

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

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LEAGUERS AT JOSEPH.

Joseph is having a convention of Leaguers this week. Beginning tomorrow there will be Leaguers from all over this district in session here. Now, it happens that these Leaguers are not any of Ty Cobb's folk, professionally speaking, but they nevertheless belong to the "big" League. They are active members of the Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal church which justifies the statement that they belong to the "big" League. It is a league that keeps constantly at work the year round; a league where the rules do not change, where fowl tips are tabooed, where nothing but a straight ball and a square hit count. Stealing bases is not countenanced in this organization, and the umpire rules with such fairness there is no wrangling.

The grand stand and bleachers are filling up slowly but surely. Year by year the Epworth League is watched with more interest. More young people don the uniform and enroll their names. The "bench" is full of those on the waiting list, and all unite in one common purpose of uplift, of putting the ball over the plate where it will do the most good.

The meeting at Joseph is one in which there will be new ideas advanced and new plans laid, for the Epworth League never ceases in trying to new angles to attract the young to its diamond. Good people of Walla Walla county will entertain the delegates in a royal manner, just as they should be entertained, and it is quite probable that the convention next year will be brought to La Grande, where a new Methodist church will await them and a community composed of people like the Walla Walla people will reach out with the hand of welcome.

PORTLAND'S NEW GOVERNMENT

There is probably as much interest in the new method of Portland's city government as in any other undertaking of the northwest. While in the metropolis recently the writer observed the workings of the new organization, and generally speaking, it seems to be all right. Mayor Albee, at close range, is apparently one of the most sincere men possible to find. His face indicates caution, fairness and a desire to do the right thing. However, we do not believe he has been up against men and conditions of the kind that he now confronts. He chooses to believe that all men mean well; that honesty remains a pillar of every citizen and that the administration will be met half way in its ambition to give clean and wholesome government. In this he is likely to be mistaken, for the old municipal machine will spend many wakeful nights making "medicine" for the man who has in a single campaign changed forever the plan of running a city. That machine will stop at nothing in an endeavor to embarrass the commissioners as well as the mayor, so that a sentiment may be started that the new charter is a failure.

But the mayor has either used excellent judgment of men or else he has had some able advisors when he appointed some of his department heads. He has a chief of police who, according to our way of thinking, is big enough to be mayor, chief and civil service commission and handle the job without any help. Chief Clarke came from St. Paul years ago where he held a similar position. He knows what it means for a real bad man to shoot up a town; he knows what it means to run trains out of the yards when the strikers and strike breakers are breaking ribs or attempting to. The old chief is nearly as big as a fair sized elephant. He possesses a strong face which carries lines denoting thorough experience and those lines also indicate he has several forward speeds but no "back-up" movement. With one wave of his hand he can calm twenty per cent of the I. W. W. exhorters and scare the other eighty per cent into peaceful citizenship. He knows a lot of this hurrah about making a city perfect in every way is theory, and the old chief holds practice worth 90 per cent in grading papers, while theory only gets a credit of 10 per cent.

Chief Clarke is a great big hearted fellow—the kind that an injured newsboy or a mistreated wife will always find ready to make a physical fight for if necessary, but he has no use for the person seeking notoriety at the expense of the police department. And best of all, he is a great friend to the laboring man, but a bitter denouncer of the drunken ruffian who mounts the soap box and urges men to vicious acts. Portland's other municipal departments may make good records in the new administration, but the department of most importance to comfortable living and safety is life and property in any city is the police department, and we believe if Chief Clarke lives to serve out his appointment, the whole northwest will witness the possibility of running a city as it should be run without the assistance of the theorists, without the assistance of the agitator and without the assistance of the politician who once claimed to deliver a large number of votes at a moment's notice. And our guess comes true the credit will be due Mayor Albee and Chief Clarke—the former for having made the appointment, and the latter for being the proper man for the place.

CAR OF CHERRIES TO NEW YORK

Next week the Coolidge Fruit and Poultry Farm will begin packing a carload of cherries for the New York market. Do you realize what that means? Those New Yorkers will not buy a poor cherry and pay the freight across the continent. They demand the best the world produces and will pay the highest prices when they get the best. That's the kind that will be shipped from La Grande—the very best cherries the world produces.

A. T. Hill will take the car back to Gotham and there market the Grande Ronde cherry. It stands to reason that such solid business men as Mr. Hill and Mr. Coolidge would not even consider such an expensive undertaking as to pack a car of cherries and pay freight to New York unless they were convinced of the market value of those cherries. Hence the conclusion must be drawn that this valley produces the cherries fit for royalty. Have you compared your surroundings lately with other parts of the world? Dot it, just once, and notice how thoroughly contented you will be for a long, long time.

NO, NOT HARD TIMES.

Has anybody said to you, "money is getting tight and it looks as though the country was settling down to a period of hard times?" Of course they have. Well, they are wrong—decidedly wrong. Hard times are an impossibility in this western country where the wealth and resources are so great.

Then what is happening? It is not happening, friends, it has happened. And here is what it is: If you have credit you know you can buy and buy and buy of a merchant, but there comes a time when the merchant must be paid. Then you can probably borrow the money, but the friend who loans the money must in time be paid and you finally get to that last obligation which is very hard indeed to liquidate.

