

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS

EDITOR AND OWNER. Entered at the postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter. SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, single copy 5c Daily, per week 35c Daily, per month 1.00

A NATIONAL BUDGET.

President Taft could hardly have selected a more important topic for his closing message to congress than the adoption of a budget system for the national government.

It is almost incomprehensible but the United States government not only has never had a budget, but it has never had a balance sheet; it has never had any means for reviewing its contracting and purchasing relations; it has never had the information necessary for considering questions of economy and efficiency of service rendered.

The budget proposals of ex-President Taft are based upon common experience and sense. They are supported by the best judgment and the best experience which has been gained in organization and management of corporate bodies, both public and private.

A budget system is needed to effect economy and increase efficiency.

PAY OF THE ABLE MAN.

The president of a New York trust company says that his salary of \$100,000 a year was awarded as "an indication of the appreciation of his able management."

There is no question as to the "able management." But there is a question as to the fact that infinitely superior and more useful men than any trust company president are not so highly paid.

The president of the United States, who more than any other man controls the political, commercial and social destinies of 90,000,000 people, gets \$75,000 a year.

States senators, among whom have been Webster, Clay, Thurman and Hoar, draw \$7,500.

Of the highest importance to society in a republic are its big educators. The pay of the mass of these character builders carries from \$200 to \$1500 a year.

There are said to be only three congregational clergymen in this country—all of national fame and immeasurable influence—who receive more than \$5000 a year.

Emerson, America's greatest philosopher, who has done more than a million trust company presidents to bring the public to better thinking and happier living, lived upon an income of \$1000 a year eked out by lecturing while writing his poems and essays.

If \$100,000 a year indicates a trust company president's ability and value to the public, then his ability and value as indicated by salary is greater than that of the President of the United States and equal to that of the admiral of the navy, the chief of staff of the army, the secretary of state, three senators, 30 school teachers, five college professors, three highest-paid clergymen, a bishop and an Emerson.

Chicago doctor says cigarette smoking is increasing alarmingly among women, but probably he has confined his investigations entirely to his own metropolis.

An immense Indian statue is to be erected overlooking New York harbor. Is it to commemorate what we did for or what we did to the red-skin?

The Utah woman who doesn't vote is going to be fined \$3. Doubtless a lot of them will try to get off for \$2.99.

It is no encouragement to a little boy in Mexico to tell him that he may be president some day.

(New York World.)

Now it's the goose waddle. It is not very far from the dip and the one step, at that, except that the dancer is presumed to make as careful an imitation of a goose as his intellectual limitations will permit.

The goose waddle can best be studied in a goose yard. But if there are no geese at hand, remember that the head is held up at what is a graceful tilt on the part of the girls, and makes the men look as though they suffered from carbuncles.

room. The effect is supposed to be that of geese going to water.

After they begin pouring the 40-year old brandy in the champagne punch, the effect can be greatly enhanced by honking occasionally.

In League With the Devil

By F. A. MITCHEL

Some four or five hundred years ago a student in the University of Bonn had the misfortune to lose an eye. He was devoted to alchemy, an obsolete branch and forerunner of the science we now call chemistry.

The name of this young man was Berthold Schwartz. The loss of his eye was the greater misfortune to him because he was in love with Gretchen Becker, whose father, already prejudiced against him, had now the more cause to refuse him his daughter.

That was an age before glass eyes were made, so Berthold Schwartz in selecting a substance for an artificial eye chose gold. Gretchen did not desert him on this account. Indeed, she was all the more drawn to him on account of his misfortune.

One day old Becker met Schwartz on the street and noticed his golden eye. "What means this, Berthold?" he said, astonished. "Are you turning to gold? I have been aware of your experiments in alchemy and fancied that you, like the rest of your craft, were hunting for a process for producing the precious metals, but I did not suppose you would work upon your own person."

"That was accidental," replied Schwartz. "Accidental! Have you really discovered a process by which you can turn flesh into gold?"

"My inventions are a secret," answered the chemist, wishing to evade a direct reply, and to avoid being further questioned he passed on.

When Becker went home he said excitedly to his wife and daughter: "Gott in himmel, Berthold Schwartz has discovered the secret of turning objects into the precious metals. But he has been unlucky, for accidentally he turned one of his eyes into gold."

"How was that?" asked his wife, throwing up her hands in astonishment. "I don't know. I suppose that any object exposed to his process is turned to gold, and I don't understand it."

That evening Gretchen heard her father and mother discussing whether, since Berthold had discovered this secret that so many at that period were hunting for, they had not better give him their daughter after all.

"You may go back and tell your parents, and that with truth, that I have discovered a method by which I can turn base materials into gold, for I can produce a mixture that will explode with great force and am experimenting how to use it."

Gretchen told her mother that it was indeed true that Berthold had discovered the art of turning objects into gold and there was another conference between Becker and his wife, after which, Gretchen was told that if Berthold would turn some ordinary object into gold before them they would give her to him as a wife.

When Gretchen spoke of this to her parents they turned pale. Suppose Schwartz should turn the eyes of either one or both of them into gold; they would be stone blind.

Unfortunately for this plan, Gretchen overheard it and went at once with it to Berthold, who told her that he had conceived the idea of putting his mixture into an iron tube closed at one end and a lump of metal against the mixture. By heating the closed end he



Benjamin Clothes

Why Pay the Price

of expensive custom tailoring when you can be fitted perfectly in one of our new model

Ready-to-Wear Suits

at a saving of \$5.00 to \$15.00 in the purchase price?

