

## THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth St.,

## ILL-FATED MEXICO.

Poor old Mexico. The team work that is necessary to any kind of success is not there. No sooner has one general gained some prestige than another envies him the laurels of war. Mercado is said to have basked in the languid sun of Mexico and let the rebels invade Chihuahua. His co-workers could not stand for it. They deposed him and will likely make him face a sterner kind of music once they get him into their claws. It seems to be an impossible thing for that fight-loving race to band together and fight it out through thick and thin until victorious or until the cause is lost.

There is no cause in Mexico among Mexicans. It is men and the promise of reward that comes on the heels of victory. It is the love for vain show and the excitement attendant upon the cracking of a rifle and the satisfaction that comes when they see their bleeding victim lying bullet-pierced near a hole or strangling from a rope. Vainglory and display, vanity and excitement. Mexico is mad, delirious with the smell of smoke of burning homes and the sharp scent of powder. Her farms have been ruined, her cattle have become the food for marauders, her women have been disgraced by lawless bandits, her men are breeding a spirit of shiftlessness and ruin. And for what?

A drunken usurper has ignored the constitution of the state, has made his hazy and wine-soaked will the guide of millions of people, has ignored the kind offices of a peace-loving neighbor and thrown defiance into the face of civilization. With the blood of his predecessor warm on his hands, with rapine credited to his record, he persists in holding the rudder of the ship of state through a sea which cannot but engulf him in the end. It was Schiller, the German poet, who said: "Terrible is it to awaken the lion, terrible the tiger's tooth, but the most terrible of all things is man in his insanity."

When reason, the faculty that makes and creates, plans and strives, is saturated with the green venom of hate, when love burns out and the smoking, reeking embers kindle in the breasts of a human being endowed with Godlike attributes, a burning thirst for destruction, man has become lower than the animal. He is then the most terrible of all things.

## ADDITIONAL PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Shepherd of Umatilla, left this morning, after spending a number of delightful days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. McClure of this city. Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Shepherd are sisters.

Mrs. T. G. Adams from Purcell, Oklahoma, arrived in La Grande today en route to Joseph, where they will visit with their brother-in-law for a number of days. It is likely that they will locate here in the valley.

Mrs. Walter Ott and children and Miss Lillian Rohweder of Grand Island, Nebraska, arrived in the city this morning and will make their home in the valley about six miles from the city. Mr. Ott has been here for some time and was awaiting his family and sister-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. Allebaugh of Spencer, Iowa, left this morning after visiting with their son, I. C. Allebaugh, who is connected with the La Grande Cornice works. They will spend the holidays at Newberg, Oregon, with friends. They had not seen their son in six years.

J. C. Christiansen, chief of police of Elgin, returned to his station this morning after bringing Lynn Flores and Bryan Tiffany to the county jail. These two lads are charged with running off with the delivery horse and wagon belonging to Mardich & Eanduc, a firm of fish dealers who recently opened up on North Fir street in the Abe Harris building.

## Henderson Homestead Sold.

A. E. Scott of Elgin, passed through the city this morning en route to Pendleton, Heppner and Goldendale, where he will spend the holidays. Mr. Scott has just recently purchased the old Henderson homestead and is going back to his former home to make arrangements to move his effects to his farm north of Elgin. The tract contains 20 acres in all and is one of the best farms of the vicinity.

He will be back after Christmas to begin work on it. He bought the tract of Al. Scott, who is however, no kin of his.

WANTED—Boarders and roomers at 1108 Pennsylvania avenue; phone Red 1461. 12-19-14.

## COFFEE

You want fresh fine coffee. That's what you get when you order Schilling's Best.

And a guarantee goes with every can.

This is the guarantee: if you don't like it better than any other your grocer will return your money.

"Hello"—"yes."

"Please send me a can of Schilling's Best Coffee."

"All right"—"Goodbye."

## AN INVENTION LOST

By DOROTHEA HALE

Ned Forsythe was the son of an inventor who had not the business capacity to reap the profit on his inventions. Perhaps it would be nearer the mark to say that the elder Forsythe had not the capital to put the novelties he produced on the market. At any rate, he died, leaving his widow and her only child, Ned, in poverty, as they had always been.

But Ned understood that just before his death his father had invented an explosive that would prove far more valuable than any that had yet been produced, being especially available in gunnery. He had offered his invention to the government, had given an exhibition of its working and had received an order for a large supply, to be followed by other orders at a price that would make him rich. Further more, a company with an established plant capable of manufacturing the stuff had the contract to produce the goods. Nothing remained but to pass over the recipe for the explosive when the inventor fell on the floor of his laboratory and died without speaking a word.

After his father's death Ned hunted high and low for the formula. He first went through the laboratory, searching every nook and cranny, examining every scrap of paper, but without success. Then he looked through the house in which the family lived, a little frame dwelling on the outskirts of a city, with no better success. There was no other place to look, and Ned and his mother, from a prospect of stepping from poverty into affluence, found themselves worse off than they had ever been before.

But Ned did not give the matter up. He had heard his father tell his mother that he was puzzled how to keep his secret till he had made all his contracts and must give it to the manufacturer.

Forsythe knew that should he be suddenly taken away his wife and child would be cut off from the benefits of his invention. He had once parted with the secret of an invention and thereby made another person rich without reaping any benefit himself. He had then vowed that he would never part with another such secret until the last moment. He told his wife shortly before his death that he had decided to put the recipe for the manufacture of his explosive into cipher. But as to what he was to do with the cipher or the key he said nothing.

