

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 15c
Daily, per month 65c

FARM BUSINESS METHODS.

Considerable comment has been excited in Great Britain by the visit of a commission from the United States to study agricultural conditions in Europe. The United States has been regarded as the home of the perfected business methods in all lines of industry and to have a commission cross the seas to obtain instruction in Europe excites interest on the part of Europeans.

"The American people," says the London Times, editorially, "are becoming aware that the soil, which is the greatest of their natural assets, is failing to play its proper part in the national economy, and that its development is not keeping pace with the population. That is so much the case that the time seems to be within measurable distance when the United States will cease to export food-stuffs and will be unable to support its own population. The urban population has been overtaking the rural more rapidly during the last decade than in any previous one, and the two, which were in the ratio of three to seven in 1880, are now approaching equality. In spite of the great industrial development of which we have all heard so much, it is difficult to realize that the United States is practically stationary as a food-producing country and ceasing to be predominantly agricultural. With all the thought paid to agricultural science and education, there ought also to be an increase in productivity. The view which has led to the present inquiry is that the great deficit is a lack of business methods.

It has become a well-recognized fact that farm production is not as great as it should be; the activity of numerous organizations to increase productively is proof of this condition. But the weakness lies not only in the lack of production but in the inadequate marketing facilities, as was brought out forcibly at the recent first national conference on marketing and farm credits in Chicago.

Some of the losses pointed out by Mr. Yoakum in the marketing of farm products are stupendous. According to his statement, the tariff on every article could be wiped out by the national government and the loss in annual revenue—\$326,000,000—which would result, would be less than one-fifth the value of farm products lost to the farmers and producers through inefficient marketing, transportation and sale in retail.

Mr. Yoakum also informed the conference that every year \$35,000,000 worth of fruits and vegetables go to waste, rotting in the fields. He fixed the yearly loss in corn stalks, rice, flax and other grain straw burned in the fields at \$250,000,000. His figures show total loss of \$1,785,000,000, an amount which is \$600,000,000 in excess of the cost of operating the government of the United States for a year.

It is apparent that not only increased production must have consideration in the revival of agriculture but the betterment of marketing facilities and farm credits must be given attention to avoid the tremendous waste which transportation experts declare is occurring every year.

The visit of the commission to learn continental methods should be productive of beneficial results; the commission undoubtedly will gather information that will be of great service to American food producers. Conferences of the kind that was held in Chicago will assist in the general campaign to secure the highest type of economy, in farm operations and marketing. The work of farm advisers, is an important part of the world movement.

When interest is aroused in improved systems of marketing, transportation, farming and rural economy, great strides will have been made in the movement to head off the agricultural decline which has presented such a serious problem within the last few years.

THAT AIR MONOPOLY.

Chicago detectives have been hired to try and capture independent wireless telegraph operators whose messages interfere with the business of the so-called wireless "trust." This announcement should cause no surprise, as it is right in line with the trend of times.

A man who sets up a little wireless enterprise on his own roof and endeavors to send private messages through the air has a tremendous nerve, and as fast as these men are caught they should be severely dealt with. Life imprisonment seems to be about the proper punishment for the audacity in trespassing on the property of others.

Everybody knows, or should know, that the air belongs to the wireless corporation which carries on a commercial business. The earth is surrounded by a layer of atmosphere forty-five miles thick and when this blanket of air was wrapped around the earth, it was placed there for the exclusive use of the wireless telegraph trust. That was the original intention. Even those who are obliged to breathe any of the air which surrounds the earth, are also trespassers, in a way, and the Chicago sleuths may get after them. Indeed, the wireless trust seems to be overlooking a bet. It should exercise its full ownership of the air which surrounds the earth by placing a meter on the nose of every person who breathes in any of this air, and charge for it at so much a cubic yard.

A Colorado woman wouldn't accept alimony from the man she had divorced when he refused to kiss her. And they say that it is possible to understand women.

At Smithville, N. Y., Theodore F. Cotton was united in marriage to Miss Clara Batting. Some comfort in that kind of a union.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."

