

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS EDITOR AND OWNER.

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MONEY THAT GOES FOR TRAVEL

We live in an age of wanderlust. Previous generations spent their money on costly clothes, on horses and gaming, on armor, on castles; we spend ours on the vehicles for moving about.

More than \$250,000,000 a year goes for automobiles. The number of passengers carried on railroads has progressed from 492,430,865 in 1890 to 971,683,199, nearly double, in 1910. In ten years the number of Americans traveling abroad has more than doubled.

The wholesomeness of travel within reasonable limits is evident. Doctors prescribe a change of scene for their patients; employers reward faithful workers, grown rusty, by too long confinement at a desk, by giving them a trip, church congregations inject a new snap and virility into the pastor's sermons by taking up a purse and financing a journey.

Frequently a vacation is anything but restful, often being a mad rush from place to place in an effort to crowd the maximum of excitement into the short week or two weeks set aside from the fifty-two of the year for recreation.

The increase in the use of motor cars and the larger aggregate of money spent in travel thus is shown as an evidence of progress. Gradually we are learning that there is no greater menace to ability than sameness and no greater stimulant to talent than variety.

To keep pace with the change of administrations in Mexico, Uncle Sam would have to have a large reserve stock of blanks on which recognition could be made quickly.

The calamity howlers ought to be required to howl it into a phonograph and then sit down and listen to it three or four hours a day.

New York architects have formed a union. Probably they will draw plans for nothing but union depots.

Opium smokers, policemen and idiots are barred from becoming members of the Chinese parliament. Some of the other republics are not so particular.

A scientist says all nervousness will soon disappear. But not as long as men keep on inventing new automobile horns.

DICTOGRAPH THAT TALKS IS LATEST

Can Repeat Everything It "Hears."

PHONOGRAPH IS EMPLOYED.

Sensitive Air Cushion Apparatus Transmits Sounds to Wax Records. Range of the Instrument is as Great as That of the Telephone, the Inventor Asserts.

A dictograph that can repeat everything it hears has been invented. It is a combination of the dictograph, the telephone and the phonograph. K. M. Turner of New York, inventor of the original form of dictograph, also evolved the newest detector of conspiracy and crime. He has been demonstrating it recently at his laboratory in Flushing, N. Y.

For eight years Mr. Turner worked on the invention. For over seven and a half of them he sought to connect the diaphragm of the dictograph directly to the needle of a phonographic roll, but got no results. Several weeks ago he began experimenting with an air cushion between the diaphragm and the needle instead of a direct connection and at once obtained a full and natural reproduction of the voice.

Mr. Turner explained that the new invention as applied to business means that it is now possible for a business man to sit at his desk and dictate his letters in his ordinary tone of voice and have them taken down on phonographic rolls 100 feet or 1,000 feet away. He might even remain at home if he had a direct wire connection with his office and do his dictating in his bed room or his library.

A man standing five feet from the dictograph spoke in a low voice directly into the palm of his hand, a few inches away from his mouth, to prevent the sound traveling in any particular direction.

A series of bulletins giving the result of a political meeting was dictated, and Mr. Turner burst in at inter-

vals with applause and a bit of whistling. The phonograph in a room 100 feet away repeated accurately the whole series of bulletins, the applause and the whistles.

"There's a chance here," said Mr. Turner, "for newspapers to eliminate the time loss between big convention halls and their offices. Typesetters working from these rolls could pass the matter almost directly from the speakers to the printing presses."

In detective work Mr. Turner said that the absence of the self-recording feature had proved an almost insurmountable difficulty. It had been necessary to make the instruments so that two detectives instead of one could listen to what was being repeated by the dictograph.

In some court cases the dictograph's evidence had been thrown out because a single detective's transcription of the record was thought to be hardly reliable enough for a conviction.

"But now the judge can listen to the phonograph in the courtroom," said Mr. Turner, "and he can tell each man's natural voice. The dictograph will identify each man who has spoken in a room where it has been at work."

