

THE OBSERVER

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THE ELKS AND CHRISTMAS.

To those who visited the Elks' hall yesterday afternoon and witnessed the smiling children, the happy parents and the satisfied Elks it is hardly necessary to call attention to the annual event which has surpassed all other events in Elksdom—the public Christmas entertainment and free gift distribution.

It was a sight worth waiting a whole year to see. Those children, some of whom had plenty, but many who had not been any too well remembered—as they stood with beaming faces, waiting for the appearance of the old Elk Santa Claus, whom they knew would not fail them. As the time grew nearer for the old red-checked chap to appear, the children became more excited, until at last when he made his appearance the merry ring of a half thousand childish voices gladdened the hearts of the Elks.

Sweet music? There's no music

REX HALL

DANCING ASSEMBLIES

Each Tuesday and Saturday Class and Private Lessons Taught Afternoon or Evening By Appointment.

Berry Bros.

Grocery

We have pure strained Honey in pint sizes at 25c. Also bulk Comb Honey, three lbs for 50c. not three combs, therefore giving you about twice the amount of honey for the same price. Sunkist Oranges in three sizes, 35c, 40c and 50c, per dozen.

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

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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

yet been been written, no harp yet been strung that can in any way compare to the prattling voice of a child. And the five hundred voices in concert made harmony that would make the Divine Sarah's voice sound like a horse fiddle and put the famous Sousa band in a class with the blind man's wheezing accordion.

And best of all they were La Grande children—they were our own home kiddies, and they were happy. No affected smile played a counterfeit part of that entertainment. There was no "de-lighted, we are so pleased to have been present." Not a bit of it. But there was that romping, rollicking bevy of children who are genuine—who have not lived long enough in the world to learn duplicity—who are just as God has made them.

Old, solid, substantial Elks who seldom take part in merriment, were there and the children's happiness reflected in the faces of the Elks. All children were treated alike—there were no favorites for Elks do not play favorites. And when the last little chap had left the hall lugging his Christmas presents we could not refrain from thinking what united effort will do for good, and how it will bring such volumes of happiness.

Why isn't there more of it—just the same brand that the Elks put up?

THE O. A. C. CADETS.

The O. A. C.'s Cadet Band was here Christmas night. Their concert was quite a treat. Not that we do not have a good band in La Grande, but we like to see a bunch of boys in uniform. President Kerr ne'd have no conscientious scruples about sending out that bunch of well-behaved youngsters. And there is no need for Dr. Withycombe to bend the knee in the hay mow and ask that Providence see those act gentlemanly while away from home.

They are a bunch of fine chaps—clean-cut, manly boys and we are glad they came.

Of course their music was good. All band music is good, even to the circus band's production. It was not their music La Grande so thoroughly enjoyed. It was the personnel of the band. Come again, boys. We say this with full knowledge of the popularity enjoyed by boys in uniform among the La Grande girls over boys at home who do not wear the regulation colors. But—come again—anyway.

The Portland Journal is worried over a decision the Supreme court of Oregon rendered which differs from the California court on a similar point. Does not the Journal know the highest court always has the last guess at a question?

Echoes of the Oregon Inland Development company's transactions are still to be heard even though the principals have been convicted in the federal court. Quite often there are those who do not suffer indictment yet have considerable to do with such a concern's business.

Sheriff Rand of Baker county, defies Governor West. Now, Sheriff Rand should be ashamed of himself. Why defy an old lady whose greatest mark of distinction is that she resembles in action Carrie Nation?

And Copperfield is to have martial law. It will look fine to see the governor with a battalion of militia standing guard over six saloon men and a cripple who deals the wheel, with not another person in sight until

you get to Ballard's Landing.

OLD ADAM AND THE CHILD.

If Maria Montessori, the doctor of medicine, countess of Italy, and "the most peaceful revolutionist the world has ever known," can make good her promise of abolishing the necessity of punishment with children, she will be hailed as a prophetess worthy of all honor in her own and every other country.

"The abolishment of punishment," she says, "is merely a result of my method. The child who is comfortable and happy, and whose bodily, mental and spiritual needs are known and looked after will not require punishment. I not only believe this, I know it."

