THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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THEY WON'T GIVE IT UP.

This talk about taking political patronage away from the United States senate will not get very far if the senate members have their way about the matter. However, in support of such a new departure a journal of national standing recently commented as follows:

Evidently the senate will never give up its patronage without a fight. Whatever political differences may divide that august body, it stands unitedly for the principle that the Federal offices in any state are a perquisite of that state's senators — so many pawns to be used for the furtherance of their personal fortunes.

Over incidental matters, like the tariff or trust regulation, Republican may thunder at Democrat, and radical glower at conservative; but when it comes to the basic principle that the jobs belong to the senator there is no division.

That treating public offices as plums to be distributed among a senator's faithful followers gets us inefficient public service, goes without saying.

Some day, at an auspicious juncture a President will lock horns with the senate over that proposition and fight the question out. That the President will win his fight is quite certain.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE PRESS.

The world also harvested a bumper crop of trouble in 1914.—Indianapolis Star.

Why don't Mexican ex-Presidents mobilize and carry everything before them?—Washington Post.

Many towns in East Prussia are renaming streets for General von Hindenburg. The streets also go both ways.—New York World.

The pessimistically inclined who have been crying that Christianity is a failure might wait until it has been tried.—Washington Post.

The trouble with Colonel Bryan's overtures of peace is that the other nations do not seem to be able to catch the tune.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

Employed American pacifists might keep in practice by attempting to settle the patronage war in the Senate.—New Orleans Times-Picayune.

The instruction in the Phillipines seems to have been a good deal easier to suppress that the recent insurrection in Colorado.—Springfield Republican.

We congratulate the Germans on the fact that in the preparation of defenses their soldiers are considerably more expert than their diplomats.—Boston Transcript.

As an evidence of the fact that the Germans have a highly developed sense of humor, there is the physician who told the Kaiser to lead a quiet life.—Nashville Southern Lumberman.

The Wise Guy's Dictionary.

Reub. A mun who owns 240 acres of farm land valued at about $200 an acre.

Jay. A man who owns a 1915 automobile.

Country Jake. A man whose home is equipped with gas-lights, hot and cold running water, bath rooms and hot water heating plant.

Yap. A man whose son is leading his class at the University.

Hick. A man whose signature is good for $10,000 at any bank in the county.

Boob. A man whose daughter finds herself worth $25,000 when the will is read.

Simp. A man, to corral whose vote the congressman tramps over forty acres of plowed land.

Wise Guy. A city chap with about 30 cents in his pocket, who uses the above terms.

Melba's Pullman Porter Critic.

One American experience recurs to me at the moment. I had been appearing in "Faust," at Washington, and, getting into the train after the performance rather tired, was not unnaturally annoyed at finding my stateroom unprepared. I called the colored attendant, who kept me waiting a long time before he condescended to appear. "Why is my berth not ready?" I began.

He looked me up and down indifferently.

"I saw you play Margaret (Marguerite) this mornin'," he said defiantly "an' I thought you weren't a bit o' good. You'll hev to wait. But Plankon (Plancon) was fine," he added as an afterthought.

Two years afterward I received a letter from this same ebony critic. "I heard you last night as Manon Lescaut," it ran, "and it was real fine. You beat the band. I take it all back."—Mme. Melba in Strand Magazine.

England's Great Little River.

One could hardly fancy an England without the Thames. It is the source the inspiration, the participant, in so much that distinguishes England's sylvan beauty. In the centuries that have lived upon its banks it has been a potent factor in the civilization of this island kingdom. It cuts in twain and laves the burliest city in all the world, a dark mass of human structure impenetrably profound. It rides a vast commerce from London to the sea, and along its jutting wharves nights are often made darker with its tragedies. Years agone kings and princes and the fairest women in the land rode upon its tide in functions of state or in the idle pose of pleasure. Those were the days of the garlanded barge or the hooded galley foist which, gliding stealthily beneath the Tower portcullis, lost another noble to the world of politics and intrigue.—From "In Thamesland."

Misfit Tails.

It was Robert's first visit to the zoo.

"What do you think of the animals?" inquired Uncle Ben.

After a critical inspection of the exhibit the boy replied:

"I think the kangaroo and the elephant should change tails."—Youngstown Telegram.

That Held Him.

Wife—Henry, you need a rest. Let us go to Bongtong Springs. Hub—That place! Why, it's only fit for women and fools. Wife—I know it. Let's go there together.—Boston Transcript.

Athletic.

"I don't think," said an old lady, "that bookkeeping is a very sedative employment. There must be so much exercise in running up the columns."

Secrets.

A man can keep the secret of another better than his own. A woman, on the contrary, keeps her own better than that of another.—La Bruyere.

EARTHQUAKE IS LOCATED

An Explosion of Dynamite Causes Considerable Excitement.