To test this Mr. Turner asked four men to converse among themselves at some distance from a dictograph. They did so, their conversation at times falling to a whisper.

In the phonographic reproduction the voices of each could be distinguished, but the whispered conversations became indistinct if carried on more than five feet away from the dictograph.

These whispers, however, Mr. Turner said, would be clearly heard by a person listening to the dictograph, but would not make an impression on the disk, as the pressure of the needle would be too slight.

In detective work, however, the dictograph would be equipped both with listening and recording instruments, so that the listeners could write out in shorthand the fainter portions of the conversation. More sensitive plates may yet be devised, capable of catching and recording these whispers.

Mrs. Margaret Davis, a spy and courier under General Hancock during the civil war, died recently at her home in Williamsburg, N. Y. She was seventy years old. She joined the army when her husband, Henry B. Davis, enlisted with the Irish volunteers.

- Ten Resolutions. Ten resolutions stood in a line. "Won't you have something?" Then there were nine: Nine resolutions waited their fate. "Have a Fatima?" Then there were eight. Eight resolutions looked up to heaven. Met a cute woman: Then there were seven. Seven resolutions trimmed up their wicks. "Don't you play poker?" Then there were six. Six resolutions then did survive. "Your credit is good." Then there were five. Five resolutions chuckling in sleep. "Lend me a dollar." And then there were three. Three resolutions, frightened and blue. "I can't pay you this month." Then there were two. Two resolutions hard on the run. "Let's go duck hunting." Then there was one. One resolution—"Let's spend what we've saved." And that is how hades is finally paved. -Wisconsin State Journal

Y. M. C. A. CAMPAIGN.

lastic of these is a group of high school boys who hope to raise from \$500 to \$100 among the school boys and the working boys of the city. A number of committees are also being formed among the various branches of the railroad service. White the purchase has not been definitely closed, an option has been secured on the property now occupied by the Fitzgerald Iron Works, in conjunction with another buyer. The building would face on Elm street occupying the portion of the property next to the alley and 60x120 feet in size. Unless an equally desirable location can be had for a less price, it will doubtless be chosen as the site. A set of preliminary plans, drawn by the courtesy of Mr. Bunting the architect, has been prepared. Plans are only preliminary and will be revised after careful study by the building committee. The size of the building will be determined by the amount of money subscribed. The subscriptions must aggregate at least \$30,000 before any work is undertaken. Aside from the getting of the Y. M. C. A. building the campaign promises to be one of great value to the city. The uniting of a large force of workers as well as several hundred givers to a common cause will mean much to the future progress and development of the city. While seemingly a large amount,

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the figure sought is not large in comparison with what other cities have done. Ellensburg, Washington, with a population of 4200 people raised \$52,000 for the same purpose. Kallispell, Montana, with 5000 people recently opened a Y. M. C. A. building which cost complete \$55,000, all of the money being subscribed by the community. Many other cities have given in the same proportion.

An executive committee composed of J. T. Williamson, Mac Wood, R. L. Duignan, Geo. H. Currey, H. T. Love, Dr. H. L. Underwood, C. J. Black, W. H. Casey, C. M. Humphreys, Dr. J. W. Laughlin and Jno. H. Rudd, are directing the movement. I. B. Rhodes state secretary is working with the committee, as is also Mr. W. L. Boyes, for many years a railroad association secretary. Mr. Boyes will be especially connected with the committees working among railroad men.

