

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

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La Grande, Oregon.

WHERE THE BARBARY COST PEOPLE GO.

When 'Frisco reformers who closed up the Barbary Coast, started on their campaign of purification a few weeks ago, they thought of an unusual thing—and they planned to take care of the hundreds of women who had been making their living in the local tenderloin and who would be "thrown out of work" when the tenderloin closed.

Accordingly a few individuals who had been prominently identified with the movement which finally forced the police commissioners to "put the lid on the Coast" made the rounds of members of women's clubs, church societies and other organizations to whose demand the police commissioners had bowed, asking positions for such of the denizens of the district who might want honest work at fair wages.

Then the women were visited and asked what they were willing to do. Of the 303 women whose answers were made public by the investigators, twenty-nine elected to continue in the old life either in San Francisco or elsewhere; 30 were undecided what to do; 20 said they intended to leave the city; one announced she was going to enter an old ladies' home; 11 were willing to do anything; 26 said they would do "most anything that paid a living wage"; 16 declared they would return to their former homes, and the others expressed preference for occupations as follows:

Domestics, 37; entertainers, 22; dancers, 21; chambermaids, 11; telephone operators, seven; boarding house keepers, two; manicurist, one; dressmakers, three; saleswomen 20; bookkeepers, six; chorus girl, one; laundresses, two; waitresses, 10; ladies' companions, two; stenographers, two; actresses, four; music teacher, one; masseuse, one; cooks, six; factory workers, two; shooting gallery attendant, one; cannery worker, one; nurses, three; seamstresses, three.

For all those who wanted what the investigators considered suitable places, provision was made before Oc-

tober 1, when Barbary Coast resorts were compelled to close. In all but one or two cases so far, the women are doing good work in their new positions.

LAWS AND THE BIRTH RATE.

Strange, but tremendously important facts have been brought out in the experiments which have been tabulated by Prof. Karl Pearson of the University of London, on the effect of the English factory laws upon the population of the country.

For some time England has noticed the rapid decline in the birth rates, and statisticians show that in 15 years, at the present rate, the native population will be stationary and immigration alone will keep it going.

From observations conducted by Dr. Pearson, the reason for this decline is disconcerting, to say the least.

Bradford, Manchester, Bolton and Leeds are all typical industrial towns, and large numbers of women and children are employed. The birth rate line in all these towns began to decline in 1877, and declines sharply and continuously to this time. The number of births per family has fallen off about one-half, and the population in these towns is practically stationary now.

Worse still, the population has not the good physical and mental quality it formerly possessed. And the reason for this?

Prof. Pearson finds the answer in a series of laws regulating child labor in England. These laws restricted the ages at which children might go to work, the hours, and restricted the employment of women after child-birth. In other words, the laws made a child-bearing woman economically non-productive, also a child under 12 years of age.

Was the result for the best interests of the child? Statistics again answer by showing that as soon as the child becomes a cipher economically, the parents decided not have any children. And so, Mr. Pearson points out:

"Every child-labor law that puts an economic penalty on parentage reduces the birth rate."

If the average English family has been cut down from seven to four or three, it is supposed that these children will be much stronger physically.

Here again, Dr. Pearson shows that the physical and mental condition of the first-born and second-born members of a family are sharply different from that of later members.

"Observation shows nearly twice as many cases of tuberculosis in the first-born of tuberculosis families as the mathematical probability would lead us to expect. Insanity, criminality, albinism, are all found to predominate in early members more than in the later children. Clearly, if you cut off the later members of the family, —if you have two children instead of seven to a family—you are cutting into the exempt class, reducing the relative proportion of sound stock in the country, and greatly increasing the relative proportion of the tuberculosis, insane, criminal and albionotic."

UNION ATTENDED THE FAIR; SATISFIED.

Union sent a delegation of about 300 to the county fair at La Grande Friday of last week, and the management of the fair was just as plucky, putting on the regular track program, and running stock through the rain and mud, editorially remarks the Union Republican. It says further: The Union visitors felt well repaid for the trip and were pleased with the day's outing and enjoyed rubbing shoulders with their neighbors. Unfortunately for the fair management, the rains have curtailed the revenue to a point where it is doubtful if the fair was a paying proposition, but the La Grande people have played the game to a finish nevertheless, and are pocketing their losses with a cheerful spirit. The display of grains, grasses, vegetables, and embroidery and painting were fine, and the Union department was especially good, and was particularly noticed by our people. All credit to La Grande for her pluck in the face of adverse conditions.

