

THE OBSERVER

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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:

- Daily, single copy .....5c
Daily, per week .....15c
Daily, per month .....65c
Daily, six months in advance....\$3.50
Daily, per year in advance.....\$7.00
Daily, by mail per year, in advance .....\$4.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year in advance .....\$1.50

OUR DUTY TO OUR NATIONALS.

Secretary Daniels is in a fair way to become the incubus of the Wilson administration. Referring to the appeals of refugees for protection, he is quoted as saying: "They went into Mexico to get big profits, and they shouldn't expect the United States to look after them if they did not stay at home."
As long as our citizens behave themselves in other lands a stand of this sort is only reactionary brutality. Of course men migrate for selfish reasons in order to better their material conditions. The habit is an old one, dating back to the dawn of history and including whole tribes and nations of men. No great amount of reading is necessary to convince one that migration is essential to what we call civilization. In Europe, for the last three hundred years had been of Mr. Daniel's mind, the United States would be a wilderness. Think how Mr. Daniels' career must have suffered in that event.

However much we would like to keep all our people at home, no amount of coaxing or compulsion will hold some of them. That being true for all the virile breeds of men, civilization has established a code of customs, masquerading under the name of international law, for the protection of wandering citizens, which guarantees them the right to peace and prosperity as long as they observe the law of the land and refrain from meddling in internal affairs. Among modern nations Great Britain has most successfully defended the rights of aliens in barbarous surroundings. The long arm, the prompt reprisal, the show to force at the impressive moment, the coolness of the British seaman and the judgment of the British diplomat have stood the world in good stead these many years. The aid Amer-

icans reserved in Mexico from British seamen has been noted within the last month; but as a matter of fact, Mexico is the last of many similar servitudes which are the other great powers far behind.

In the struggle between savagery and civilization, the world powers must uphold the international mode as applied to aliens, else unspeakable horrors will ensue. That solidarity of interest was stoutly voiced by Sir Spencer, St. John, British minister to Haiti half a century ago, when he rescued an innocent American from a dungeon on that island. Said Sir Spencer:

In the out of the way places of the world the British government considers every white man an Englishman. We believe it to be for the best interest of our country to do everything in our power to maintain our foreign commerce; therefore, the lives and properties of our merchants must be protected. Some day the United States will arrive at the dignity of wishing to do the same. Meanwhile, the British government will render this service until the United States is big enough and strong enough to do it for herself.

In the half century since the Briton pitied our defenceless condition, we have grown strong enough to protect our own, but unavailingly for our blood brothers in Mexico the will and preparedness have not matched the ability. An American business man in Mexico is more helpless than a Bulgarian peasant in New York, and the reason is not far to seek. There have been too many statesmen of the Daniels' stripe at Washington, men who are constitutionally unable to look beyond boundaries and observe that no government worthy of the name can shirk its international responsibilities without hardship to its citizens.

ALL PLAY AND NO WORK.

This is vacation time. For many youngsters it is going to be a time in which to follow all of the youthful lents, to hunt and roam in the hills, fish and frequent the old swimming hole. For some it will be visiting time, when grandmother's place will have a sort of magnetic power drawing them to farm barns and hen-houses where they will come in contact with new life.

A small percentage will be compelled to do some kind of serious work. It is safe to say that this small percentage will in the end have spent the best vacation, for all absence of training causes young men and women to develop habits of frivolity.

It is an absolute mistake to suppose and to follow out the theory that young boys and girls should be

lax and do nothing. Man is an active being and when he is not doing something useful he is doing something contrary to the institutions of civilized society. This latter means getting into trouble. It is not going to hurt the boy or girl to perform some kind of light and useful work about the house for several hours during the day. No one who has been a real boy or girl, would for a moment begrudge either the innocent pastimes which mean as much to them as profitable pursuits mean to mature men and women. But that is not the point. The point about this whole business of training is the habit which is formed. Much of the instruction obtained in school is going to be forgotten in its details, but the habit that is being formed is going to stick to the boy and the girl throughout life. For this reason the habits that are formed while the mind is plastic and formable, are going to cling to them like barnacles to a seagoing vessel; they are going to be part of the child and later of the man and woman; they will either make them useful or frivolous; they will either make of them self-supporting members of a community or they will make them butterflies, subsisting on the labor of someone else. It often is very immaterial whether the work to be performed is gainful or not. The question to ask is this, is it forming a habit of thrift and economy, or is it educating the boy or girl to feel inferior when doing some right kind of habit? And that is kind of useful labor? When this latter spirit manifests itself and parents aid it through a spineless method of discipline, you can rest assured that neither will amount to very much in after life.

Some boys hate work as much as some prohibitionists hate liquor. It is not in them to do anything profitable. True, the work which a school boy or girl can perform does not in the aggregate amount to much when measured by a standard of money or a wage scale, but neither is that the point to be gained. The point is, will the work form the largely the point in all school work. It should behoove those who have children capable of doing something worth while to map out for them a summer schedule of light work for each day, or for so many hours each day, and require them to follow that plan scrupulously.

Many of the captains of industry started in that way and have time and again preached against the frivolous loss of time by young people. They realize the force of the old proverb, "as the boy, so the man" and know that "as the twig is bent, so the tree will grow." Ask any successful man in this community if his parents allowed him or her to waste three months of precious time and they will tell you that they had to work at an early age, some of them in the fields, some in shops. That's the basis of their success.

New York women asks for divorce because her husband insisted that she cook the cat for dinner. Probably she doesn't know that the cost of living problem is becoming very acute.

