

THE OBSERVER

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HAS OPPORTUNITY VANISHED!

Almost every day you will hear some boy say there is no such opportunity now as his father enjoyed.

This is a mistake. Listen to a true story of young George Goodbrood of Union.

George is a young man about 21 years of age. His father had ideas about making George an agriculturist, sending him to the state college.

While old General Goodbrood was a trifle disappointed he at once lined up with the boy and urged him forward.

At Union he found two of his boy friends trying to send and receive wireless messages without proper equipment.

THE HOME TOWN.

People seldom stop to consider how much their town means to them. They take it too much for granted, and in counting up their blessings make a superficial inventory that fails to credit the source from which many of their dearest benefits flow.

ern civilization and is the channel through which civilization confers its benefits. There is scarcely a phase of civilization that does not find direct and specific expression in the life and organization of a town that is large enough to have a school, a courthouse, a library, a bank, a mill or factory, a church, a waterworks, a brass band, a newspaper and a railroad station.

BLUE SKY LAW AND PROMOTERS.

Loud talk nowadays for a blue sky law.

Loud talk nowadays about mergers and prevention of watering stocks, and all the like.

But what does it all amount to? You find a man who studied law, corporation law at that; who has a few books that show many finger marks and wear, and you will have a hard time cornering that fellow if he tries to put one over carrying watered stock or inflated values.

Oregon has been the mecca for the get-rich-quick chap. This state has marketed as many worthless securities, probably, as any state in the Union, and now there is a proposition to have a blue sky law, and a proposition to dissolve everything that contains water.

Pound away boys, pound away, but when you get through you will find a third of the business in Portland is done on water; and many up-state propositions will also have their share of water—some so full of it that sponges are needed to absorb the drip.

IMPOSSIBLE TO CHEER UP.

The Gloomy Gus feeling that has ever come over newspapers and the people at large when a legislature was on, was about to be overcome this year. But, alas, it is almost impossible to cheer up when one considers the flood of bills already introduced.

In national affairs when Wilson was elected the newspapers of the country gritted their teeth and said "we will not let a period of hard times come", and sincerity marked every word.

The same feeling was felt in Oregon regarding the state legislature.

twist the constitution into a cork-screw, add personal popularity to themselves by introduction of bills that are impractical and unjust, what's the use to grit your teeth any longer and say that you like it?

A recess in law making for the next 20 years would be the best thing that Oregon could have. Our statute books are now crowded with law after law that not only lacks enforcement, but lacks impracticability.

Oregon is in the midst of an epoch when ambitious law makers threaten by their wonderful productiveness of impractical laws to set the state back in advancement for a number of years.

Take a rest, ye loud toned legislators. Go back to your home and forget the spotlight and brass bands. Get in and earn something; produce something to add to the world's wealth and to feed the multitude. Do this and you will have contributed more to usefulness than session after session of legislative assemblies.

DO NOT SCOLD THE SNOW.

Tired of the snow? Of course you are.

But take the right view of things. The snow is the saviour of any wheat country. It does not hurt the fruit trees. It is recognized as the great fertilizer; the life giver to countries of higher elevation. Then look with cheerfulness upon the snow drift and wallow from the gate to the house with a smile on your face.

Besides, it can't last long. Next Fourth of July will see the same hot weather and you will forget all about the snow in February.

To have snow the depth we have is a blessing many countries cannot enjoy. Therefore, count your blessings once and get in line for a big and prosperous season for La Grande and the two counties.

LOU REMILLARD.

The passing of Lou Remillard, which occurred very suddenly yesterday afternoon, takes another pioneer from the Grande Ronde valley. The deceased came here in the early days and has been associated with the valley ever since. He knew the country when it was wild; when the covered wagon bore the eastern settler here; he knew it when rail transportation transformed Eastern Oregon and put it in touch with the rest of the world.

While Lou Remillard may have had his faults, as we all have faults, yet he had so many good qualities to overcome those faults that his friends were numbered by the score, all of whom today share the grief of the splendid family of this sturdy pioneer. His death marks time and points to the inevitable that awaits all men. Strong physically as he was, braving the frontier as he did, there came the time when the clock of life pointed its hand to his hour to go, just as it will point to each of us. His demise is mourned by many.