YOU MAY BE STOUT

but the stout man can be fitted as well as any other for our line comprises a large selection of stout sizes that are designed especially for men of your build.

IF YOU ARE SLENDER

our lines of "slims" will offer you a perfect fit and an excellent selection of patterns and styles from America's best tailors. Come in and let us show you.

MEN OF REGULAR BUILD

are of course the easiest men to fit and have no difficulty in finding from our great clothing line, a model, size, and style that will please both their fancy and pocketbook.

WE'RE SOLE LA GRANDE AGENT

for the following well known makes of high grade (ready-to-wear) clothing for men:

Society Brand Suits

in both slims and regular sizes. Designed and tailored especially for young men. Prices \$20.00 to \$30.00

Alfred Benjamin Suits

in Stouts, Slims and Regulars—the product of New York's best tailors and style artists. Prices \$20.00 to \$30.00

Hirsch Wickwire Suits Fidelity \$15.00 Suits

The highest art in men's clothing is expressed in these new garments. \$25.00 to \$35.00 The equal of many \$20.00 suits sold elsewhere. Guaranteed all pure wool.

SELECT YOUR EASTER SUIT TODAY

Sole Agents for Manhattan Shirts J. E. Tilt Shoes

WEST

THE QUALITY STORE

New Shapes in Gordon \$3.00 hats Stetson \$4.00 Hats

The Test of Time

Time determines whether the policies under which a bank is operated are safe.

This bank has been in business twenty-one 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 \$130,000.00, 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, \$130,000.00 Resources, 1,100,000.00

DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SAVINGS DEPOSITORY.

could send the dump with such force as to kill a man. The inventor was going to show this implement to the king and asked Gretchen to marry him and go with him. She consented, and the two departed without a goodbye to old Becker and his wife.

A year later the couple returned to Gretchen's home clad in rich garments and with every appearance of wealth.

"Ach! Is it then true that you can make gold?" asked Fran Becker. "Yes, but not as you suppose," replied Schwartz. "I have invented a compound which will send a ball through a man and kill him."

"Then you are in league with the devil!" "In one way, yes; in another, no. The king has given me orders for all I can make of my compound and pays me liberally."

MEANING OF "POTLUCK."

One Dish of the Ladies and Take What You Get.

The real origin of the word "potluck" is unknown to most of the people who use it. In Limoges, France, however, one runs into potluck itself in a certain corner of that quaint city of jostling roofs there is still segregated, much as if in a ghetto, a Saracen population, probably a remnant of the wave of Saracens that swept over Europe hundreds of years ago.

When a customer comes with a penny, in goes the ladle and comes up full of savory broth and chunks of meat, odds and ends that the butcher has had left over. And what comes up the customer has to take. One can imagine

how anxiously the hungry urchin or the mother of seven must eye the inexorable ladle and how a pretty girl might get another draw from the butcher's boy.

At any rate, "to take potluck" means to take what you get and say nothing, whether the pot is in Limoges or in the flat of the man who eagerly invites a friend of his youth to dinner.—New York Sun.

FEEDS THE BRUTES.

London's Restaurant That Caters to Domestic Animals Only.

One of the most interesting restaurants in the world is one in which the only diners are domestic animals. The restaurant is in Westminster, London. The sign on the window reads:

RESTAURANT FOR DOMESTIC ANIMALS. ENGLISH MEAT ONLY. FRESH TWICE DAILY.

The restaurant is arranged so that the animals can see their food.

It may be perfectly comfortable while they are getting their meals. Those that wish to do so may sit down while eating. The women who serve the diners are very fond of animals and know the wants of each particular customer. One of the regular callers at the restaurant, a dog, prefers having his luncheon in private, so instead of eating his luncheon in the restaurant he walks from his home to the place every day, buys his luncheon and carries it home. He pays his own bill at the end of each week, carrying the money tied in a little wallet around his neck.

Cats, canary birds, goldfish, parrots, monkeys, squirrels and goats are also provided for in the restaurant. There is a branch of the establishment at 12 York road, Battersea.—New York Herald.

A modern dry cleaning and pressing department is in operation at Cherry's New Laundry. 3-13-2 Cherry's New Laundry. 3-13-2t

Hard Lines. aboard the great ship the silence of despair reigned. She had struck on an uncharted reef, and, owing to the heavy sea, the boats had either been stove in against the ship's side or swamped in the attempt to lower. A stalwart passenger stole up to the captain's side.

"Do you think, sir," he asked, "that there is the slightest chance of our being saved?"

"Look here," said the skipper in tones of disgust, "that's the sixth time you've asked me that question. Why, you great lubberly brute, I believe you're the biggest coward aboard!"

"S-sh! No, I'm not," protested the burly one. "But, look here. You see that old duffer standing by the rail? Well, he's my rich uncle, and all my life I've had to put up with his cursed cantankerousness. But if the ship's going down and there's no hope I'd like time to give him one good, sound beating to square the little account I owe him!"

Just then a rescue ship appeared on the scene, and above the joyful shout the raucous voice of the old man by the rail was heard, commanding his dutiful nephew to fetch his hot water bottle from his waterlogged stateroom.

Too Big a Load. "Where have you been?" "Stopped at cafe to get a drink." "John, you haven't got as bad as that at a cafe. You've been to a brewery!" —London Opinion.

Only Then. "Does your husband snore in his sleep, madam?" "Well, doctor, I have never noticed him snoring at any other time." —Baltimore American.

You won't smell like a chauffeur if your clothes are dry cleaned at Cherry's New Laundry. 3-13-2 Cherry's New Laundry. 3-13-2t