

THE OBSERVER  
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EDITOR AND OWNER.

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LAZINESS AND DISCONTENT

The Boise Statesman editorial writer handed out this novel one last Sunday which is certainly worth reading:

A certain amount of unrest has entered into the makeup of every successful man. Our natural heritage is discontent and that is why the human race progresses. Man has never been satisfied with what is, but is always looking forward to what might be. This is the history of science, art, invention and finance.

Millions upon millions of men and women are tied to one spot, to one machine, to one little piece of drudgery, just as much as any slave was ever tied to his seat in the galleys to sink with the boat.

Oftentimes the thing that enslaves them is just laziness.

It is a fact that a large part of the poverty of the world is due to downright unwillingness to fight for a competence.

And the most dangerous thing about such poverty is that its victims often become reconciled to it, and take it for granted, that it is their fate and not to be overcome.

It is not enough, however, to just escape being poor, or to be energetic if your energy is not wisely directed. There are many factors that go to make up success. Some are elements within ourselves, some are quite outside and largely beyond our control, but we believe that almost everyone can cultivate determination, and that is the first essential, to success in saving and getting ahead.

ABOUT THE SALARIED MEN.

In an article on socialism in the North American Review, are more discontented as a class than are workmen. Forced to live on a higher scale than does the manual worker, with the educational endowments, culture and general taste of their employers yet without adequate means to gratify them, the man on a salary faces the prospect of being turned out of his job at an age when he no longer is able to compete with younger men. "At 50 or 55," asks Mr. Low, "what is there for the average salaried man?"

Very little, if he submits to the routine by which hope is slowly crushed out of him and permits laziness and indifference to take the place of youthful ambition; very little if he becomes so attached to one locality and its associates that he is willing to "do fairly well" there in preference to doing much better elsewhere; very little indeed, if he allows himself to stand still intellectually.

The average salaried man at 55 is

unfortunate simply because at 30 he thought so little of 55. Instead of developing so as to double and treble his value he frequently succumbs to the social and business attractions of "resting on his oars." The man who rests while there is energy left in him is not the man who secures the salaried man, if he is to face 55 with equanimity, must make his compensation increase by leaps and bounds, not by the orderly stages ordained by a commercial custom founded on the fact that so many salaried men are "average" instead of "exceptional" in the service they give.

The remedy often preached to the salaried man is to go into business for himself. The fact, however, is that not all men are temperamentally fitted to go into business. Some are made by nature to be ideal salaried men and poor business men on their own account. The remedy that should be emphasized is a personal standard that would impel the salaried man to do somebody's else business as well as he would do his own, to invest money, time and unremitting effort in his own efficiency as he would in a factory plant to which he held the deeds. If he does this his employer or some other will pay him enough to enable him to have both a bank account and a life tenure on his job at 55.

DEBS LETTER TO WILSON.

Editor Observer: In reading your paper I notice an article on the first page headed "Brutality in Pictured—Slavery Exists in West Virginia, etc." I herewith enclose a letter by E. V. Debs to President Wilson on the subject. This matter is of grave importance and no doubt will go down in history as one of the great events of our day.

A SUBSCRIBER.

The letter follows:  
Mr. President: You are sworn under the constitution to enforce its provisions in all the states of the union.

You must be aware that the constitution has been nullified in the state of West Virginia and that the republican form of government guaranteed to all the states does not exist there.

If the constitution of the United States is not good in West Virginia, then it is null and void everywhere, and only fools would obey it or have any respect for it.

Mother Jones, who is well known to your secretary of labor and who will vouch for her good character and her spotless integrity, and eleven honest working people, lie in a bull pen in West Virginia, the prisoners of the coal barons who have set up a military despotism in that state.

Both Jones and her comrades were not legally arrested. They were forcibly seized, kidnaped, dragged into the military zone and thrown into the bull-pen, where they are now held and cut off from all communication with the world.

These prisoners, American citizens and law-abiding, without exception have not been indicted, and they have not been tried in accordance with their constitutional rights, but are held solely by command of the lawless, irresponsible despots, who

have usurped the powers of government, trampled the constitution in the mire, muzzled the labor press, suppressed free speech and the right of free assemblage, and now insolently snap their fingers in the faces of their victims, the working class and the common people, and insultingly ask them what they are going to do about it.

The Declaration of Independence very clearly states what the people may do when tyrants oppress them and make government the instrument of enslavement and degradation.