Republican senators have taken a rest on the confirmation of Taft appointees. That rest means every night there is a caucus by Republicans to devise ways and means and every night there is a caucus by Democrats to prevent any inroads on the well laid plans. Whither do we drift? Mainly to seeking the dollar for John or Bill who helped carry his precinct in the late election. And the words of Marse Henry Watterson again present themselves: "For the boys are so hungry and so thirsty". Yet there are several millions of people in the United States who are interested in federal legislation and not in appointments. Where do they get...

Barney O'Neil, the indicted Idaho banker, was long on overdrafts. The last year his bank ran his overdrafts were larger than his capital stock. This may give some Rufus Wallingford, Jr. a new idea on how to get rich quick. However, don't overlook that tall, dark building in the distance—that is the jail.

Hayden & Young Dissolve. Selder's candy store has seen another change. The partnership composed of Geo. Young and Mr. Hayden has been dissolved and henceforth Mr. Young will be the sole proprietor of the new place. The change will affect the name of the place as well and henceforth it will be known as Young's confectionery. The Zenda was thought to be too poetical and the new name will not only acquaint

the people of La Grande with the place but with the genial proprietor as well. Mr. Young has been in the business for fifteen years and is living up to the promise that he would conduct a first class candy store. All of the candies are made here in La Grande and the business has prospered so that the wholesale business cannot be continued on account of the big retail trade.

Mr. Young has associated with him W. G. Kelley, formerly with the Silverthorn drug store. Mr. Kelley will be the soft drink bartender and mix the fancy drinks.

In speaking of the change Mr. Young said: "People of Pendleton laughed at me for coming to La Grande, saying that the town would not patronize an outsider. I am now a citizen of La Grande and will make this place my home in the future because I like the people and they come to my store. I believe in running a sanitary place and the people of the city are at liberty to visit my factory whenever they feel like it."

A TOWN-RAISING.

Remember how we used to come. When someone had a barn to raise, And lend a hand and help him some.

To raise his roof and build his bays? Now things have changed, these later years.

Around the oldtime neighborhood, And our community appears Where once the barn we builded stood.

But once again I'd like to see The neighbors altogether stand, I'd like to have an oldtime bee.

And all the neighbors lend a hand, The work is waiting to be done That needs the help of neighbor's arm.

As once it raised, 'twixt sun and sun, The barn-frame on a neighbor's farm.

Let's gather in some handy day, The way we gathered long ago. Let's put our own affairs away And that old friendly spirit show. Let's get together, you with me And all the rest, to boast and climb, To have a good old-fashioned elm— A regular town-raising time!

—DOUGLAS MALLOCH.

AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP.

Scholarship in America has received grave damage from its most inveterate enemy, which is only specialization. The student of English history who cannot express an intelligent or intelligible opinion as to the significance of the Stuart dynasty will take many pages and draw numerous maps and plans for the purpose of establishing by what particular window Charles I. passed out of the palace at Whitehall to the scaffold. The notion that this sort of information is important at any stage in a student's career is an illusion well worthy of the study of the academic pathologist. The assumption that such information can take the place of a real grasp upon ideas, tendencies and movements of opinion is hardly worth discussing. The American college must be brought back on to a firmer basis than this if it is to survive and if it is to be worth working for. It is probably not possible to ascertain what proportion of American students go to college for social purposes only, what proportion go with a specific vocational end in view and what proportion go for the purpose of becoming liberally educated gentlemen. It is probable, however, that the class last named is not now very large, but the country will suffer severely if this class does not grow constantly larger and more important. Nicholas Murray Butler, Columbia University.

Kamela Hens.

Kamela, Feb. 5.—(Special)—Mrs. J. A. Graydon went to Durkee to visit her daughter, Mrs. C. McFall for a number of days.

The two infant children of Mrs. S. A. Ingerson have been quite sick for the past week.

Mrs. Blinkey Morgan is now greatly enjoying her fine new piano which she purchased in Spokane Washington last week.

Mr. W. Traub had the pleasure of killing a large bob cat in his wood shed the other morning with a club, while it was trying to kill his house cat.

Mrs. E. Hanken's sister from Walla Walla is here to visit her for a few days.

PERSONALS.

Mrs. M. C. Larm of Hot Lake is a guest with Mrs. Dell Huntley today.

Fred B. Currey of Hot Lake is in the city on business.

Mrs. J. Morrison of Ballston, Oregon, returned today from a visit with her son at Enterprise.

Mrs. C. J. Anderson of Imbler was in La Grande the guest of Mrs. W. E. Anderson for a few days.

