

THE OBSERVER

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THE WET AND DRY CAMPAIGN.

Oregon is just beginning her wet and dry campaign.

Many people in the state think prohibition is the proper thing, while many others do not believe in state prohibition.

It is a question to be settled in an amicable and friendly manner. Each side giving the other the benefit of honesty in his stand. On this, as on other questions, a multitude of people cannot see alike.

It is therefore according to set program that the campaign should proceed, each side putting forth its argument.

In this campaign it should be borne in mind that Oregon people are neighbors and friends, regardless of views of wet and dry issues; that when this contest is over, and for that matter, during the contest, it is the bounden duty of every citizen to assist in every way possible for the state's and community's advancement. This cannot be done by getting angry, by saying harsh things, nor by rash statements.

Let the wet and dry matter be considered by all in a dispassionate manner, keeping in mind at all times that Oregon as a state comes first.

When the majority of votes decides this question, as is sure to occur in November, let all abide by the majority ruling.

The Observer has opened its columns to both sides of this question for honest and sincere discussion of it. In such discussions it is best to deal with matters in as few words as possible, and as we have stated before, to keep in mind that all do not think alike, and that each has rights which must be respected.

FRIDAY AT STOCK SHOW.

The good people of Union, who are putting on one of the best shows in the entire northwest this week, have set Friday as La Grande day. The attendance from here will be large, but it should be large. The same

friendly feeling which has existed and think of J. M. Kohl and Father between the towns for many years Murphy.

has only been intensified by the remarkable number of people Union sent to La Grande last fall during the fair. It was a stormy day, yet the Union people came "came with the bells." They did not care for rain or snow, for they wanted to shake hands with La Grande and show them they were right.

Friday our people will have the chance to return this hospitable movement, and besides doing so will also witness one of the great days of the year. For this year Union has arranged an entirely new and unique program. Old features have been revamped and made new and many entirely new features added.

Be sure and attend the Stock show on Friday.

SAFETY FIRST.

It is decidedly pleasant to note the "safety first" idea which prevails among railroad men. The idea has always existed but until lately it was never whipped into organized form.

The formal emblem given Queen Thelma by the railroad boys of La Grande carried the emblem of "Safety First" button and no better tribute could have been paid the queen. Without wordy explanation it meant, "we as employees of the Harriman system, will do all in our power to see that your train is pulled safely over our lines; that disaster shall not overtake you while you are entrusted to our care and keeping."

Not only does the Queen enjoy such attention, but every passenger today is surrounded with the same precaution.

THE SHOCK OF SUDDEN DEATH.

The shock felt when a sudden death is reported is almost indescribable. For instance, in the case of J. M. Kohl who met death on the Island City road while riding a motor cycle. It was but a moment before that he was talking to friends; but a moment before that he was riding through the beautiful Grande Ronde valley in springtime, enjoying the great privilege of life in a country where nature is supreme. Just a slip of a wheel and the life of Mr. Kohl went out.

Another case wherein the deceased did not meet with an accident, but was suddenly taken, was Father Murphy of Wallowa who died in Baker Monday night. Known to all here as a man of robust health, in fact athletically inclined, no one supposed the Father was anywhere near the shore. Yet he was taken.

All of these things impress, without words, the uncertainty of life. When we feel sure within our physical selves; when to all appearances we are sure of our three score and ten, it is well to stop for a moment

Pendleton is enjoying the reputation of being a lively town these days. But Pendleton is spending a bunch of money in public improvement. She is always a live town and a good town, but some have the idea that unless the extra expenditure is made making a surface showing, that things are dull.

Get ready for the merchants on June 21st. They are a bunch of the liveliest chaps you ever saw and they are coming to stay three full days and nights.

Almost time to plan the summer vacation. And bear in mind Union and Wallowa counties are chuck full of delightful places to camp.

Grande Ronde crops continue to increase in value as the rains fall. Nothing like it.

DUCKING A SCOLD.

Punishment a Long Tongue Used to Win in Old England.

It is interesting in these days of woman's rights and woman's progress to conjure up a picture of a "ducking" as practiced in England at the end of the eighteenth century.

When the "scold" had been properly tried and convicted she was escorted by a crowd of her neighbors—in fact, by the whole village—to the nearest pond, and the greener and slimmer the pond the better. A long plank was produced, at one end of which was the ducking stool, and in this the screaming, struggling victim was securely plied.

The chair end of the plank was then pushed far over the edge of the pond, and at a signal it was tilted deep into the green ooze until the scold was completely immersed.

When the dripping, half drowned woman was raised to the surface again to the jeers and laughter of the onlookers it can be imagined that her tongue wagged to some purpose. After a second dose she emerged more subdued, and after a third or fourth she was as penitent a woman as the village contained and was allowed to proceed home, a sadder and wiser woman until the next time.—London Tit-Bits.

RENTED SCENERY.

It Was a Parisian's Idea, and It Served the Thrifty Peasants.

M. Georges Moreau one beautiful day, in the course of a walk at Villiers-Saint-Benoist, greatly admired three magnificent oaks which towered from the edge of a field.

"You'll not see 'em much more, citizen," growled the owner of the land "They make too much shade. I'm going to cut 'em down."

"What a sacrifice! Cut down those magnificent trees! Better rent them to me."

"What'll you do with them?" "I shall look at them as I pass by. Will you give to me for 15 francs a year the right to admire them?"

"Agreed! It's only a Parisian who could have such a funny idea."