A month passed after the inventor's death when Mrs. Forsythe received a letter addressed to her in the well known hand of her late husband. On the envelope was written "Via San Francisco, Hongkong, Aden, Naples, New York." The letter bore the postmarks of these cities and had evidently been around the world. The recipient tore off the envelope, and there, on the paper inclosed, was written a jumble of words. Below was written:

Before you receive this I shall have told you where the key is to be found.

The poor woman had received another disappointment. Her husband had, under fear of losing his secret, deprived his wife of that which he desired her to possess. What was there in these incoherent words of any value without the key? The letter, however, had a different effect upon her son. He vowed that he would decipher the recipe if he spent his whole life in doing so.

Several months passed, and it seemed that the receipt of the letter had been for worse instead of better. Ned made no headway in deciphering the word puzzle. Having his father's fear of giving away the secret, he would not intrust any one else with it and spent so much of his time on it that he was useless at anything else. He and his mother were near the point of starvation when a brother of the late inventor was summoned and asked for the wherewithal to purchase something to eat.

He was told about the invention and the cipher recipe. Having asked to see the latter, it was shown to him. As soon as he looked at it his eyes lighted with interest.

"Your father," he said to Ned, "was during the war for the Union a member of the staff of a general officer. This you know as well as I, but you may not know what your father told me—that when telegrams were sent by his commander it was his duty to put them into cipher and when they were received to decipher them. He kept some of these dispatches for awhile after the war and showed them to me and the principle on which they were built. I think he has used that principle in this case. The recipe has, I believe, been written in a certain number of columns, down one, up another, proceeding till every column is filled. Here are check words having no meaning, thrown in doubtless to make the matter more complicated."

Sitting down, Ned's uncle wrote out a message in columns and gave Ned the plan. What had been a jumble of words became a perfectly coherent message. Ned grasped the idea, and the two went to work to decipher the recipe.

They failed at the time, but Ned worked on and at last produced an in-

## FOR NERVOUSNESS.

Nervousness comes from nervous exhaustion, an unhealthy condition of the nerves of some part of the body, usually caused by lack of nerve nourishment. If you are nervous, you need a nerve food—something to tone and strengthen your nerves. Rexall Olive Oil Emulsion is the ideal nerve-food tonic, a real medicine for the nerves, a real builder of strength and health for the blood and every part of the system. It is not a stimulant.

It contains no alcohol or habit-forming drugs, as many so-called "tonics" do that stimulate your heart and muscles for a short time after taking, only to leave you weaker and worse off than before. It is a real medicine, containing ingredients necessary to overcome your weakness and nervousness, and give strength and life and health to every part. It may not make you feel better the first day, because the nerve and tissue foods it contains need time to get into the blood before the good work of upbuilding can begin. But it will make you feel better and less nervous before you have taken anywhere near as much of it as you have of other things that did you nothing but harm. If it does not—if it fails to satisfy you in every way, we want you to tell us so and get your money back.

You who are weak and run-down, and you who are apparently well now, but are liable to suffer from various cold weather ailments, use Rexall Olive Oil Emulsion to get and keep well and strong. For the tired-out, run-down, nervous, emaciated or debilitated—the convalescing—growing children—aged people—it is a sensible aid to renewed strength, better spirits, glowing health.

Rexall Olive Oil Emulsion—king of the celebrated Rexall Remedies—for freedom from sickness of you and your family. Pleasant-tasting—unlike the cod liver oil preparations—you'll be as enthusiastic about it as we are when you have noted its strengthening, invigorating, building-up, disease-preventing effects. If it does not help you, your money will be given back to you without argument. Sold in this community by the Rexall Store—one of more than 7,000 leading drug stores in the United States, Canada and Great Britain.

Hill Drug Store.

## Shoot

AT

T. S. Makin's  
Ranch

Seven Miles East of La Grande

Tuesday Dec.  
23rd

Beef, Ducks, Geese  
and Fresh Pork will  
be Shot for.

T. S. MAKIN

Berry Bros.  
Grocery

Dates, Figs, Currants, Raisins,  
Mince Meat, Plum Pudding,  
Grape Juice, Boiled Cider,  
Nuts, Candy, Lemons, Oranges,  
Pineapples, Cocoanuts, Cran-  
berries and Bananas.

Always at your service.

Phone Main 721

Received this week  
many new arrivals in  
useful



Hand Embroidered Underwear, \$2.50 to \$5 garment  
Alpine Embroidered Handkerchiefs ..... 25c to 75c

Chief Joseph Indian  
Blankets

Large Blankets ..... \$5.00 and \$7.50

Small Blankets ..... \$1.50 and \$2.00

Ladies and Men's Bath Robes ..... \$2.50 to \$13.50

The largest line of practical gifts we have ever shown now on display. We cordially invite you to inspect our showing and compare prices.

West  
THE QUALITY STORE

ONLY FIVE MORE SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL  
X'MAS.



## U. LOTTES

Wholesale Liquor Dealer

1118 Jefferson Ave  
La Grande Ore.

FOR PRICES & QUALITY

ON  
WHISKIES  
WINES  
BRANDIES  
GINS, ETC.

PHONE Black 51

Distributor Of

Lemp's St. Louis Beer

## See Our Show Window

Before you make final decision on the gifts for the Holidays. Don't be led astray by the useless articles offered you when you can buy

Fancy Cups and Saucers  
Fancy Plates  
Hand Painted China  
Percolators  
Chafing Dishes  
Aluminum Ware  
Baking Sets  
Silver Ware  
Razors  
Pocket Knives  
Scissors  
Sleds  
Gocycles

Our Holiday Motto:

"Make the Folks Happy the Whole Year by Giving  
Something Useful."

E. L. LILLY

## 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