

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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A MAN MADE FOR THE JOB.

State Superintendent of Schools J. A. Churchill has been through Eastern Oregon of late and as usual he was met by the people with a cordiality that proves beyond question the confidence reposed in him.

Mr. Churchill is a man made for the exact job he fills. He lives school work, breathes school work and his whole career and every thought is for the betterment of the younger generation through the only avenue—education.

His long career at the head of the Baker schools gave him a proper standing in the state and many learned to know of his ability. Now that he has been elevated to the head of the schools in the state Mr. Churchill will prove his bigness and his fitness for the place.

It would be a miserable mistake to think of changing state superintendent of public instruction when a good man is in office. It is an office that political complexion should not interfere with—an office that party name should not molest.

Few states have a Churchill for the job and Oregon being fortunate in this respect should unanimously vote to retain him in the position.

AMERICA'S OPPORTUNITY.

Writing from Beaulieu-sur-mer, in France, Dr. David Starr Jordan, who has just completed his peace lectures in Europe, says: "I am becoming more and more convinced that the suppression of militarism, of war, and war system, is the first moral duty ahead of the democracy of the world, and the liberal elements of Europe look more and more to America for leadership." Dr. Jordan was recently in communication with Senator LaFontaine of Brussels. This Belgian is known as one of the foremost peace advocates in Europe and for his work in this cause he received the Nobel prize. He is a liberal of the modern type, and in common with other liberals he looks to the United States for leadership. In urging that the next peace conference at The Hague be not delayed, Senator LaFontaine says that now is the time for the government to study the question of disarmament, for armament, more than any other single topic, is occupying the attention of the powers of the world. The promotion of The Hague conference, says Senator LaFontaine, "should be one of the principal aims, and the government of the United States seems to be in a position to make the first step."

Unless some comparatively disinterested government does take "the first step," it is possible that the peace conferences at The Hague will have to be abandoned. At the conference of 1899 it was agreed to meet in eight years, and in 1907 a very important conference was held. By resolution, the delegates agreed to meet again in eight years. The time for the next meeting consequently is 1915. Being an international gathering, it cannot be assembled overnight. Delegates must be appointed by the various governments, programs arranged, credentials obtained and affairs at The Hague put in readiness for the reception of the delegates. But as yet not a single government has appointed even an honorary or unofficial delegate to attend the conference.

Germany is not particularly interested officially. Italy thought so little of the honor of the first conference as to go to war with deliberation. Russia and Japan did at Portsmouth, N. H. what could possibly have been done at The Hague before and to the saving of much property and many lives. France is too deeply interested officially in floating a new military loan to waste time considering The Hague conference. England might have done something to the "little navy" program of Lloyd George. But it now appears as though even Lloyd George's impassioned argument for naval retrenchment is to be set aside. England is "too busy" to consider The Hague.

The only nation apparently that is not too absorbed in international politics to save the international peace conference is the United States. It is America's opportunity. Once let the American government take the initiative, and other governments are bound to follow or to abandon the pretense, if such it is. Dr. Jordan has delivered forty-three lectures in Great Britain and on the continent of Europe. While he is aware that "officially" the governments still cling to the idea of physical force in the settlement of disputes, he finds, in the temper of the thousands to whom he has spoken, a steadfast and earnest desire for peace. This is the "liberal" element, the peace element, which looks to the American government for leadership.

A number of La Grande merchants will meet this evening to talk over the possibility of doing things that will increase business. Under this head the road to Cove might be discussed and such practical things as may be developed right here at home. It is the growing opinion of many that local conditions have more to do with the prosperity of a city than the imaginary immigration that never comes.

The indications are now that a lot of us were fooled in Mayor Albee of Portland, and that instead of being "the man of the hour" he is in reality the man of feeble will power.

The vice president's wife is such a social leader in Washington, that Mr. Marshall must be tempted to cut out his dull work in the senate chair and stay at home and pour tea.

Mr. Bryan has received a 30-pound radish from an admiring friend, but as long as it was not thrown over the footlights, he ought not to care.

"Spring fashions for women will be a revelation," says a Paris note. Er, what has the fall fashions left to reveal?

Grape juice may contain alcohol but it isn't worth while wasting time trying to cut it out.

A Fair Proposition.

The manufacturers of Meritol Rheumatism mPowders have so much confidence in this preparation that they authorize us to sell them to you on a positive guarantee to give you relief in all cases of Rheumatism or refund your money. This is certainly a fair proposition. Let us show them to you. Newlin Drug Co., exclusive agency.