The editor of a socialist magazine in Madrid has been sent to prison for a cartoon which libeled the king of Spain by making his legs too thin. Had the cartoonist attempted to picture the imperial brains there is no telling what would have been the result.

Suffragette leaders who propose to enter vaudeville further the cause could add thrills by adding a brick throwing specialty similar to the old sword and knife throwing act, in which the performer demonstrates how close he can come to the object without hitting it.

One of the punishments for orators at San Diego who insult the country and stamp on the flag is to compel them to sing "The Star Spangled Banner." But how about the audience that is compelled to listen.

After a young man has hustled around for a month and finally landed a job, he announces that he has accepted a situation.

Uncle Sam has opened bids for 300 tons of butter. After he has paid for it he will be able to go into the hands of a receiver.

Mrs. Anthony, of Indiana, who has set Washington agog by wearing shoes studded with diamonds, is well heeled.

Chinese newspapers printed the proclamation of abdication in red ink. Hearst couldn't have done more.

When an Illinois man, after fighting for a million dollar estate, won, he fell dead. It was too sudden.

Occults Will Gather.

Berlin, Oct. 18.—Plans were practically completed today for the first "Occult Congress" of the world which is to be held in Berlin at a date to be selected within a few weeks. The congress will be the first international gathering of leading "trailers of ghosts."

The "ghost hunters" will include such men as Camille Flammarion, the famous astronomer; Professor Richet, the eminent French authority on psychological research; Professor Hyslop, of New York, head of the American society; Dr. von Cehronk-Notzing, of Germany, and scientific men from a score of other countries. During the congress it has been planned to have demonstrations by a dozen or more persons who have laid claims to being bona fide mediums.