This "Home, Sweet Home" is good to sing—
For it's a trilling tune;
It stirs a man like anything
At midnight or at noon.
Around the board, beside the fire,
Beneath the sky's blue dome,
There's nothing mortals can inspire
Like that old "Home, Sweet Home."

But it is not enough to yell
That "Home, Sweet Home" refrain;
For men should practice it as well,
If home shall sweet remain.
It's not enough to loudly shout
The old familiar air;
It's something we must carry out—
Boost "Home, Sweet Home" for fair.

I've heard a man who sang it loud
Whenever he had a chance.
He loved to yell it in a crowd
And ev'ry circumstance.
But men a catalogue he met
With lowgrade goods for sale,
Then "Home, Sweet Home" he would forget
And send for them by mail.

If all of us should do the same—
If many send their cash
To help the old mail-order game—
The town will go to smash.
The grass will gather in the street,
The crops uncut decay;
And home, that once we sang as sweet,
Will droop and pass away.

Oh, sing that "Home, Sweet Home"y stuff—
It thrills us through and through
But singing songs is not enough—
There's something else to do.
Let's send no more our cash to roam
To make the millionaire;
Let's boost a bit for "Home, Sweet Home"—
With "Home, Sweet Home" be square!
—Selected.

According to an English scientist there will be more crazy people in this world 300 years hence than sane people. If that scientist had ever attended a national convention in this country, he would have revised his figures from 300 years to the present time.

A Nevada man had no difficulty in securing a divorce after showing the court a picture of his wife. That ought to be sufficient grounds in a good many other instances.

Gaby Deslys has been told she must wear more clothes at her London performances. Her burlesque evidently is too much of a take-off.

And it wasn't a woman, but a man, who died in Chicago from a blister caused by wearing a tight slipper.

Ty Cobb demands as much salary as both of our senators get. Well, the senators only have to touch the home plate once in six years.

Europe is heaping honors on Rear Admiral Peary. Apparently there were some that Dr. Cook overlooked when he went through.

English women are planning a cult to give "vibration lessons" in order to "make men better." Might try the vibration lessons on those bomb throwing suffragettes.

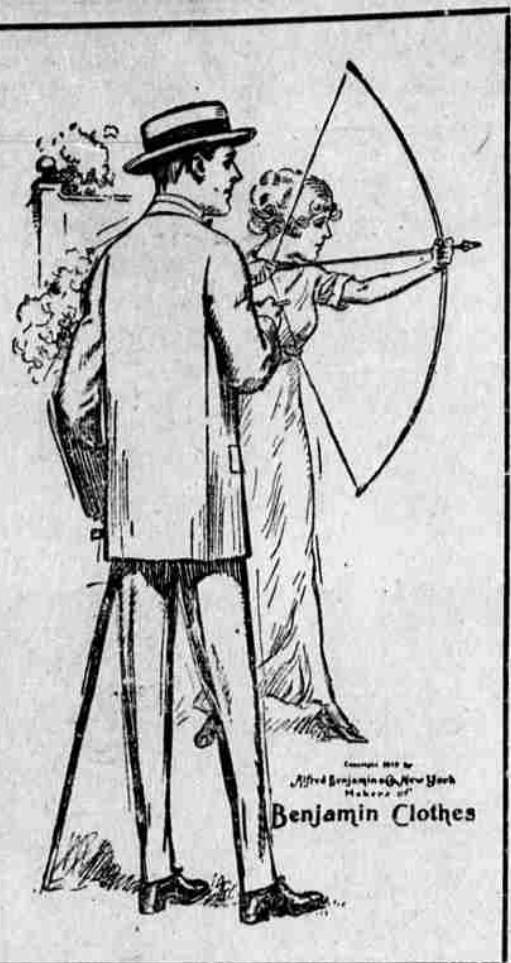
Man's virtue is sometimes due to a strict wife.

NEW VAUDEVILLE AT ARCADE
Opening at the Arcade tonight is Emerson & Moore, a sister team, in character songs and dances. Tonight is the last chance to see the Ohio Flood pictures, these pictures are very realistic and show conditions as they actually were at the height of the flood, two reels in all. Coming tomorrow is Hop My Thumb, a two reel hand colored feature picture by Gaumont, and That Rag Time and, one of the funniest comedies in months, by the Keystone company.