Mr. President, the question the coal barons of West Virginia have thus put to us, we now put to you.

What are you going to do about it?  
This paper speaks for the working class, by whom it is supported and in whose interest it is published, and in their behalf we call upon you to enforce the constitution and see that a republican form of government exists in West Virginia.

If you fail to do this, which we shall not believe unless you compel us to do so, we shall feel justified in concluding that the constitution and laws of the United States are non-existent, and no longer have any binding effect upon the people, and in that extremity we shall proceed, as circumstances may warrant, to effect the liberation of our kidnaped and illegally-held working class comrades and to put an end to the bull-pen rule of the criminal coal barons in the state of West Virginia.

Mother Jones is not unknown to you, but a word in regard to her will not be out of place in this communication. Mother Jones has passed her 80th year. She has spent her whole life in loving, self-denying devotion to the suffering poor, and like the Carpenter of Galilee, she has been seized and marked for crucifixion by the ruling class. A few weeks more and the bull-pen will be her tomb, and when her dead body is taken from there, the foulness of her murder, to glut the greed of vampires, will cry to heaven for vengeance.

Mr. President, the case of Mother Jones is up to you!

Meet earnestly do we entreat you to act promptly and before it is everlastingly too late.

We shall hope and expect that you will, but if you fail to act, Mr. President, we shall!

EUGENE V. DEBS.

The Prince of Wales is coming over. Judging from the Democrats' stinging attitude toward the navy, there won't be powder enough left to salute his highness.

A Michigan man stabbed his wife because she asked for a second helping at dinner. Another man who does not believe in women's rights.

The senate proposes to give cabinet members seats on the floor. Can anyone imagine Brother Bryan sitting on the floor?

Aside from his curiosity, one of the worst curses of man is poor baker's bread.

According to all reports there were no J. Bruce Ismays in the Ohio flood district.

MISSIONS  
DEBATED

UNION AND COVE LEAGUES  
'LOCK HORNS.'

Cove Cashier Ill and Substitute Takes His Place at Window.

Cove, Oregon, May 20.—(Special)

—The Epworth league of Cove met the Epworth league of Union in debate last Sunday evening. The question was "Resolved, That Foreign Missions are more Practical than Home Missions," Cove taking the affirmative and Union the negative.

The Cove speakers were Harvey Lantz, Alfred Ingram and Esther True blood. The decision of the judges was in their favor. The Union speakers were Victoria Calahan, Letitia Thompson and Paul Crouter.

Mrs. Lee Stringer and daughter,

Our Future Business Depends on Your Satisfaction Today  
No matter if you buy a suit at \$15.00 or one at \$40.00 you get full value. We tell you what is all wool, and you know the worth of a suit by the price—for our prices are always right.  
WE OFFER THE LARGEST SELECTION OF HIGH GRADE MEN'S WEAR IN EASTERN OREGON.  
Benjamin Clothes

America's Best Makes of Clothing Represented Here  
BENJAMIN SUITS \$20.00 to \$30.00  
HIRSCH WICKWIRE SUITS \$22.50 to \$35.00  
XTRAGOOD BOYS' SUITS \$5.00 to \$10.00  
GORDON \$3.00 HATS  
MANHATTAN SHIRTS \$1.50 to \$2.50  
SOCIETY BRAND SUITS \$20.00 to \$27.50  
FITFORM YOUTHS SUITS \$12.50 to \$17.50  
FIDELITY \$15.00 SUITS "Guaranteed all wool."  
INTERWOVEN HOSIERY 25c 35c 50c  
J. E. TILT SHOES \$4.00 to \$5.50  
New Straw Dress Hats 50c to \$3.00  
West THE QUALITY STORE  
New Panama Hats \$5.00 to \$7.50

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 \$139,000.00, 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.