People have been buying everything they saw. They have been using their credit to an enormous extent, and the gong has sounded for a day of settlement. That's what is the matter. You immediately answer: "But look at our cities. See the empty houses and the empty store buildings; the grills are deserted and the first-class hotels are suffering for business." Why should not these things happen? For years many people have been living off their wits. The schemer has been having his inning and he has had a good one. But now that same schemer must produce something. He must show some reasonable cause for his existence. The cities are over built. Every man who could get title to a lot has erected a building, borrowing the money to do it in many cases. Take Portland, for instance, there never was need for the tremendous amount of building that has taken place there. Portland has less population than it had a year ago, and it should have less, because there is not sufficient means of support there for the multitude who flock to that city from the east.

The grills should be less patronized because the average man cannot afford to eat regularly at a high priced grill. Why they have even got the robbery system so thoroughly worked in the grills in Portland now that it requires ten cents to get a stall for your hat while you eat a beefsteak. The man who is satisfied with two bits for a tip—he wants almost as much as the meal cost to pay him for his "courtesies." The orchestra has been amplified which must be paid for, and last, but not least, they have introduced what is known as the "Cabaret" in the grills. These richly painted and peculiarly attired damsels they say, draw big salaries. Just why they should be beyond our reasoning but it is claimed they do, nevertheless, and the man who orders a beefsteak or a lamb chop must pay the damsels, paint and all for their screaming during a meal.

No one need sympathize with the city grills. If they would go out of business the people as a whole would be benefitted. As for the high priced hotel, they are probably a necessity for we are told there are people in the world who do not sleep well if they pay only \$1.50 for a bed, so let it be at that. A few empty buildings and empty speculative residences, a herd of dissatisfied real estate men and slow business at the grills do not mean hard times. They do mean that the easy money lad is losing out, that the Rufus Wellingsfords are failing with their three shell games, but the great northwest's healthy business remains stable and untouched.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—At great bargain. Complete crushing and

Greater Reductions on All New Merchandise

Compare our quality and prices with any others and you will quickly realize the importance of making your purchases here.

Every Article in the Store Reduced West's Remodeling Sale

screening plant including 25 h. p. electric motor. Located near Palmer mill on Inver. Must sell; good reason. Inquire John L. Mars, quarry or write. Must be sold great bargain. Adv. 7-16 tf.

Rid Your Children of Worms.

You can change fretful, ill-tempered children into healthy, happy youngsters, by ridding them of worms. Tossing, rolling, grinding of teeth, crying out while asleep, accompanied with intense thirst, pains in the stomach and bowels, feverishness and bad breath are symptoms that indicate worms. Kickapoo Worm Killer, a pleasant candy lozenge, expels the worms, regulates the bowels, restores your children to health and happiness. Mrs. J. A. Brisbin, of Elgin, Ill., says: "I have used Kickapoo Worm Killer for years, and entirely rid my children of worms. I would not be without it." Guaranteed. All druggists, or by mail. Price 25c. Kickapoo Indian Medicine Co., Philadelphia and St. Louis.

NOTICE TO WATER USERS. Notice is hereby given that the Beaver Creek Pipe Line is out of commission, and WATER USERS ARE NOTIFIED, NOT TO IRRIGATE AT ALL, and only use the water that is absolutely necessary, until notified, by publication in the La Grande Evening Observer.

L. M. HOYT Water Superintendent. Adv. 7-16 2t.

The Best Medicine in the World.

"My little girl had bloody dysentery very bad. I thought she would die. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea remedy cured her and I can truthfully say that I think it is the best medicine in the world," writes Mrs. William Orvis, Clare, Mich. For sale by all dealers.

St. Helens Hall

PORTLAND, OREGON Resident and Day School for Girls in charge of Sisters of St. John Baptist (Episcopal) Collegiate, Academic and Elementary Departments. Music, Art, Elocution, Domestic Art, Domestic Science, Gymnasium. For catalog address THE SISTER SUPERIOR, Office 25 St. Helens Hall

Look Out For Poison Ivy Keep Your Blood Pure and Danger will be Avoided.



All Blood Disorders are Knocked Out by S. S. S.

Strolling through the woods or clearing brush, picnickers, hunters, fishermen—look out for poison ivy. And in the meantime keep your blood pure by using S. S. S. If your skin is rough with eczema, pimples or any other eruption, S. S. S. stimulates the fine network of blood vessels in the skin to dry up and heal all sore spots. S. S. S. will do this positively. It dominates the principle of osmosis, stimulates the cells of the skin to select their own nutriment from the blood, made pure and healing by the wonderful medicinal ingredients of this famous blood purifier. It is a safe remedy, as it contains no minerals, and yet its action is a marvel. You can get S. S. S. in any drug store, but insist upon having it. The Swift Laboratory in Atlanta, Ga., prepares this famous blood purifier, and you should take no chance by permitting anyone to recommend a substitute. And if your blood condition is such that you would like to consult a specialist freely, address the Medical Dept., The Swift Specific Company, 180 Swift Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.

DEFINITIONS

HELL: Three telephone systems in a town. PURGATORY: Two telephone systems. PARADISE: One Good Telephone System.

ELBERT HUBBARD

pd adv.

Clearance Sale

of All Oxfords and Pumps

Cut prices on every pair in stock Sale prices from - 95c to \$3.15 Men's Oxfords at - 1-2 Price Boys' Oxfords at - 1-2 Price

L. J. French Shoe Co.

Agents for Onyx Hosiery

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 \$1,300,000.00, 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.