Chas. Kessler of La Grande left this morning for Spokane where he will make his future home.

Mrs. J. I. Sturgill of Baker has been called to the bedside of her father in Elgin who is very ill.

Mrs. S. D. Keeney returned to her home in Albany, Oregon, this morning after a week's visit with her daughter, Mrs. M. Gelgeer of this city.

C. Brown of North Powder made connections this morning for Wallowa where he will spend a number of days hunting.

Mrs. S. S. Grant of Elgin returned to that place today after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Patten of La Grande.

T. B. Richardson of Colfax, Washington, went to Elgin this morning to visit with his daughter, Mrs. J. C. Bard, for ten days.

Homer G. Smith, a young rancher of the Imbler district, was in La Grande with his mother who conducts the Palmer mill boarding house.

Mrs. E. A. Jerome of Baker was the guest of Mrs. Dave Brichoux of this city for a number of days. She returned to Baker today.

Frank Ross of Union arrived in La Grande last night and will transact business in the county seat for a number of days.

Mrs. J. H. Keeney of La Grande and Mrs. Fergus of Pendleton left for Elgin where they have been called on account of the serious illness of their sister, Mrs. McCully.

W. J. Needham of Joseph visited his wife at the Grande Ronde hospital who has been operated on for serious ailment. He reports her doing well.

Mrs. W. A. Chenoweth of Enterprise, visited her son at the Grande Ronde hospital, who has undergone an operation for rupture. Young Chenoweth is rapidly recovering.

Mr. Houghton and Miss Wortman left this morning for Wallowa where they will visit with Miss Wortman's

folks for a few days. Miss Vera Houghton accompanied them.

S. L. Brooks, prominent stockholder of the Union County Fair association, and progressive farmer of the Imbler district, was in La Grande looking after his interests.

Mrs. George Haneke from Perry, Oregon, left this morning for Cass Junction, Utah, to be the guest of her mother. Her children Floyd and Clare accompanied her.

George McDaniels of the Cove left for that place this morning. He has been on the grand jury but the illness of his father caused him to leave before the work of that body had been completed.

Mrs. H. M. Gordon and her daughter, Mrs. W. H. Powell of Butte, Montana, will spend a few weeks at the home of their brother and uncle, J. A. Tuttle of Elgin. They came here from Pomona, California, where they visited Harrison Tuttle, a brother of Mrs. Gordon.

D. Fitzgerald, owner of the La Grande Iron Works, returned to La Grande yesterday after a siege at the Hot Lake sanitarium. Mr. Fitzgerald was operated on for a serious complication, but seems to be none the worse for the ordeal save for the loss a bit of weight.

Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Richardson left this morning for Oroville, California where they will remain for the winter. Mrs. Richardson is going there principally on account of her health. They will spend some time in Portland before leaving for the south.

Mr. and Mrs. Story of Island City arrived in La Grande last night from a long trip to Los Angeles and other Southern California points. Mr. Story said the weather is excellent there. Most of the women are going about in shirt waists. They were gone 40 days.

W. E. Ruckman, the retired wheat king of the Imbler country was in the city looking after his interests and meeting old friends. Mr. Ruckman regrets that he has not several thousand bushels of wheat to put on the market. Nearly all of his crop was sold in the fall.

An incandescent gas mantle which has become carbonized or blackened by use may be cleaned by throwing a quantity of salt upon it while it is glowing. This has the effect of cleaning the carbon off, increasing the efficiency of the light and prolonging the life of the mantle.

WAITE ELECTRIC CO. ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS We handle a full line of supplies, including Lamps, Fixtures, Irons, Etc. Repair work handled promptly. Office, New Foley Bldg. PHONE, M. 199

Many Boosters Are telling their friends about the perfection 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.

The Test of Time Time determines whether the policies under which a bank is operated are safe. This bank has been in business twenty-six years. It has grown steadily until it has become one of the strongest and most prosperous financial institutions in the West. The soundness of its policies is attested by the long list of conservative business men who transact their business here; also by an earned surplus of \$120,000.00, the work of time and the result of conservative management. This bank has facilities for taking care of more high grade business and offers its services to those who appreciate the best in banking. La Grande National Bank La Grande, Oregon Capital, \$100,000.00 Surplus, \$120,000.00 Resources, 1,700,000.00 DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. UNITED STATES POSTAL SAVINGS DEPOSITORY.