As a theory we have heard this kind of talk before and have wanted to believe it. In fact this land of liberty and right is full of fond parents who have been trying to work out the theory in their own homes. Few of them have succeeded, however. If the Italian pedagogical discoverer can really show what must be done to get punishment abolished and, what is still to the point, abolish the necessity for punishment, which comes with violation of rules, she will be worthy of a high place in the hall of fame.

Not only in the home, but in the larger society of the world, experiments thus far made have failed to too many cases. Either the theory is wrong or conditions are wrong. Our whole judicial system, with its penological palliatives, has been trying and has not yet succeeded. We have been told that outbreaks of crime result from making things too soft for criminals. Perhaps also infant coddling, amid home comforts, has had its effect. Some infants dislike restraint.

Away back in history a certain man named Adam lived with his wife amid every sort of comfort. Yet is related that they grew tired of their very peace and pleasantness, and penalty had to be visited upon them. It is to be hoped the Montessori system takes full account of that human nature which so often upsets all our fine theories.

THE SCARLET MAGAZINE.

Do you realize how much smut peddling is going on these days? How deliberate an attempt is being made by certain writers of books and producers of plays and publishers of magazines and newspapers to take advantage of the quickened interest in sex problems to pander to pruriency?

This quickened interest in sex problems in the main is wholesome. It is part of the world wide movement toward more democracy; part of the twentieth century woman's outreach for freedom and justice. Most of us have discovered that it isn't possible to redeem the home, to improve the race, to guide society into a juster organization without throwing upon traditional abuses the curative play of publicity. The old policy of silence, the old policy of sweeping these unpleasant, these disturbing matters into corner and trying to hide them behind the broom, has failed to justify itself. A clear majority of our ablest social counselors have decided that there must be more candor, more knowledge, more calling a spade a spade. What the house needs is to be thoroughly cleaned and ventilated, not merely to have its dirt heaps swept into a corner and hidden.

But there is a world of difference between honest publicity; between direct and courageous truth telling, and a greedy peddling of smut by publishers only seeking quick circulation growth. It is well to beware of the "racy" novel or the "spicy" play. These, however, as a rule, don't teach the young in large numbers. Their expense limits them to the few. But the popular priced magazines go everywhere and several of them of late appear to be making a deliberate effort to distribute moral poison in the form of clever stories or artful drawings. Some newspapers are also offenders in this direction.

In the long run, of course, the good sense of the public will perceive the tricky motive in this unprincipled pandering for pennies. For it isn't filth, it isn't smut which really interests folk, however much they may for a time be swept along by an unusual appeal. At heart people are clean. The clean books, the clean play, the clean magazine, the clean newspaper, if humanly interesting, always outlives the nasty one. It, however, behooves you to have special care; to make sure that in your home, before the eyes of your children, there comes as little as possible of reading matter which is deliberately smutted.

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT PULLETS.

Observations of the development of White Leghorn pullets at the poultry plant of the Washington experiment station, reveal certain suggestive facts relative to the rate at which the birds reach maturity and begin to lay. Leghorns that were hatched in March and April, not forced, culled and allowed to come in naturally, produced from 10 to 25 per cent layers in October. By November, 25 to 33 per cent of them were laying. In December the layers ran from the latter percentage to 50 per cent. Pullets crowded in the latter part of February and March, slumped in egg production in May. It was extremely difficult to get them to laying again for the summer. An abundance of green stuff fed in June and July helped along egg production in August.

The majority of the hens that continued to lay through July August and into September had been hatched early the preceding year, the obvious reason being that the early hatched chickens developed better, and came into laying in a more vigorous condition than did the late hatches.

The heavy breeds laid fewer eggs during the setting and hatching season than did the Leghorns, being more "broody" than were the Leghorns, and their laying being interrupted by trying to set. However, in late October, and even into November, many of the heavy birds had come into vigorous laying, where as the Leghorns that had been laying so vigorously during the summer quit laying.

Many people are demanding that the government continue to distribute free seeds as before, and no doubt it will be a popular move to have the postoffice clerks go round and plant them.

