

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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RIDING A FREE HORSE TO DEATH

We have no sympathy for the tax dodger, whether he is the man of wealth, the corporation or the small tax payer. The practice of swearing away thousands of dollars or hundreds of dollars from the tax rolls for the sake of dodging a fair share of any assessment, is entirely out of date and is just as much a crime as putting one's hands into the community treasury and extracting a handful of cash.

But the pendulum swings both ways. When it swings too far in one direction it gains impetus to the same extreme in the other direction. That's what it is doing right now in many places throughout the country and the trouble is that the pendulum keeps right on swinging. Undoubtedly that is why it is so often said that history repeats itself in cycles of years.

Just now the man of wealth is getting many bitter raps. The "common people" have the whip hand and the lash is made to sting with a vehemence that savors of vindictiveness. In matters of taxes as in other things the burden is being shifted to the shoulders of the wealthy class.

A Cleveland incident serves to bring this to mind. Down in Cleveland they have as a taxpayer a man who is considered the wealthiest individual in the world, John D. Rockefeller. Few people today have any love for him, but he has been an asset to Cleveland in many ways.

The pendulum is swinging to the other extreme in Cleveland. The men of wealth are being assessed to the limit. Mr. Rockefeller's name was placed on the assessment rolls for the payment of taxes on \$500,000,000 worth of personal property.

It appears, however, that Mr. Rockefeller does not propose to consent to the arrangement. It is reported that he is moving away from Cleveland. Perhaps he is not justified in moving away, but this is beside the question.

There are times and places when and where good judgment and justification are not synonymous. This seems to be one of them. The tax commissioners of Cleveland appear to have ridden a free horse to death.

500,000 a year on his personal property as well as justifiable. We are drawing closer to the millennium, but we have not yet reached it.

NOBLE PRIZES.

In 12 years from 1901 to 1912 inclusive, 56 persons representing 14 different countries have won Noble prizes. The Journal des Debats of Paris, gives them as follows: Germany 18, France 13, England 6, Sweden 4, Holland 3, Italy 3, Spain 2, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Russia, Poland and the United States one each.

A prominent newspaper says rather whimsically that if the Noble Foundation had been in existence it could hardly have failed to make awards to Graham Bell and Edison. It might add that if it had existed it could hardly have failed to honor Whitney for the cotton gin and Morse for the telegraph and divers others for various original work.

Here is something for us to think about. If we are entering into the world as a power this tabulation shows us the small part that we play in comparison with other nations when it comes to high attainments.

BANK STATEMENT.

Report of the condition of the United States National bank at La Grande, State of Oregon, at the close of business, March 4, 1914:

Bank statement table with columns for assets (Loans and discounts, U. S. bonds, etc.) and liabilities (Capital stock, surplus fund, etc.). Total assets: \$501,509.42. Total liabilities: \$501,509.42.

T. J. SCROGGIN, Cashier. CORREST—Attest: WM. MILLER, J. C. HENRY, A. L. RICHARDSON, Director.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of March, 1914. F. S. IVANHOE, Notary Public.

the road" and "bridging the ford," developing materially a great continent, and assimilating the greatest stream of immigration that the world has known.

Incidentally we have kept up the physical standard. We lead the world in Olympian games if not Nobel prizes, and as Germany has imported American athletic trainers to teach her how to compete successfully in this way, perhaps we could import German talent to teach us how to win Noble prizes.

MILLION SFOR JUNK.

Advocates of universal peace point out the futility of battleship construction by citing some of the figures in our own naval program.

The United States began about 1899 the construction of what is known as the "new navy." Since that program was begun, the ships of the new, or comparatively new, type have cost the people of this country for construction alone \$477,800,000.

And yet the United States ranks only third among the nations in the strength of its navy. The latest figures show the following battleships either in commission or building: Great Britain, 72; Germany 39; United States, 36; France, 29; Japan, 19; Italy, 17; Russia, 15; and Austro-Hungary, 10.

The people of this country have not complained of the naval program, but they cannot understand why it is necessary every year to keep on building new battleships.

There is now in the list of American battleships only one vessel built prior to 1900—the Iowa, completed in 1897. The Oregon, the Indiana, the Massachusetts and others constructed about the same time as the Iowa, and considered in those days to be the last word in fighting vessels, are no longer regarded as of real service.

The same situation exists in other countries. Peace advocates point out the frightful loss of time and money and energy in carrying out the naval programs of the nations, when of time all the "latest" battleships will be so much mere junk.

