

THE OBSERVER

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THE LATCH STRING IS OUT.

At every shop door, at the portal of every residence—humble or elegant—hang today in plain view and ready for use, the latchstrings of welcome of a happy, prosperous people to a substantial set of Oregon's citizenship—her merchants. La Grande has, in the past year, entertained a score of different kinds of associations, but has rated the coming of the merchants the greatest of them all. It is well that it is thus. The hard-working merchant who deals in narrow margins and suffers losses to many walks of life unknown, is the bulwark of Oregon's citizenship. The merchant is the man who helps build churches, schools, public enterprise and municipal reputation. He is the most abused and the most severely cussed individual of any line of trade; he extends more credit than any other profession or business, with perhaps the exception of the doctor. To be a successful merchant requires a complex, solid character makeup—and none but successful merchants stay in the game long. Long live the merchant! May he prosper. More particularly, long live the Oregon merchant.

La Grande hopes that when this convention is over, every visitor will have been well entertained, well fed, well housed and well satisfied with his visit. That is our wish, visitors; help yourself to what amusement there may be; may you learn something useful to your own business from the addresses and discussions in convention assembled, and may La Grande and you, each of you, be warm personal friends for ever and ever.

DANCING AND HEALTH.

At last, after months of adverse criticism, something good has been found in the modern dances. It has been proved that dancing the maxie makes men strong. It gives them the exercise they need and will benefit the race. Of course this conclusion is reached by a friend of the dance and not by one of its enemies, but fair-minded people like to consider both sides of every proposition.

In a single maxie, it has been proved that the masculine partner

supports three-quarters of his partner about 25 times and making the average weight of the girl 100 pounds he lifts nearly 2,000 pounds, or a whole ton, in the course of each dance.

A scientist has prepared these figures—a scientist by the way, who likes to dance. By the use of the pedometer, he figures that in dancing the tango five times with the usual number of encores, a man covers four and one-quarter miles. In four hesitation waltzes the pedometer registers only a little over a half mile. During an evening of 20 dances of all sorts a man travels a little over 12 miles.

There is no doubt in the average mind that exercising is a grand good thing and a great many men get exercise by dancing who will never get it any other way. Men who will not get out and run along the road 12 miles will very willingly travel that distance with a charming partner. But unfortunately, the critics of the modern dances see something besides the healthful exercise in them, and the war will doubtless go on indefinitely.

La Grande is just as proud of her visitors today as a toy with new boots. La Grande has resources and her chest swells with just pride when she displays them to a stranger who may pass this way.

The wisdom of the London suffragettes in attacking men as well as pictures may be doubted. There are so many men who cannot be regarded as works of art.

An Iowa pastor has retired from the pulpit to run for congress. It seems sometimes as though those two were about the only occupation Iowa offers.

The difference between an optimist and a pessimist is that the optimist gets interviewed and the pessimist can't even break in to button-hole you.

You have to doff your bonnet to these young live wires who staged the motorcycle meet. But another much neglected hero is the fellow who started but didn't finish.

Well, the age of superstition is past, thank heaven. That is why fortune tellers are making such a mint of money.

We have at last found out what the unwritten law is. It is anything you want to make it.

Here's how!

OLSON WINS RACES.

(Continued from Page 1)

about half the usual amount of springs that a machine is equipped with.

Vehrs, of La Grande, on an Excelsior, was the first man to leave, and the others to start, in the order named, followed in two-minute intervals: Hollister, Tilston of Ontario, who finished fifth; Oliver Wade of Lostine,

who didn't get to Union; Joe Ryner of Baker, who went out with trouble between Union and North Powder; R. Wade of Lostine, who didn't get to Haines; L. G. Olson; Slagle of La Grande; Zob Epenstein on a Yale, riding for the factory, who had trouble between Baker and North Powder but finished; Service of Baker, who got out 10 miles from La Grande; Yaeger of Baker; Geddes of La Grande on a Yale, who made the round trip, but not in money-winning time; Hutchinson of New York, a transcontinental rider, whose machine weakened after leaving Baker, and though he made the round trip, didn't register; Hallgarth of Elgin, who finished, but not in money-taking time; "Red" Williams of Pendleton, whose machine, a Pope, burned up at North Powder, and Meek, on a Jefferson, who went out of the race 10 miles from La Grande on the outgoing trip. All these riders were on Indians, unless otherwise designated.