It must be humiliating to living ex-presidents who toiled laboriously over long, involved annual messages, to hear the shouts of praise of President Wilson's efforts because of its brevity.

Mr. Wilson's smile has been recorded on a movie film and put away in the records to be brought out at the end of one hundred years. Yes, yes, how time flies. It seems a hundred years already since we saw Mr. Taft's smile.

Life insurance for hens should be the next great movement in barnyard economy.

PROVERBS ON WOMAN.

A bag of ideas is easier to keep watch over than a woman.—German.
A dog is wiser than a woman. He does not bark at his master.—Russian.
A goose, a woman and a goat are bad things seen.—Portuguese.
A handsome woman is always right.—German.
A woman and a melon are hard to choose.—French.
A woman and a cherry are painted for their own harm.—German, Spanish.
A woman can love a poor boy better than a rich dotard.—Hebrew.
A woman's strength is in her tongue.—Welsh.
A woman's tongue is only three inches long, but it can kill a man six feet high.—Japanese.
All women are good—either good for something or good for nothing.—Danish.
Women have long hair and short wit.—Turkish.
Women rouge that they may not blush.—Italian.
One demands four things from a woman—that virtue dwell in her heart, modesty beam on her forehead, sweetness flow from her lips and industry occupy her hands.—Chinese.

A PETITION TO TIME.

Touch us gently, Time!
Let us glide down thy stream
Gently, as we sometimes glide
Through a quiet dream.
Humble voyagers are we—
Husband, wife and children
three.
(One is lost—an angel fled
To the azure overhead.)

Touch us, gently, Time!
We're not proud nor soaring
wings.
Our ambition, our content,
Lies in simple things.
Humble voyagers are we,
O'er life's dim, unsounded sea,
Seeking only some calm clime.
Touch us gently, gentle Time!
—Barry Cornwall.

Three Barbers.—The Club.

Two Trains Late.

Both No. 6 and No. 17 were late this morning. No. 6 was late on account of snow in the neighborhood of Hood River and minor engine trouble.

No. 17 was late owing to the unusually heavy snow fall and cold weather in the Rocky Mountain region, and east of there. Traffic is heavy for this season of the year, owing to the return of Christmas visitors.

James Miller, traveling passenger through the city this noon on No. 6, stated that traffic to and from Portland is unusually heavy.

Woman Goes to Prison.

Seattle, Dec. 26.—Dr. Linda Burfield Hazzard, fasting specialist, will leave today at 3:30 P. M. for Walla Walla without a guard, where she will begin to serve the sentence of from ten to twenty years which was imposed upon her for the death of one of her patients, Clair Williamson, an English woman, who died after a 40-day fast for stomach trouble. She will be accompanied to the gates of the prison by her friends, Miss Marion Dunbar and Mrs. Mary Edwards. "I will be the first woman in the world," said she, "who will go to prison unguarded." The charge was manslaughter.

President in Absolute Rest.

Pass Christiansa, Dec. 26.—The president planned to devote the next two days to complete relaxation from business, save only matters of the most pressing nature. He will sleep late, eat breakfast and then attend to the telegrams that come to him, and will then play golf for an hour, with Grayson. His doctor has prescribed 11 hours of sleep for the chief executive and all of the out-of-door recreation he can get.

All members having rituals belonging to Hope chapter No. 13, O. E. S., will kindly bring them tomorrow evening. By order of Worthy Matron, Mary E. Warnick, Sec'y.

FRIENDSHIP.

As the feet, in the journey of life, plod along places smooth and others rough and stony, where the stormy hedge hedges out or hedges in, by the still waters and waters raging, in meadows green and meadows parched, through valleys and over hills toward the great city, what is more delightful than to fall in with a bright, lovely, particular spirit traveling the same way?—W. M. Blacknell.

BRILLIANTS.

Peace, hope, courage, faith be with you—not the faith that reaches, trembling, toward rest beyond the grave, but faith that reaches down deep—grasps now the deep laid cable that moves the car of humanity now.—F. Blanchard.

If men will have no care for the future they will soon have sorrow for the past.—Chinese Maxim.