- The lost of soliciting committees during the week are: (Mac Wood, general chairman.) No. 1.—J. T. Williamson, Geo. Currey, Wm. Miller, Geo. Stoddard, Geo. Palmer, Mac Wood, Ed. Kiddle, J. L. Caviness. No. 2.—I. R. Snook, C. D. Huffman, Aug. Hug, Thos. Williamson, John Frawley, Ed. Wright. No. 3.—J. G. Snodgrass, C. E. Bunting, C. T. Darley, R. R. Neal, C. W. Bunting, E. E. Bragg, J. T. Loughlin, R. E. Reynolds, C. M. Humphreys, Milt Block, W. Reuter, Frank Bramwell, E. Polack. No. 4.—T. J. Scroggin, Aug. Stange, H. E. Coolidge, Fred Gaskell, Dr. M. K. Hall, G. L. Larison, G. M. Richey, Chas. Conkey, Herman Siegrist, J. Van Buren. No. 5.—J. P. Rusk, Lee Warnick, Dave Stoddard, N. J. Mansager, J. H. McLaughlin. No. 6.—W. F. Landrum, C. E. Tuckey, H. C. Ball, B. A. Benham, Dr. Brownton, Turner Oliver, C. A. Small, Dr. A. G. Lane, E. C. Payton, M. L. Haviland. No. 7.—Robt. Eakin, H. T. Love, W. D. McMillan, G. T. Darland, C. P. Ferrin, R. J. Green, Arthur Wenzell, J. K. Wright, Jess Robertson, Dr. H. L. Underwood. No. 8.—R. L. Duignan, A. W. Nelson, E. S. Bush, O. R. Stageburg, Wm. Drahn, Geo. Birnie, Ray Bartholomew, A. Christensen, C. B. Pickens, Norman Freese, R. E. Close. No. 9.—Geo. Cochran, H. R. Hanna, L. J. French, O. E. Silverthorne, Earl Zundel, D. L. Green, Fred Geibel, L. H. Russell. High school team—H. H. Houston, Lynn Bohnenkamp, Rex Greene, Myrton Westering, Gilbert Hunter, Lester Stoddard, Clarence Lambert, Ellis Williamson. Earl Rosebaum, Colin Stewart. No. 10.—W. H. Casey, Fred Haisten, Dick Jones, Press Lewis, J. J. Carr, Fred Holmes, G. Gilbert, C. S. Dunn, C. Van Fleet, F. L. Lilly. No. 11.—C. J. Black, Geo. Carpy, A. J. Webb, J. E. Reynolds, Thos. Crawford, W. H. Bohnenkamp, S. D. Crowe, Joe Campbell, O. M. Heacock. No. 12.—R. W. Logan, A. Welton, Dr. Lincoln, Jno. Nielson, Robt. Fender. Shop Team—J. M. Burley, H. C.

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White, R. M. Gordon. Road Men—H. C. Grady, Al Leflle, S. E. Happerset, Frank Jackson, A. V. Andrews, J. T. Richardson. Imbler News. Imbler, May 5.—(Special)—A baby girl, little Dorothy Nelceny Fox, was born to Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Fox, April 26. Sherwood Williams is confined to his bed this week with an attack of rheumatism. Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Byrkit, father and mother of Mrs. Cleaver, arrived in Imbler last week and will be guests of the Geo. L. Cleaver family for several weeks. The Wilson Stock company are staging some very good plays this week, to an appreciative audience. This is the second visit to our town within the past month. Dr. Holt made a professional visit to Imbler on Wednesday. Prof. Armstrong made his regular weekly visit to Imbler, on Thursday.

Ferry News. Perry, Oregon.—Mrs. Emma Stoddard, mother of Mr. W. Y. Stoddard and Mrs. Archie Stoddard arrived in Perry today from Logan, Utah. Miss Pohrman and Miss Gray of the Grande Ronde hospital, were visitors in Perry. Mr. Heber Valentine of Baker is here where he is employed by the company as a lumber grader temporarily. On account of a rush of business lately, it is impossible for the company's regular graders to handle all the grading work. Mr. Valentine will return to Baker shortly. On account of the breaking of a large shaft on the lumber conveyor, the sawmill was at a standstill all day Thursday. The millwrights were working all day and far into the night before they got the break

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in repair. The mill resumed running again Friday until noon when the bull chain was broken, and again the mill discontinued its operations and the men went home.

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 \$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.