Hollister overtook and passed Vehrs on the straight road near Union on the out trip, but Olson who started several minutes later than Hollister, didn't overtake the winner of last year's event. He gained slowly with splendid driving. He had absolutely no trouble any where, while Slagle, who took fourth place, broke his chains repeatedly and lost many valuable minutes in that way. Vehrs was a little less than two minutes behind Hollister at North Powder, going, and kept that margin through Haines, Baker and back to North Powder, where he was put out by losing a bolt. He made a splendid race of it. He and Hollister have ridden the course together before, and the friendly rivalry between the two up to that point was keen. The crowd groaned when the report of Vehr's disability reached the grand stand, for it became apparent that the chances for La Grande to win first money was reduced by one. Hollister's safe arrival in La Grande was a signal for a storm of applause that followed him around the track as he did his finishing stunt.

Yaeger of Baker, drove with much the same style that the winners did, and he crowded the veteran Hollister to within 58 seconds for the distance.

He went into a fence and cut his lip a trifle.

Each rider had to circle the track twice after his arrival, and as the worn-out riders made their appearance at the gate, the audience was on its feet with applause and shouts of praise. Almost a continuous stream of humanity was passed by the riders on the route, the towns turning out hundreds to witness the daring sport.

The second successful event has insured for La Grande the greatest motorcycle history of any city in the state, and its future is bright indeed. Showers of praise have been bestowed upon the local management, and upon the riders who entered, even though victory perched not on the shoulders of all.

Two Races Saturday Fast.

Saturday, the preliminaries developed two sensational races. One between Simmons and Rose in the first race, and the second in a special three-mile event. Simmons won both by a hair's breadth. In the first heat of the first race, his Jefferson had gas troubles and it was not until the fourth mile that he hit his gait properly. He pulled up on Rose, on an Excelsior, and won by a length. In the second heat of the first race, Rice, a local rider, won over Zob Epenstein, professional. All these four qualified for the Sunday races.

In the second race, for local riders only, Vehrs, on an Excelsior, won over Harris (Indian) in the first heat, and Bullis (Indian) beat Rice in the second heat.

An exhibition between Simmons and Rose, three miles, was perhaps the feature race of Saturday. For the three miles daylight didn't appear between the machines, except on the turns, when the riders saw-sawed for positions. Rose skidded on the last turn and Simmons crossed the flag line a winner by five feet. The time was 3:59 4-5.

The other races on Saturday included the track record efforts, where riders went alone. Both Saturday and Sunday marks counted in this event.

The five-mile professional race on Sunday lacked the sensational features of Saturday. Rose was handicapped early by the breaking of five spokes, and Simmons and his wonderful Jefferson had the race won early in the contest. The time was 6:39.

The three-mile race for local 4-h. p. machines was a fairly good race, with Rice on an Excelsior, winning by three-fourths of a lap, in 4:18 1-2.

Track Records Good.

Simmons and Rose tested out their track record speed in good shape, the former winning the record with a mark of 1:14 1-5. Simmons tried

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three flying starts before he got to going to set the mark he did. Rose got away for a good start in the track contest but his time was knocked awry by a bad skid on the last turn. The bicycle race for boys under 14 was won by Frank Thomas in good time—a half mile, with seven starters.

The ten-mile race for professionals was the feature track event of the day. Rose and Simmons did much the same thing as the day before. Simmons would pass Rose by a length on the south turn, and visa versa on the north turn. The result was the men ran the straight straight-

aways neck and neck lap after lap. During the 20 laps the riders were never over 10 feet apart. As the race drew to a close, a fascinated, interested excited band of people stood on their toes cheering the splendid nerve and daring displayed by both riders. The event was worth a whole lot of any man's money—if that man enjoys having his blood tingle.

For an Impaired Appetite.

To improve the appetite and strengthen the digestion try a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets. Mr. J. H. Seitz, of Detroit, Mich., says: "They restored my appetite when impaired, relieved me of a bloated feel-

ing and caused a pleasant and satisfactory movement of the bowels." For sale by all dealers.

NICELY FURNISHED front rooms, housekeeping, 1311 8th and O Ave. Phone Black 822. 6-22-tr.

- AUTO OWNERS ATTENTION. All owners of machines who have not signed up to take the trip with the merchants Wednesday morning, phone or call Chas. H. Reynolds, at the SECURITY LAND & SAVINGS CO., 50 more machines needed.

Brand New House

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This property has just been completed. It is located on corner Second and N Ave., on the Hill. It is just seven blocks from the center of town, the business district, three blocks from the Central or High School buildings, and occupies a good view of the city and valley. A cement walk is now being built from Fourth street, which will add to the convenience of the location.

THE PROPERTY IS ENTIRELY FREE FROM ENCUMBRANCES, AND OWNER IS ANXIOUS TO SELL.

The price is \$2700 and owner will take as little as \$200 down and \$30 per month, including interest.

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