

THE OBSERVER

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EDITOR AND OWNER.

Entered at the postoffice at La Grande,  
Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.  
Daily, single copy ..... 5c  
Daily, per week ..... 15c  
Daily, per month ..... 65c

AS A COMPOSER SEES US.

What might be called setting  
America to music has just been ac-  
complished by Dr. Hugo Felix, Viennese  
composer, who has taken leave  
of this country after giving out an  
interview in which he discusses the  
country from the standpoint of a  
musical critic. Dr. Felix says:

"I know now what the pitch of  
America is. It is concert pitch, with  
the loud pedal on all the time. Every  
thing is louder here than it is in  
Europe. The streets are noisier.  
The trams make more noise. The  
very dogs bark louder. Everyone  
and everything seems to be striving  
to make the most racket.

The public is accustomed to it and  
is a slave to the noise habit. People's  
nerves are strung up to it. Take the  
noise away and they feel like collaps-  
ing. It's a sort of stimulant. It  
would be like taking alcohol away  
from a drunkard. That is why they  
want their music with the full band  
playing all the time. No rest for the  
drums, and frequent cymbal crashes.  
Any music that is quiet, dainty and  
subdued they are apt to consider  
tame."

We have to thank Dr. Felix for  
adding this crashing crescendo when  
he epitomized it thus: "No rest for  
the drums, and frequent cymbal  
crashes." This is one of the shortest  
and, at the same time, one of the  
most succinct statements of the great  
American malady which has been ut-  
tered for some time. It is worth  
the trip of a Viennese composer to  
be shown how prone we are to mis-  
take feverish activity for continued  
progress.

There must come a time, of course,  
when we will weary of the fortiss-  
simo, and when we will be forced to  
put on the soft pedal. But at the  
present the pianissimo of country  
life continues to drive people to the  
hurdy-gurdy city streets, and silence  
seems far more appalling than noise.  
Still we can't keep piling climaxes  
on top of each other forever.

The census shows there are 125-  
000 idiots in this country, not includ-  
ing those who smoke cigarettes in  
telephone booths.

Germany has started a war on  
Standard Oil, and here is one occa-  
sion when Penrose will not be able to  
do the Standard Oil any good.

Joe Canon's old auto has been sold  
in Washington for \$60. All his  
machines seem to have gone to the  
bad.

An auctioneer will be the next lord  
mayor of London. It evidently takes  
a man with a voice to hold that job.

The trouble with those Mexican  
revolutions is that they are not re-  
volving in the same direction.

Turkey is up against four kings,  
and Turkey holds a punk hand to  
bluff on.

King Albert of Belgium sings tenor.  
No wonder there is considerable  
discontent in his country.

Public kissing has been forbidden  
in Germany, but who wants to kiss  
the public, anyhow?

JUNKETER RETURNS.

Councilman Haisten Visits Many Cit-  
ies of the Northwest.

After spending the week with the  
La Grande junketers in the Willam-  
ette valley, and then going on to  
Sound points, and home via Spokane  
and Walla Walla, Councilman F. D.  
Haisten has returned from his exten-  
sive tour of the Northwest. While  
away he conferred with prominent of-  
ficials of various towns and comes  
home well loaded with improved ideas  
applicable to the welfare of La  
Grande's administration. At Walla  
Walla he visited his daughter Juanita  
who is attending St. Paul's school. He  
was agreeably surprised at the com-  
pleteness of that institution.

Moving Pictures in Japan.  
The Japanese take the moving pic-  
ture with the seriousness befitting the  
national character. They enjoy it thor-  
oughly, but they like it best when it  
makes them sad. The favorite theme  
is the allegorical play that represents  
the warrior fighting for righteousness.  
Next in popularity comes the pathetic  
picture. The strictly educational film  
is also popular, and there is always  
applause for good scenery. But the  
love story is never represented in the  
Japanese moving picture. It would be  
an outrage to modesty and a violation  
of decency and therefore intolerable.  
Pictures derogatory to the dignity of  
officials and of policemen are forbid-  
den, as well as those likely to instill  
revolutionary ideas in the minds of the  
young.

A Dangerous Precedent.  
The best case which I have seen of  
law versus justice and common sense  
is one which Montague relates as hav-  
ing happened in his own day. Some  
men were condemned to death for mur-  
der. The judges were then informed  
by the officers of an inferior court that  
certain persons in their custody had  
confessed themselves guilty of the  
murder in question and had told so  
circumstantial a tale that the fact was  
placed beyond all doubt. Nevertheless  
it was deemed so bad a precedent to  
revoke a sentence and show that the  
law could err that the innocent men  
were delivered over to execution.—  
London Graphic.

