

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

Entered in the post-office at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter.

Advertising rates on application. All copy for display advertising must reach the office the day before the ad appears.

Address: all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

Subscription rates table with columns for Daily, Weekly, Monthly, and Annual rates in advance and by mail.

PLOWING IN JANUARY.

Engineer Curtis, of the branch line, called the Observer's attention last evening to an almost unheard of event in this part of the country.

"I have never seen anything of the kind before here on the fourteenth day of January," remarked Mr. Curtis, "and I have begun to wonder if all signs have failed and instead of having Grande Ronde winters we are about to enter the orange belt."

We must agree with Mr. Curtis that the sight of six-mule teams at work breaking ground in dead of winter is a picture fit for Tom Richardson to grasp and demand immediate circulation as a boost for this climate.

But listen to Mr. Curtis a little further: "No, Walter was not plowing. Now don't misunderstand me. He was riding on horseback through the fields."

was reciting that favorite speech, "The Crime of the Age," to the contented Missouri mules as they plowed the stubborn soil.

And still, viewing the whole proceeding from a different angle, the Jackson club banquet was held last week, hence why should the ex-senator be practicing a speech which had already been delivered.

To return to the memorable feature of Mr. Curtis' observations it is worth sinking deep in the recesses of memory, the fact that in this valley on the fourteenth day of January, 1914, six-mule teams were at work plowing.

FORWARD LOOKING.

There never has been a time in the history of our country in which the philosophy of co-operation has been so thoroughly applied in governmental affairs as during the past decade.

Think of the agencies heretofore under private control and operation that are now, being taken over by the government. Warships being built in government navy yards; guns constructed in government factories; powder manufactured under government auspices; a government armor plant is proposed; parcel post in lieu of express companies; postal savings; arbitration and conciliation in railroad strikes and even in local strikes; co-operation with the farmers by the department of agriculture for the improvement of crops, pure food and meat inspection; preservation of the health of the people; regulation of public utilities; government railroads in Alaska, and many other plans now under consideration, such as the acquirement by the government of the telegraph, telephone and railroad systems, and still other steps beyond anything yet undertaken.

All of these things are intended to benefit the masses, either directly—as in crop raising; strike avoidances and settlement, etc.—or indirectly, through effectually stopping big interests from obtaining a strangle hold on services needed by the public at large.

This changed tendency in governmental affairs is calling for a new type of statesman—the forward looking type. To meet these new problems effectively the statesman who wishes to attain or retain public favor must not put too much emphasis upon what the intent was of a generation that is now dead and gone, for while he may and should be acquainted with history, that alone will not serve him, for he must also be ever mindful of the rights, the hopes, the aspiration and the needs of those now living and also those yet unborn.

His understanding of man-wide laws must be supplemented by a comprehension of natural laws; the essence of things. The people are no longer to be fooled by mere lip-worship of their ideals; by mere words and rhetoric. They are demanding statesmen with eyes that will penetrate beneath the veneered surfaces, and hearts that dare follow and proclaim the eternal truths, upon which all real progress must be founded. But this far the demand has been met only in rare cases.

In attempting to solve the stupendous problems that await in the pathway of our future we cannot afford to make many mistakes, for these may be dangerous, and to avoid them we must have in our lawmaking bodies only men we know, and knowing dare to do. The questions still facing us for solution involve too many equities and rights, and are too big and too vital to be entrusted to mediocrity, be it even so clever or given to words.

GOOD ROADS AND HEALTH.

It is a far cry from the construction of improved highways to the conservation of health, or at least there have been few persons identified with either of these movements who have been inclined to group them together. Yet the state board of health of Kansas has come forth with the contention, supported by the Journal of the American Medical Association, that the two are inter-related. There are innumerable uncontrollable and incontrovertible arguments in favor of the construction of good roads, but none of them is more forcible than the one most recently put forth, that good roads are a disease preventative.

At first thought, the reader is likely to jump to the conclusion that the good roads make visits to or of the family physician easier and therefore more frequent, thus circumventing the development of disease, but that is not the argument. It is that in the construction of improved highways, weeds and trash are removed from the road and roadsides. Weeds and trash prevent the prompt evaporation of moisture and promote the retention of ground water. This makes ideal breeding places for mosquitoes, flies and other insects, which are known as disease carriers, not to mention chinch bugs, hoppers and other insects that are crop-damagers.

Furthermore an undergrowth of weeds invites the dumping of garbage and manure by offering concealment, of which fact careless and thoughtless people are prone to take advantage, thus increasing the facility of insect breeding, and providing these insects with proper material for disease transmission. To further clinch the argument it is put forth that many farms have no means of drainage except by ditches along the road, and that open ditches, clear of brush and debris, with hardened surface and proper fall, such as the improved highways provide, afford the farms the opportunity of ridding themselves of many a stagnant, disease-breeding pool.