First Showing of Spring Styles

NOW ON DISPLAY IN EVERY DEPARTMENT

In Our Exclusive Ready-to-Wear Dept.

New Suits, Coats and Dresses that portray the most attractive models for the spring season. As usual we are first with the new styles. Come and see them.

In Our Mens Department

Our first shipment of the new Benjamin Washington Clothing has arrived. These new garments are the product of the consolidated firms of Alfred Benjamin & Co. and the Washington Clothing Co. and are the equal of the best custom work. Prices \$20.00 to \$27.50.

In Our Exclusive Dry Goods Dept.

New Wool Dress Fabrics, Crepes, Silks, Rattines, Eponge and Wash Fabrics of every popular weave and shade.

In Our Shoe Department

Two of America's best Shoe Lines are represented and the most popular leather and lasts are now shown for spring wear. Agents for "Utz & Dunn" and Pingree footwear for both Ladies and Misses.

New Gordon Hats
\$3.00

West
THE QUALITY STORE

New Stetson Hats
\$4.00-\$5.00

WILLING TO OBLIGE



"Look here," roared the angry man who had bought a lot of suburban real estate, "that ground you sold me is under water, and there are actually little fish swimming about."
"Oh, I'll fix that all right," assured the oil-tongued agent.
"Then you'll give me another lot or return the money?"
"Not exactly that, but I'll send you out some fishing tackle to catch the fish."

Because it Was Underweight.
Under the pure food and drugs act, ten cases were recently brought against a New York city firm, which is in the candy business, making a specialty of what is known as "penny goods." All the goods were found to be adulterated. Most of them contained shellac, and some of them also contained arsenic. In every case the firm pleaded guilty. Most of the candies were sold as chocolate candies, but contained little or none of that product. These are the goods bought by small children who have received a cent or two from parents or friends, sometimes intended for the missionary box, but often straying to the candy shop. In only one of the ten cases was a penalty imposed, and in this case, carrying a fine of \$50, was not for selling to little children as chocolate candy a mixture containing arsenic and shellac, but because the package sold to the dealer was marked five pounds and really contained only 4 pounds and 14 ounces, not enough poison for the money! Truly, in the words of Mr. Bumble, the law sometimes is "an ass."

Extermination Not Feared.

"Do not believe all you read about the extermination of fur animals," writes a statistician to a Paris paper. "With the exception of a few—seal, chinchilla and American lynx—'fur animals' are no less numerous than they were 30 years ago, when the prepared pelts, now popular for outer garments, were used for lining purposes. The high prices are caused by the increased demand. The fur-bearing animals will not be exterminated because the fashions change. While one animal, temporarily popular, is being hunted the other has time to recuperate. Nature helps also in this way: The over-hunted animal instinctively abandons its habitat, often seeking refuge where the hunter cannot follow."

HE MISUNDERSTOOD



Mr. Rich—Sam, is it true that you confiscate your neighbors' chickens?
Sam—No, sah; I fricassee 'em.

MEAN THING



Mr. E. Blunt—Ah! out for a stroll?
Miss Paintedup—Yes; I walk a mile every morning for my complexion.
Mr. Blunt—Why don't you buy enough at one time to last you a week?

DOG DAYS



"Chap in the west suing for a divorce because his wife wouldn't give him anything for dinner but frankfurters."
"Hot frankfurters, eh? Must have been trying to 'dog' him to death."

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

druggists or by mail, H. E. Bucklin & Co., Philadelphia or St. Louis.

IT DOES PAY TO ADVERTISE.

A watch was lost. It was a valuable keepsake, but bore no identification marks. The owner had a WANT AD inserted in this paper and like clockwork the watch was delivered at this office and turned over to the owner. People are generally honest and will return articles found. A few lines in this paper did the work. Would any rational man say that advertising did not pay? You are communicating some kind of information. The God given method is by word of mouth, but while you are talking to one man, six boys are distributing your wants to 2000 readers of this paper. There is really no comparison. People of the city learned through the medium of this paper that there were men and women in need. The response to the call for help was instant; the needy read about the work of the committee and made personal requests for help. You can advertise any kind of trade. You can buy land, horses, fruit, etc., because there is somebody in this valley with that article to sell. Try it, that's the proof.

La Grande National Bank

Organized in 1897.

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

Capital\$100,000.00
Surplus\$140,000.00
Total Resources\$240,000.00

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