No wonder that the movement to

SALTS FINE FOR ACHING KIDNEYS

We eat too much meat, which clogs Kidneys, then Back hurts and Bladder bothers you.

Most folks forget that the kidneys like the bowels, get sluggish and clogged and need a flushing occasionally, else we have backache and dull misery in the kidney region, severe headaches, rheumatic twinges, torpid liver, acid stomach, sleeplessness and all sorts of bladder disorders.

Jad Salts is harmless; inexpensive; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which everybody should take now and then to keep their kidneys clean, thus avoiding serious complications.



Complete Line of Spring Styles In Our Famous FIDELITY \$15.00 SUITS

JUST ARRIVED IN THE MEN'S DEPT.

THESE GARMENTS ARE GUARANTEED ALL WOOL FABRICS, THOROUGHLY SHRUNK, HAVE SHAPE RETAINING FRONTS, TAILORED UNDER SANITARY CONDITIONS AND GUARANTEED TO GIVE SATISFACTORY WEAR.

THE PATTERNS ARE VERY ATTRACTIVE. SEE THEM IN OUR WINDOWS. AND THEN COME IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELF JUST HOW PERFECTLY THEY FIT. YOU WILL BE SURPRISED AT SUCH REAL VALUE IN A SUIT FOR \$15.00.

\$15.00 No More



\$15.00 No Less

cess building battleships by international agreement is meeting with such ready response among the common people of the whole world.

STOCKHOLDERS IN THEIR OWN CITY.

More than 2000 residents of the city of St. Paul, Minn., are possessors of \$10 city bonds, bearing interest at 4 per cent. The number of stockholders is increasing and it already includes hundreds of thrifty workmen who hold small blocks of what might be considered preferred stock.

The idea was conceived with a view to interesting as many persons as possible in the city's financial welfare. St. Paul is one of the largest cities in the country that has adopted the commission form of government and this is one of the reforms that the commission form of government has adopted.

The St. Paul people took to the plan with a vim. The first three days after the sale began more than \$220,000 of the certificates were disposed of. By December 1st, the total sales amounted to more than \$3,500,000.

The popularity of the certificates among the people is the fact that they may be converted into cash at any time without losing a penny of the interest accrued at four per cent.

The Skin and Not the Blood.

Until recently it has been a generally accepted theory that eczema was a disease of the blood. Scientists have taught us that eczema is positively a skin disease and curable through the skin alone.

TROUSERLESS MAN.

(Continued from Page 1.)

told the Pullman conductor that the former occupant of the berth was the United States marshal.

Eager to oblige the government official, who it was gravely suspected, might be roaming around La Grande without trousers on, the train was delayed at Union while the station master was directed to rush the garment back to La Grande.

Tremendous excitement reigned a few minutes later when the occupant of the upper berth poked his head through the curtains and told the porter he had lost the lower half of his suit. It was then realized that the pants that had been sent back had slipped from the upper berth to the lower.

Obliging passengers dug into their baggage. A pair of possibilities would be thrust through the green curtains, only to come back a moment later with the smothered remark too small. In the next two hours the train scheduled was smashed to smithereens.

Eastern Oregon seemed to be barren of that size. At North Powder the conductor reported that he couldn't even see a barrel. Finally at Haines, the station north of Baker, a pair of

the proper dimensions was located and the conductor paid \$12 for them.

At Baker a few minutes later the traveler was dressed and was down on the platform to bid farewell to his friends of the adventure. He held up the trousers with one hand while he shook hands with the other.

FOR RENT—Modern five room house. Pavement. Black 1662. 3-7-14

FOR RENT—Five room house, furnished. Phone black 1191. 3-7-14

WHITE WYANDOTE EGGS—50c per setting (15). J. P. Brenholz Adams & Oak. 8-5-14

Five room cottage with full basement for sale or for lease of long period, is desired. Easy terms. J. A. Russell. 3-4-14

FOR SALE—A small out house, cheap. Phone black 1102. 3-7-14

FOR SALE—Assorted lot of canned fruits and jellies. Also nice baby carriage, cheap. Address F. care Observer. 3-7-14

FOR SALE—Black Minorca White Leghorn setting eggs, first selected winter layers. Mrs. G. Chapman, La Grande. 3-3-14

La Grande National Bank

Organized in 1887.

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

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. 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