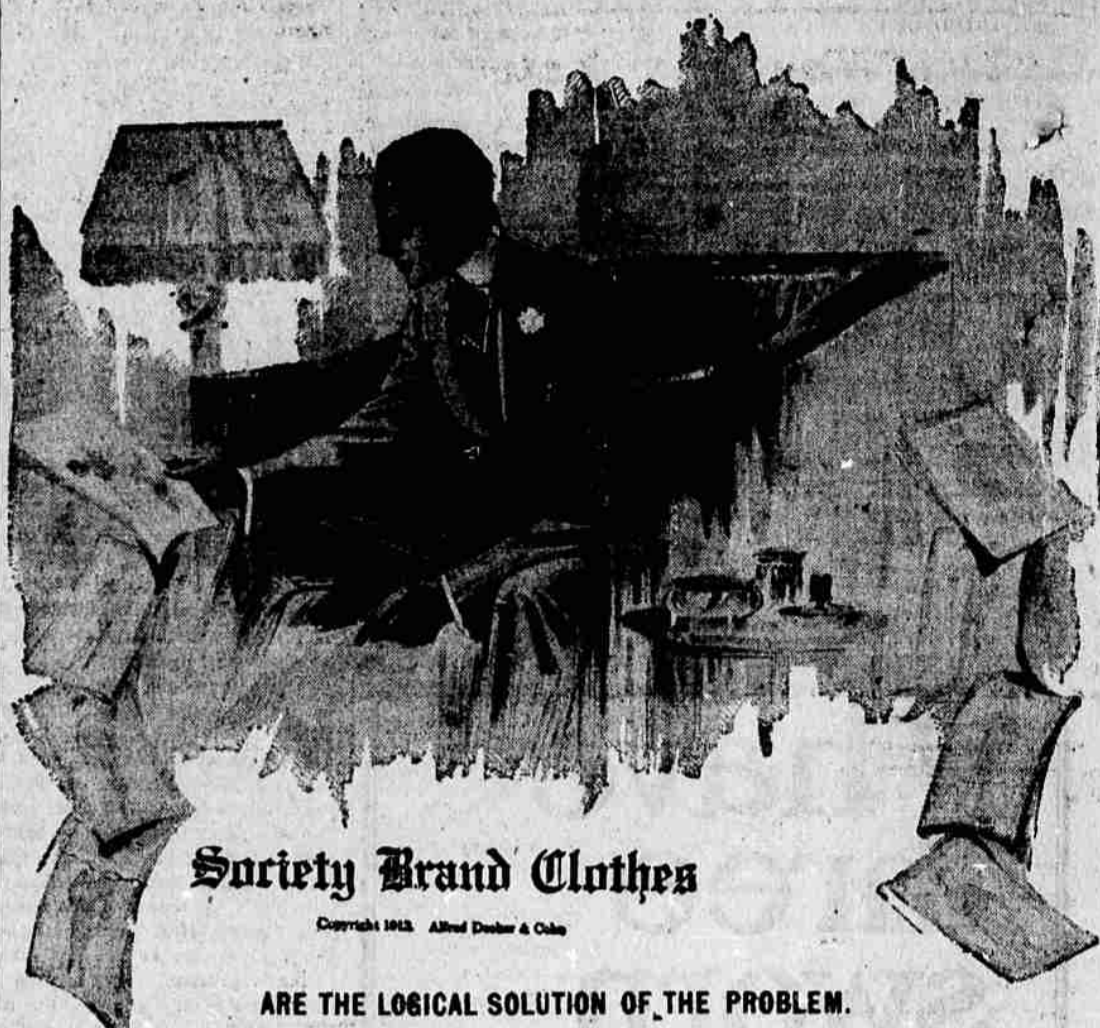
SUPPLY TEACHER ELECTED

Mrs. Ruth Jackson Employed as Supply Teacher for Local Schools.

At the regular meeting of the city school board last evening, Mrs. Ruth Jackson of this city was elected supply teacher for the year. Mrs. Jackson was formerly a competent member of the grade school teaching staff, and the board last evening closed a contract with her to again enter the school teaching profession, when vacancies, from time to time, appear in the daily grind of teaching.

Business Change at Union. (Union Republican.) C. O. Ford this week disposed of his garage in Union to William Park-

Time to Settle the Clothes Question



Society Brand Clothes

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ARE THE LOGICAL SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM.

THERE WILL BE HUNDREDS OF STYLES offered to the young men this season.—There will be "freaks" that never did measure up to the ideals of refined dressers. There will be fads and novelties—here today and gone tomorrow.

SOCIETY BRAND CLOTHES ARE DIFFERENT — YET DIGNIFIED. The distinguishing deft styles that appeal to young men and men who stay young—yet never overstep the bounds of refinement.

NOT HIGHER IN PRICE—BUT HIGHER IN QUALITY. \$20.00 to \$30.00.

NEW FALL SHAPES IN GORDON \$3 HATS



SOLE AGENTS FOR FIDELITY \$15.00 SUITS

La Grande National Bank

Organized in 1887.

DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. UNITED STATES POSTAL SAVINGS DEPOSITORY.

Capital \$100,000.00
 Surplus \$130,000.00
 Total Resources \$1,000,000.00

For twenty-six years, in all kinds of financial weather, we have successfully catered to the monetary wants of the people of La Grande and the Grande Ronde Valley.

We respectfully solicit your business.

La Grande National Bank

La Grande, Oregon

Coffee

Schilling's Best, properly made, and served with cream, is liquid optimism. Very fine for dissolving the morning grouch and giving you a sunny front to face the day.

Preserved in its aroma; in 1-lb, 2-lb and 2½-lb cans; 40c a pound—moneyback.

La Grande Taxi and Touring Car Service

Four good cars available day and all night for city and country driving, and to surrounding towns, charges reasonable. Experienced, licensed chauffeurs always on job. Call Sommer House or Foley Hotel.

J. D. LYNCH

er, who has taken charge and will continue the business at the old stand, says the Union Republican. Mr. Ford is undecided as to what he will do for the present, but he expects to take up civil engineering, in which he has been engaged before coming to Union. William Parker is a practical man in the line he has undertaken, and will doubtless get along well. Many friends will wish him success in the new venture.

Portland Visitor Returns. F. S. Bramwell returned today from Portland. He was accompanied home by his son Arthur, who has been attending school in the metropolis.

Union School Meeting Today. The school meeting for the purpose of levying a tax for the maintenance of the Union schools will take place Saturday of this week as announced last week. This is a matter that should interest every taxpayer and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance at the meeting.—Union Republican.

Currency Bill Ready Soon.

Washington, Oct. 18.—Senate leaders have predicted a report on the currency bill will be ready by November 10. They have also informed the president that it had a splendid chance of being unanimously accepted practically as it was.

Leave On Extended Tour.

Mr. and Mrs. Lamey left this morning on a tour of the principal cities and states of the United States. They go east by way of Canada and after visiting all the principal cities of the eastern coast will return by way of the south.

WANTED—Roomers and boarders. 1904 Third street. Phone Black 1691.

Fire Worries Pope. Rome, Oct. 18.—With the pope watching in terrible anxiety from the window of the vatican, the house occupied by his sisters near the pontifi-