Notice to My Friends.

The report that I am going to quit in the automobile contest is incorrect and without foundation. I am in to stay to the finish and with the assistance of my friends, I hope to be successful.

JOSEPH C. KEL' EY.
5-2 eod-ef



Benjamin Clothes

Time to Discard Your Winter Suit

Don't delay selecting your new spring suit another day. You will not only look more comfortable and well dressed but you will also have the satisfaction of a full season's wear.

HERE YOU WILL FIND THE LARGEST SELECTION OF HIGH GRADE CLOTHING IN EASTERN OREGON.

Whether you pay \$15.00 or more for a new suit—if you make your choice from our extensive stock, you are assured of the greatest possible value for your money and the very latest styles.

We are sole La Grande agents for the following well known makes of Ready-to-Wear Clothing:

ALFRED BENJAMIN & CO.'S
"New York Styles"
\$20.00 to \$30.00

SOCIETY BRAND SUITS
"For young men and men who stay young." \$20.00 to \$30.00

HIRSCH WICKWIRE & CO.'S
Highest Grade Men's Suits
\$25.00 to \$35.00

FIDELITY \$15.00 SUITS
"Guaranteed all pure wool fabrics Thoroughly shrunk."

NEWEST FURNISHINGS.

Keiser Neckwear
50c to \$1.50

Interwoven Men's Hose
25c—35c—50c

Eagle Brand Caps
50 to \$1.50.

IN OUR BOYS' DEPARTMENT

X tragood Suits.....\$5.00 to \$10.00
Boys' Bell Blouses.....50c to \$1.00
Boys' Cloth Hats50c to \$1.00
Boys' Felt Hats\$1.00 to \$1.50
Black Cat Hosiery 25c pair

MANHATTAN DRESS SHIRTS—New Patterns
Just Received, \$1.50 to \$2.50.



J. E. TILT
Dress shoes for men
\$4.00 to \$5.50

See Manual Training Display in Our Windows

PREVENTION OF PNEUMONIA.

It is Largely a Question of Personal Precaution.

Pneumonia is particularly a disease of city life and crowded living. With our present knowledge the prospects are hopeful for the control of pneumonia in the future through prevention. This is of special importance to the individual. The avoidance of pneumonia is largely a question of personal precautions that prevent the development of the disease by lessening the predisposition to it.

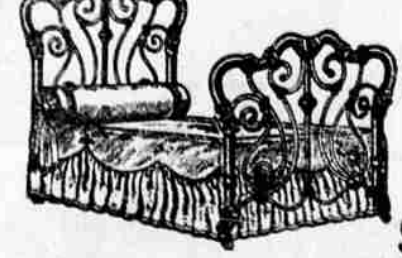
Men in middle life, particularly those about fifty, must learn during unsettled weather to avoid crowds, especially when fatigued and when they have been for a number of hours without eating. Late at night, when for any reason a meal had been missed, crowds are dangerous. If this lesson could be generally learned there would be less pneumonia among the well to do classes. The principal danger comes in crowded street cars, which, if possible, should be avoided at rush hours. It needs to be emphasized that the danger from overcrowding is greatly enhanced by fatigue and going without food.

In a word, prevention of pneumonia is now much clearer than it was. Like all the other infectious diseases, instead of being a more or less inevitable dispensation, it has come to be recognized as due to certain definite factors which can be greatly lessened by public and individual hygienic regulations—Journal of the American Medical Association.

1913 will be My Banner Year in the House Furnishing Business

of La Grande. I want your business I have the goods and my prices are right.

Today I am placing on the floor some 50 patterns of IRON AND BRASS BEDS. NONE are like this cut, but you cannot find a finer line of beds anywhere



Prices are
\$2.50 to \$40.00
Sanitary steel springs and couches at
\$4.00 to \$12.00

A pleasure to show you. Come in, your credit is good here.

F. D. HAISTEN FURNITURE ON EASY PAYMENTS

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.