By Comparison.  
"Say, mamma, my teacher'd make a  
bully highwayman!" exclaimed a boy  
as he rushed in from school.  
"Why, Freddy, what in the world do  
you mean?" inquired his astonished  
mother.  
"Why, she's always telling the chil-  
dren to 'hold up their hands.'"—Judge's  
Library.

Took the Count.  
"Bobby, you have been fighting with  
that Stapleton boy again. Did you  
count ten before you struck him, as I  
have always told you to do?"  
"No, but I was told that somebody  
counted ten after he landed on me."—  
Chicago Tribune.

A Woman's Age.  
Guest—Delightful party you are hav-  
ing tonight, old fellow. Host—Yes, I  
am giving it to my wife. It is the  
twelfth anniversary of her thirtieth  
birthday.—Harper's Bazar.

Millions of money are not better than  
millions of grains of sand at the gate  
of Eternity.

His Synonym For a Quick Retreat.  
In the sixth grade the teacher was  
questioning a boy about Napoleon's dis-  
astrous invasion of Russia and the sub-  
sequent retreat from Moscow.  
"What did the French do then?" she  
asked.  
"They ran away," said the boy.  
"Yes, that is what they did," said the  
teacher, "but 'ran away' is hardly the  
correct phrase to use. What should you  
have said?"  
The boy's face lighted up with under-  
standing.  
"They beat it!" he exclaimed proud-  
ly.—Kansas City Star.

How He Praised Taine.  
Canon Alinger, the biographer of  
Lamb, had much of Lamb's fondness  
for verbal quibbling. His couplet in  
praise of "Taine's English Literature"  
—well known among scholars:  
"Taine English critics their dull wits were  
strolling  
& enter Taine, and all was entertaining!"  
—Boston Post.

WANTED—Lady cook at Home res-  
taurant. 2-3-3tp

FOR RENT—Four room. R. A. Craw-  
ford. Phone Red 1392. 2-4-2t

NOTICE.  
Notice is hereby given that there  
are now funds on hand to pay the fol-  
lowing warrants:  
Improvement district 14-B warrant  
Nos. 11,306 and 11,307.  
Improvement district 55, warrant  
Nos. 12,000 and 12,001.  
Improvement district 42, warrants  
Nos. 12,064 and 12,422.  
Improvement district 43, warrant  
No. 12,421.  
Improvement district 13-B, warrant  
No. 11,920.  
Improvement district 9-C, warrant  
No. 11,985.  
Improvement district 56, warrant  
No. 12,306.  
Improvement district 45, warrant  
No. 12,418.  
Improvement district 45, warrant  
No. 12,418.  
Improvement district, 49, warrant  
No. 12,294.  
Improvement district 1-C, warrants  
Nos. 11,110 and 11,111.  
Interest ceases from date of this  
call.

RAY W. LOGAN,  
City Treasurer.  
La Grande, Ore., Feb. 4th, 1913.

# February White Sale

Including Final  
Clean-up of Short Lines  
**STARTS TODAY**  
Lasts for 10 Days

## New Puritan Muslin Underwear Reduced

New White Goods All Reduced  
Nainsook and Longcloth at Reduced Prices  
Beautiful New Embroideries Reduced

**See the Window** Tailored Suits \$9.90 **See the Window**  
VALUES UP TO \$40.00  
Every department is daily receiving many new spring novelties. Come in and see them. Your unrestricted choice of over 40 new suits at a price far below the actual cost of manufacture. See them in Ready-to-Wear Department. Many short lines from January Sale will be closed out at same bargain prices.

First Showing of Spring Styles in Women's and Misses' Suits and Coats---  
now ready for your approval. New York's VERY NEWEST STYLES.

# WEST'S

THE QUALITY STORE

Bokhara Kimona Cloth.  
An extra good value at 15c yd. Special 10c

**REMEMBER**  
The February White Sale lasts for 10 days only.

## THE LEADING LADY OF THE ROSARY



BALD BARLEY FOR SALE — Two  
tons—bargain. Address Box 422, La  
Grande. 2-5-3t  
FOR SALE OR TRADE—New piano.  
Would sell on payment plan, box  
No. 192 or phone Red 1232. 2-5-6t  
LOST—Little red cow, about 5 years  
old. Return to J. S. Wilson, 862  
Second street. 2-5-1t  
FOR SALE—Good cooking apples 25c  
and 50c box delivered. Call Red  
1232. 2-5-6t

**FOR SALE**  
4 acre tract in North La Grande  
All in orchard, full bearing. 3  
houses, \$2,000 mortgage. Will  
take trade for equity, give  
terms, or sell very cheap for  
cash.  
Address Box 37, Enterprise, Or.

# Many Boosters

Are telling their friends about the per-  
fection of our  
**French Dry Cleaning  
and Pressing**  
We believed La Grande people would  
appreciate good cleaning. Our belief  
is already justified.  
**Cherry's New Laundry, Inc.**  
GEO. GILBERT, MANAGER.