Elvina, of La Grande have been visiting relatives here for the past week.  
M. J. Duffy has been acting as cashier in the bank for the past week in the absence of Mr. McCall who has been very sick.  
Mrs. George Baker was taken to Portland for treatment last Friday. She is in a very critical condition.  
Mrs. Marvin McDannels went to Medford last Friday for a week's visit with friends and relatives in that section.  
J. M. Glasset was a La Grande visitor the early part of the week.  
Mrs. Charlesworth was in Union this week visiting friends and relatives.  
Mr. Howard Dean returned Friday from a trip to other parts of the valley.  
Miss Belle Sells came in from Wallowa Friday where she has been teaching this winter.  
Mr. George Chadwick was in La Grande the early part of the week.  
A. G. Conklin returned from a business trip to Omaha and other eastern points Wednesday.  
Miss Estella Severs returned from Wallowa Friday, where she has been teaching for the past nine months. She was accompanied by Miss Imogene Stout of La Grande.  
Mrs. Rankin Severs and son, Parker, returned from La Grande Friday where they have been visiting relatives.  
Mr. Lester Johnson was a business visitor in La Grande the early part of the week.  
Miss Dorothy Van Gordon of La Grande is visiting friends and relatives in Cove this week.  
Miss Helen Antlers entertained several of her friends Friday evening.  
Lyman Wright of Medical Springs, has been visiting his daughter, Mrs. L. W. Blevins.  
G. H. Currey was in the Cove the early part of the week in the interests of the Observer.  
Katie Houx returned Saturday from Haines where she has been teaching.  
Three of the high school girls,

Georgia Miller, Besse Lantz and Ada Geer and one of the teachers, Miss Florence Severs, entertained the senior class of Cove High school last Friday evening at dancing in Tripper's hall. The hall was decorated in the school colors, black and old gold, the senior class colors, purple and gold and in pennants. There were about twenty couples present. The Lay orchestra furnished music. The patronesses were Mrs. Geo. Holmes, Mrs. Geo. Miller, and Mrs. Robert French.  
The Cove Concert band's play, "The Colonel's Maid," came off very successfully last Saturday evening. The cast of characters was as follows:  
Col. Robert Rudd, a widower of North Carolina.....Alfred Ingram  
Col. Richard Bird, a widower of South Carolina.....Joe Gray  
Marjorie Bird.....Besse Lantz  
Bob Rudd.....Henry Maxfield  
Mrs. J. John Carrol, a widow and Col. Rudd's sister-in-law.....  
.....Lucy Comstock  
Julia Carrol, her daughter.....  
.....Ada Houx  
Ned Gradon, a young gentleman of exceeding faulty memory.....  
.....Lloyd Carter  
Jas. Baseom, Col. Rudd's lawyer.....  
.....Ira Maxfield  
Ching-ah-Ling, the Chinese cook.....  
.....Roy Baxter  
The Wilson Show company instead of stopping in the Cove only two nights as they had intended, stayed Saturday and Sunday nights also. They had good crowds every night. Sunday afternoon they played a pick up team from around town at baseball, but were badly defeated.  
The Shangle school of district No. 4 closed Thursday of last week. The pupils gave a very interesting program on the last day. Friday they all went down to the Red Pepper school and ther the two schools gave a combined program.

PERSONALS.  
Mr. and Mrs. Will Kernard of Portland are here visiting their daughter, Mrs. R. E. L. Holt, and Dr. Holt, for a few days. Mrs. Sarah Henderson and grandson of Elgin are also guests at the Holt home.  
Walter Parker went to Hot Lake last night.  
Rev. Murphy came over from Wallowa last evening.  
C. S. Williams, the Imbler banker, came up from Imbler yesterday.  
Mrs. E. C. Moore and family left this morning for Portland where they will make their future home.  
Mrs. Jas. Dobbins come over from Union this morning to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. McKennon.  
Mrs. Wm. Turnbow, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Jack Nice, returned to her home in Umatilla this morning.  
Mrs. Jack Nice left for Pendleton this morning where she will visit friends and relatives for a few days.  
C. M. Davis, Chicago; G. S. Meek, Portland; C. M. Carson and wife, Baker; Harry Neer, Portland; A. S. Merritt, San Francisco; F. W. Hall, Syracuse, New York; L. J. Furgason, Baker; and A. E. Pierce of Portland are among those stopping at the Foley.  
A. K. Goldman, Seattle; C. R. Davis, Portland; A. C. Barnekoff, Portland; Nolan Skiff, Halfway; C. A. Harp, San Francisco; J. C. Lewis, New York; Chas. Larnett, New York; and J. M. McPherson of San Francisco, are among the guests stopping at the Sommer.  
A. B. Hill, Parma, Ida.; L. Olson, North Powder; W. L. Duncan, Joseph; V. Jameson, Wallowa; M. J. Burnside, Portland; L. W. Morgan, Enterprise; Chas. Jeston, Enterprise; and W. D. Hamilton of Baker are among those who stopped at the Savoy last night.

FRECKLES  
Coming