No man or woman who has fallen can be restored to the position formerly held. Such must rise to a yet higher place, whence they can behold their former standard far beneath their feet.—George Macdonald.

Good resolutions seldom fail of producing some good in the mind from which they spring.—Charles Dickens.

Blessed is he who has found his work. Let him ask no other blessedness. He has a life purpose. Labor is life.—Carlyle.

You may choose to forsake your duties and choose not to have the sorrow they bring, but you will go forth and find, my daughter, sorrow without duty, bitter herbs and no bread.—Savonarola.

Runner Hales.

Robert Hales, the great Irish runner, is fast regaining the form which made him famous in Ireland. Lawson Robertson expects to see him come through with a victory over some of the champions before long.

CHRISTMAS AT RED PEPPER

Tree and Program Attract School Students in Afternoon.

Red Pepper District, Dec. 24. (Special.)—Quite a crowd from this district and Cove and Lower Cove attended the dance at Imbler, Friday evening, December are the names of those who went: Chester Ayers, Edna Jones, Elton Heryford, Ada Geer, Lon Ayers and wife, George Conley and wife, Bernard Orton, Burl and Jay Conley, Earl and Reg Heryford, Nathan Gray and wife, Joe Gray and Clyde Bloom. Imbler has a nice hall and they certainly had good music and the supper was grand.

Mr. and Mrs. George Conley were La Grande visitors Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Conley and son were La Grande visitors Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lon Ayers were La Grande visitors Saturday.

E. E. Miller was a La Grande visitor Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Miller and daughter were La Grande visitors Saturday.

There was a Christmas tree at the Red Pepper school house Wednesday afternoon, December 24. The program began at 2 o'clock. Santa Claus appeared. Mrs. Tuck Conley is on the sick list.

Yep Murphy Indignant.

James Benges was this morning arraigned in Justice Williams' court on a charge of assault. Is said James had a foolish notion to see whether his bare fist would fit into the ocular cavity of a slant-eyed Celestial Irishman, Yep Murphy by name, of the La Grande restaurant, who to judge by the name is part Chinaman and part Irishman. But Yep didn't take to the measuring process very kindly. The measurement was made and resulted in a partial eclipse of the moon on the part of the Chinaman. Yep didn't seem to have much of an arm of his own and asked the court to use the arm of the law. Accordingly Yep swore out a warrant for the arrest of the amateur moon eclipser and had Constable Faulk chase the prospective defendant to Island City where the arm of the law caressed him tenderly and gave him a free ride to the police station. Benges, however, waived examination and is bound over to the grand jury under a \$250 bond.

Fancy Hens in Show.

New York, Dec. 26.—A \$10,000 hen that lays every day during the "regular" season a \$10 egg, was perhaps the most interesting feature of the Twenty-fifth annual poultry show conducted by the New York Poultry and Pigeon association, Ltd., which opened today in Madison Square Garden to continue through December 31. "Cheap" fowls both hens and roosters, worth a mere \$25 or \$125 and on up to a paltry \$150 a pound, were shown in profusion. Fowls to a total value of approximately \$50,000 were on exhibition when the show opened today.

Charts prepared by W. R. F. Price, of Illinois, an egg expert, were handed about today showing that the lowly(?) American hen for the year just closing, will have laid eggs to the value of one billion dollars. In addition to exhibits of domestic fowls of all kinds, there was an interesting exhibit of fancy and foreign aquatic waterfowl and rare terrestrial birds. These were shown in an artificial jungle. There will be a series of educational lectures delivered by renowned experts on practical poultry breeding and farming.

LAMP TIPS—WOMAN DEAD. Butte Family Has a Distressing Christmas Celebration.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 26.—While celebrating Christmas yesterday evening, a lamp overturned and the home in which Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Newhouse were living, was fired. Mrs. Newhouse was overcome in the smoke and died.

We pay best prices for second-hand furniture. Dyal's Furniture Store, next to Geddes. Phone B-3551.

FITTING AND MAKING GLASSES is not a side line with me. I devote my entire time to the optical business. HEACOCK, Foley Bldg.

Union Made, Oregon Made, Hand Made

NUGGET

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