If, after the foregoing elucidation there are some yet to be convinced, it might be added for their especial benefit that road oiling in itself is destructive of insect larvae, especially mosquitoes. Dry roads offer pedestains, and especially the children who have to walk to and the property be used for fair purposes.

You Can Lower The Cost of Living

If You Take Advantage of the Savings Offered During this Month at WEST'S 16TH ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE

- Save \$3.70 to \$7.50 on Men's Clothing
Save \$5.00 to \$12.00 on Men's Overcoats
Save \$5.00 to \$20.00 on Ladies Coats
Take your choice of any Tailored Suit for \$9.90
Take your choice of a Large Line Coats for \$1.19
Save One-half the price on New Coats for children
One lot Children's Coats to \$10.00 for 69c
Special 9c Sale of Cotton Goods, Values up to 25c yd.
Save 1/4 to 1/2 Price on All New Dresses

35 Men's and Boy's OVERCOATS Values to \$15.00 \$5.00



Men's Heavy CLOTHING Reduced 25%

from school, dry shoes and dry feet. While colds are due to specific germs, yet it is a well-known fact that cold wet feet and chilled limbs lower the resistance of individuals and make them more favorable subjects for infections of the respiratory passages, including pneumonia and tuberculosis.

According to the American Medical Journal, good roads prevent disease by setting an example to adjoining farm premises; they promote travel and set an example to the farmer whose premises are bordered by them. The comparison of a well-graded, clean highway with an unkept and trash barnyard adjoining is sufficient to stimulate every land owner to clean up. Pride compels him to offer to passers by a neat appearing and attractive house and barnyard. Results are only too obvious. Good roads are active disease prevention agencies, aside from their financial and commercial value.

A Chicago man has solved the problem of the cost of living by eloping with \$5000 belonging to his bride to be and leaving the lady behind.

The aeroplane waltz is the latest thing. This should be a popular dance with the high fliers.

INDUCEMENTS HELD OUT. (Continued from Page 1.)

start on. After this, the association would be self-supporting and no one would be requested to contribute. The value of the lots according to the estimate given, and needed, to put the association on a firm basis is considerably below the cost of neighboring lots, and to this extent those who chose to go in on the proposition will evidently get a bargain.

The purchaser of such a lot would be asked to sign an agreement that es only, and in the event of the association's dissolution, he would be the absolute owner in fee simple of the property. Mr. Secor thinks nothing would be fairer and he has the assurance that many are going to vote for the scheme.

In return for the use of the prop-

erty for fair purposes, he thinks the agreement ought to stipulate for a nominal rental of the property as long as the fair association pays the rental and is using the ground for fair purposes.

Mr. Secor is of the opinion that, unless the proposition passes, the stockholders will have nothing tangible and will lose all. Interest on the present mortgage becomes due this summer and unless something is done to put the fair association on a sure footing, fair will either be a thing of the past or a new location will have to be secured and this will be difficult. Mr. Secor asserts this the best plan that has been proposed and one that will meet with the approval of nearly all of the stockholders, because they will in this way get something definite and tangible for their money. The meeting is called for January 28 at 2:00 p. m. at the Commercial club rooms.

License Money Collected.

All license payers in the city, which includes pool rooms, drays and moving picture houses, have been listed today, and all unpaid licenses will be collected at once. To save the city \$20 or \$25 the dray wagons will not be given license badges this year, as the number of dray lines is limited and the police department can keep track of paid and unpaid licenses. The license money is, therefore, all "velvet" now.

Notice.

All accounts due Dr. J. W. Loughlin are payable to Dr. A. L. Richardson. DR. J. W. LOUGHLIN.

Your job printing. Have it done at the Observer office.

Help For the Farmers.

Fort Collins, Colo., Jan. 15.—The annual "clearing house of the agricultural ideas," fostered by the Colorado Agricultural college, began at the college here today. Sessions will continue until tomorrow night.

Suggestions for improving the lot of farmers and their families will be made during the sessions of the Rural Home institute tomorrow. Besides college professors a number of practical farmers are expected to talk during the sessions.

MURIEL

THE CIGAR FOR THE MAN WHO GUARDS HIS HEALTH Start and end the day with MURIEL—the cigar with the fine fragrance of the full Havana without the full Havana's heavyness. No cluttered tongue or filed nerves when you smoke MURIEL.

2 for 25c and 10c Straight.

Get an introduction today to MURIEL.

The Mild Havana Blend

Sold by All Dealers.

La Grande National Bank

Organized in 1887.

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

Bank financials table: Capital \$100,000.00, Surplus \$140,000.00, 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

Retail Department--Phone Main 8

For Lumber, Lath Shingles, Sash and Doors Ruberoid Roofing

GEORGE PALMER LUMBER CO