only served to make apparent the statesmanlike qualities of Francis Joseph. From projects of foreign aggression he turned to plans of national betterment. The claims of Hungary began to receive consideration. The plan for a federal empire was adopted, and Francis Joseph was crowned anew king of Hungary in 1867.

So peculiar a constitution as that of Austria-Hungary called for the exercise of patience, tact and administrative ability of the highest order, but for 45 years the "Emperor of Sorrows" has managed to overcome all difficulties and yet retain a popularity personally which is without parallel among the present crowned heads of Europe.

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Choice of heavy or light top buggy in first class condition cheap. 1409 Madison. Phone Black 41. 12-2-61

CONGRESS CONVENES

(Continued from Page 1)

tions or attentions from friends, relatives or office-seekers.

Spirit of recent battles on political campaign fields lent both a humorous and a tragic angle to today's brief session. Many war-scarred veterans of a generation of campaigns looked upon the opening gaiety for the last time. They were the ones defeated last month in the Democratic land-

slide.

Despite their political misfortunes the "lame ducks" laughed and joked across the aisles to their victorious opponents. This aftermath of the recent election was more evident in the House than in the Senate.

Congratulations were showered upon the fortunate members re-elected. Many received congratulations upon promotion. Among the latter were Representative Norris of Nebraska, who goes to the Senate March 4; Judge Charles R. Crisp, the House parliamentarian, and Clyde Tavenner, of the Sergeant-at-arms office who cease being employees and take seats in the House as members in the next Congress.

Levees were held by many Senators in their offices and in the famous "marble room" of the Senate reception chambers with friends and constituents.

The triangular complexion of Congress—Republican, Progressives and Democrats—was also much in evidence. Low-toned conferences were held by the Progressive members in both chambers.

Although it was the "short" session they were beginning, the legislators plainly evidenced their resignation to "settling down" for an indefinite stay, probably into next summer.

mer, in view of the promised session in April.

The legislative program facing the Congress today comprised little more than most urgent, necessary legislation, including a score of appropriation bills, and a few bills specially assigned for consideration. The Senate plans to spend about two hours each day in the impeachment trial of Judge Archbold. Various committees have considerable unshaped bills to polish off.

Numerous investigations were also on the House program, with early action promised on the Dillingham-Burnett Immigration bill and the Philippine Independence bill.

The Lame Duck Brigade.

The retiring members of the house are "Uncle Joe" Cannon, Wm. A. Rodenberg, N. B. Thistlewood, Nicholas Longworth, John Dalzell, E. D. Crumpacker, Wm. B. McKinley, W. J. Hill, C. A. Sullowa, C. W. Prince, H. O. Young, J. Q. Tilson, F. D. Currier, W. B. Wilson, and John Lambs.

The retiring senators are: Henry I. Burnham, W. Murray Crane, Simon Guggenheim, Jonathan Boune, Norris Brown, J. M. Dixon, H. A. Richardson, Robert J. Bamble, Shelby McCullom, F. O. Briggs, J. W. Bailey, M. J. Foster, T. H. Paynter and C. W. Watson.

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