The story spread abroad, and now whenever M. Moreau takes a walk in that district the peasants hail him with: "Hey, citizen, will you rent those trees there of me? If not I'll cut 'em down. Yes or no? One, two, three?"

M. Moreau yields and pays to save the lives of the trees that delight his view. The little birds would be ungrateful did they not salute with their most harmonious roulades the preserver of their nests.—Cris de Paris.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

Let a man remain unemployed for a period of time, and before he knows it he is unemployable. He is not only physically but morally weakened. He has lost not only the capacity but the desire to work. Where he once felt it his chief pride to stand alone, he now finds it his easiest course to lean upon the charity of others. The unused man, like the unused machine, depreciates with every moment of idleness and in the end becomes fit for nothing but the scrap heap. The body starves, but—worse—the soul perishes! Just here does the fact of employment become transformed from an economic into an out and out religious problem. That men should starve and freeze and wander homeless may or may not be a religious question. But that men should perish morally and spiritually under the stress of involuntary idleness is so obviously a religious question that the church can surely never rest until it is solved.—John Haynes Holmes, Church of Messiah, New York City.

STORE CLOSED

To-morrow at 11-A-M
Friday - La Grande Day
At
Union - Stock - Show

— NK West & Co —
THE QUALITY STORE

WE HAVE BEEN FRIENDS.
We have been friends together,
In sunshine and in shade,
Since first beneath the chestnut trees
In infancy we played.
But coldness dwells within thy heart,
A cloud is on thy brow;
We have been friends together—
Shall a light word part us now?

We have been gay together,
We have laughed at little jests.
For the fount of hope was gushing
Warm and joyous in our breasts.
But laughter now hath fled thy lip
And aullen glooms thy brow.
We have been gay together—
Shall a light word part us now?

We have been sad together,
We have wept with bitter tears
O'er the grass grown graves
Where slumbered
The hopes of early years.
The voices which are silent there
Would bid thee clear thy brow.
We have been sad together—
Oh, what shall part us now?
—Caroline Norton.

PRESIDENT'S POLICIES.

The interests of the American citizen will be amply protected wherever he goes. And in saying that I am only saying what the president himself has said, and it could not be said any stronger.

Our foreign trade will be stimulated not only in the orient, but in South America, by the new law which permits banks here to establish branches throughout the world. By that new act the president has accomplished more for the commerce of the world than was ever done by battleships.

He has declared war upon private monopoly, and this means investment of capital that has heretofore been frightened away from industrial fields. If the new policy results in a reduction of the size of corporations that have become overgrown it will mean a larger number of independent and competing enterprises, and this competition will mean a better article at a cheaper price. In proportion as industries rest upon their own merits rather than upon legislative favor, just in that proportion will they be strengthened for successful contest with competing industries throughout the world.—William Jennings Bryan

COMMISSION PROCEEDS.
(Continued from Page 1.)

Sinking fund at \$15.10 discount.

The Water Supt. spent \$38.00 repairing meters, \$11.00 for taps, \$27.50 on laying a line on Balm St., \$2.75 installing the drinking fountain at the post office, \$2.75 for a man and \$5.00 for a team to repair B. C. P. L. on Rose-bud Flat, where the Grande Ronde Lumber company has a tap.

The Recorder received \$18.00 fines in 4 cases, \$4.00 pound fees, \$2.00 dog tax. He drew a warrant on the General Fund for \$18.92 freight and express and \$1.95 on Water Fund.

The Street Supt. bought \$62.71 cross-walk and side-walk lumber. He spent \$67.50 cleaning streets and \$62.50 on repairs and construction. Some 1,500 feet of the lumber were used on cross walks, and 500 on sidewalks on Spruce Street, Greenwood, Adams and Second Streets were scraped or graded with grader. We will soon have to begin the summer schedule of sprinkling streets.

The drainage on O and 8th streets is poor. The plans contemplate taking the water to N Ave. If walks and curb were in form on O and N Ave.,

a catch basin could be constructed on N to drain the water. The recent rains have shown the sanitary sewer system south of Adams Ave. insufficient to care for storm drainage. Also if more streets south of Washington were paved some system of surface or storm water drainage must be devised and installed. There is further inquiry for sewers on the hill around the Court House.

The police arrested 13, turned 3 over to the state, three were given chance to leave town, 2 served time, one in jail, one released and 2 escaped. Fines \$18.00. Pound fees amounting to \$4.00 were collected. One dog is in the pound. A dog showing symptoms of rabies was killed by the police and owners, whose dogs were bitten, were asked to muzzle their dogs. The ordinance requiring dogs to be muzzled June 15th to Sept. 15th had better be strictly enforced.

You can't cover blackheads, pimples, red spots on the face with powder; they're bound to be seen—don't worry or spoil your temper, take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea each week—twice banish them thru the blood, the only sure way. 35c. Red Cross Drug Store.

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Special Club Pressing Rates.

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1113 Adams Ave. La Grande, Oregon

La Grande National Bank

Organized in 1887.

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

Capital\$100,000.00
Surplus\$140,000.00
Total Resources\$1,000,000.00

For twenty years, in all kinds of financial weather, we have successfully catered to the monetary wants of the people of La Grande and the Grand Ronde Valley.

We respectfully solicit your business.

La Grande National Bank

La Grande, Oregon

When A Man Wants
To Make a Quick Sale
He Puts an Observer Want Ad To
Work For Him

One cent a word puts your ad. in the Observer want column, and the Observer want columns place your ad. in the homes of Union and Wallowa Counties