Unstarched collars will be fashionable for men this summer. It will be pretty hard for a laundry to put a saw-tooth edge on an unstarched collar.

An English scientist declares nature intended every man to have several wives. But did nature intend to show him the way to support them?

Sick Headache. Mrs. A. L. Luckie, East Rochester, N. Y., was a victim of sick headache and despondency, caused by a badly

weakened and debilitated condition of her stomach, when she began taking Chamberlain's Tablets. She says, "I found them pleasant to take, also mild and effective. In a few weeks' time I was restored to my former good health." For sale by all dealers. — Adv.

ROBBING THE COAL PILE.

Smoke That Goes Up the Chimney is Fuel Thrown Away.

For the benefit of any one who may not see the analogy between a robbed coal pile and a smoking chimney it may be briefly and simply explained.

The visible part in smoke is nearly all carbon, either as soot or cinder, and carbon is the principal combustible part of coal—i. e., the useful part, the part capable of yielding heat. Carbon completely burned forms an invisible gas, carbon dioxide; therefore whenever the gases from a stack show black they contain carbon, which indicates that complete combustion has not taken place in the boiler furnace.

In other words, all of the available heat in the coal has not been realized. It is the same as though the corresponding part of the coal fed into the furnace had been thrown away, for, although it has passed through the furnace, it has been thrown away up the stack beyond recovery. Is this, then, so very different from robbing the coal pile?

The owner who through ignorance allows conditions to exist which are not favorable to the most economical operation of his boiler furnaces, although he is unwittingly robbing himself, is nevertheless stealing from his own coal pile.—Power.

Various Courtships.

He wished to join the congressmen and soon got in the game. I used to see him now and then when he was wooing Fame.

He isn't wooing Fame today; He jilted her, you see— Went after spoils, and now they say He "courts an inquiry." —San Francisco Chronicle.

In the Upper Set.

"Mrs. Plympton-Todgers is very proud of the fashionable illegibility of her handwriting." "But I thought it was the secretary's writing?" "Of course. It took Mrs. Plympton-Todgers three years to find such a secretary."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Possibilities.

We cannot all be handsome, and we cannot all be young. There's much that none of us may ever learn. But each man may be silent when he ought to hold his tongue, and most of us can spend more than we earn. —Chicago Record-Herald.

Putting It Off.

"He's a mean man." "How so?" "When his little girl begs for an ice cream sundae he asks her if she wouldn't rather have a gold watch when she's nineteen."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Watch for our contest window featuring the famous"

Chalmer Porosknit Underwear

All over the United States this popular summer underwear will be featured in the greatest window contest ever held—pointing out the extraordinary advantages this underwear offers in service, fit, and finish.

Our stock of Chalmers Porosknit offers all sizes for boy's and men—Also every style in Union Suits and separate shirts and drawers.

Men's Union Suits

\$1.00

Boys' Union Suits

50c

Men's Shirts and Drawers

50c each

Boys' Shirts and Drawers

25c each

N. N. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

Gallant Service. Colonel James Hamilton Lewis went over to a hotel near the capitol for some luncheon. He finished, walked to the door of the cafe and stood looking out into the lobby, occupying the place usually held by the head waiter.

A very pretty woman came up, mistook the senator for the head waiter and asked: "May I have that table over there?"

"Certainly, madam," the gallant colonel replied. "It will give me great pleasure to escort you thither."

He led her to the table, pulled out her chair and seated her. She picked up the bill of fare, glanced at it and then said to Lewis: "What do you recommend today?"

"Madam," Lewis replied with one of his famous bows, "if I were not married I should unhesitatingly recommend myself." —Saturday Evening Post.

Modest.

"Now, Willie," said the visitor to a little fellow who had been in school only two weeks, "who is the smartest boy in your class?"

"I'd like to tell you," he replied, "but papa says that I mustn't boast." —Chicago News.

The Sixth One.

"Smythe & Co. are going to erect a five story building."

"Will it pay?" "That's another story." —Philadelphia Ledger.

He that blows upon dust fills his eyes with it.—Danish Proverb

Flying Fish.

Interesting are the habits of the flying fish, that queer denizen of the sea found principally in the region of the trade winds. "Does it rise from the sea like a bird?" you ask. No. It shoots out of the waves like an arrow and with outspreading wings sails on the wind in graceful curves, rising sometimes, one might say, to the height of fifteen feet, but not often so high, and then, lowering, it again touches the crest of a wave and renews its flight. This operation may be repeated till it covers a distance, say of 500 yards in the case of the stoutest on the wing, though very often not half that distance is covered. A ship sailing through the trade winds will often be visited on dark nights by flying fish, which hit the sails or rigging and fall on deck, where, of course they soon give up life.—St. Nicholas.

The Inconsolable Widower.

"There is only one inconsolable widower and that is the ostrich," said the zoo keeper. "The ostrich, if his mate dies, never remarries."

"He is also the most faithful of husbands, a sequence not always inevitable. He waits on his wife like a cherub. He digs the nest for her. Of the forty days' setting he does the hardest share: he does the night work covering the eggs from sunset till late the next morning."

"Sometimes, naturally, domestic complications occur, and the ostrich kicks. He kicks, in fact, his wife to death. "But what a consolation it must be to her as she passes away to think that he will remain true and constant to her memory and never, never seek another mate." —Philadelphia Bulletin.

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Surplus .....\$140,000.00
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La Grande National Bank

La Grande, Oregon

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