There is an old saying that "Great oaks from little acorn, grow, says the Elgin Recorder. True, but this style of growth is now out of date and belongs to the old stage coach days. Nowadays a story with a kernel of truth no bigger than an acorn will product a story as big, comparatively, as the mighty oak, but its growth is measured by minutes, where the oak takes years.

As an illustration. On the Meade Elliott place near Elgin was a 50-pound case of stumping powder which had been standing for about three years. J. E. Cox had been employed to do some blasting, but this box of powder did not look good to him and he declined to use it. He was then requested to get rid of it in some way, so last Sunday morning he took the box out behind a large hill near the Elliott home, and with the aid of a long fuse and a match, touched it off to see if it was still alive. It was. The resulting explosion was heard and felt all over this end of the county.

Whistler as a Courtier.

Most of the stories of Whistler are rather "waspish," but one recalls a story that shows him in the light rather of a graceful courtier.

It happened that the then Prince of Wales paid a visit to an exhibition of pictures that was held by an art society of which Whistler was the president. Whistler received the prince at the door, and as they entered the gallery his royal highness asked:

"What is the history of your society, Mr. Whistler?"

"Sir," replied the artist with a courtly bow, "its history begins today."

Noah and the Animals.

Few people will say that Noah took more than two of each kind of animal and fowl into the ark, yet here is the Bible on the subject (Genesis vii, 2): "Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens the male and his female and of beasts that are not clean by two—the male and his female!" (Genesis vii, 8: "Of fowls also of the air by sevens—the male and the female to keep seed alive upon the face of the earth."

Cellar Champion.

A seven-year-old boy coming from school one day informed his mother that half his class had been promoted. His mother asked him whether he had been one of the number.

"No," said he, "and I'm glad I'm not 'cause I'm the smartest one left."—New York Post.

Druggist in Weston.

C. D. Putnam, proprietor of Hill's Drug store, has gone to Weston to spend a few days on business.

ADDITIONAL SOCIETY.

Mr. and Mrs. Delile Green entertained the Sans Souci club Wednesday evening. Mrs. John Thiesen won high score and the honors that went with it. Next week the afternoon division will convene with Mrs. John Thiesen as hostess.

Wm. McCarty of this city, who a few months ago purchased the business of the Dacres hotel at Walla Walla, last week sold to J. E. Foley of La Grande and retired.—Baker Democrat.

Mrs. T. N. Murphy was hostess-general for the Auction club Thursday. At cards, Mrs. M. B. Donohue scored highest and won the handsome prize.

Miss Belle McMillan of Portland, is in the city to spend a few weeks at the home of her brother, Dr. W. D. McMillan.

17th Annual Clearance Sale

Every Article in the Store Reduced

Entire Line Women's Dresses Now . . . . ½ Price
" " " Skirts " . . . . ½ Price
Any Women's Suit in the Store Now $7.98
" " Coat " " " " $6.98
Girls Wash Dresses. Sizes 10 to 16 yrs. values to $3.50. Suitable for school wear . . 39c
One lot Misses' Coats sizes 12 to 17 yrs. values to $15.00, Good styles now . . . $1.98
Values to $12.50 Women's Mackinaw Coats now $3.98
Entire Line Men's Overcoats now 33⅓% off
One lot Men's Overcoats values to $17.50 "Kenreign" make. Stylish Coats see them . $4.98
Entire Line Men's Sweaters now . . . 33⅓% off
" " " Suits Reduced . . . 25%
" " " Boys' Clothing Reduced . " "

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HOT LAKE WEDDINGS MANY

Several Couples Have Been Married During the Week at Sanatorium

Hot Lake, Jan. 23—(Special)—It may be one of many reasons. It may be something in the wind down there. It may be Charley's King's daily rendition of the "Sympathy" waltz or "I Hear You Calling Me" so melodiously sang by the genial medico-manager of the sanatorium, but there is no doubt that a wave of hymenal intensity is prevalent at the popular health resort. Last week it was Oliver Dasch, the courteous day clerk who journeyed to La Grande with pretty Kathleen Murphy of the catering department and took her back to the Springs as Mrs. Oliver Dasch. Yesterday F. J. Richardson, the indefatiguable storekeeper, and generous dispenser of "Ot Wat" took a notion that nurse Blanche Harris of the institution, would be happier as Mrs. Richardson. In the same frame of mind the couple traveled to Baker yesterday and returned "home" after obtaining a license at Dan Cupid's office in that city.

Today they are recipients of congratulations and best wishes from the many guests now registered at Hot Lake, as well as the numerous staff employed there. And yet the end is not in sight for at times and in divers places is to be heard a plaintive tenor voice warbling a late popular song, "There's a Garden in Sweden, in dear Old Sweden
Where every kind of Posey gro—ows.
And my Garden in Sweden would be just like Eden
If you were there, my American beauty rose."

Charley King is contemplating working overtime, practicing "The Spring Song" for this event which will be special.

We'll Send It.

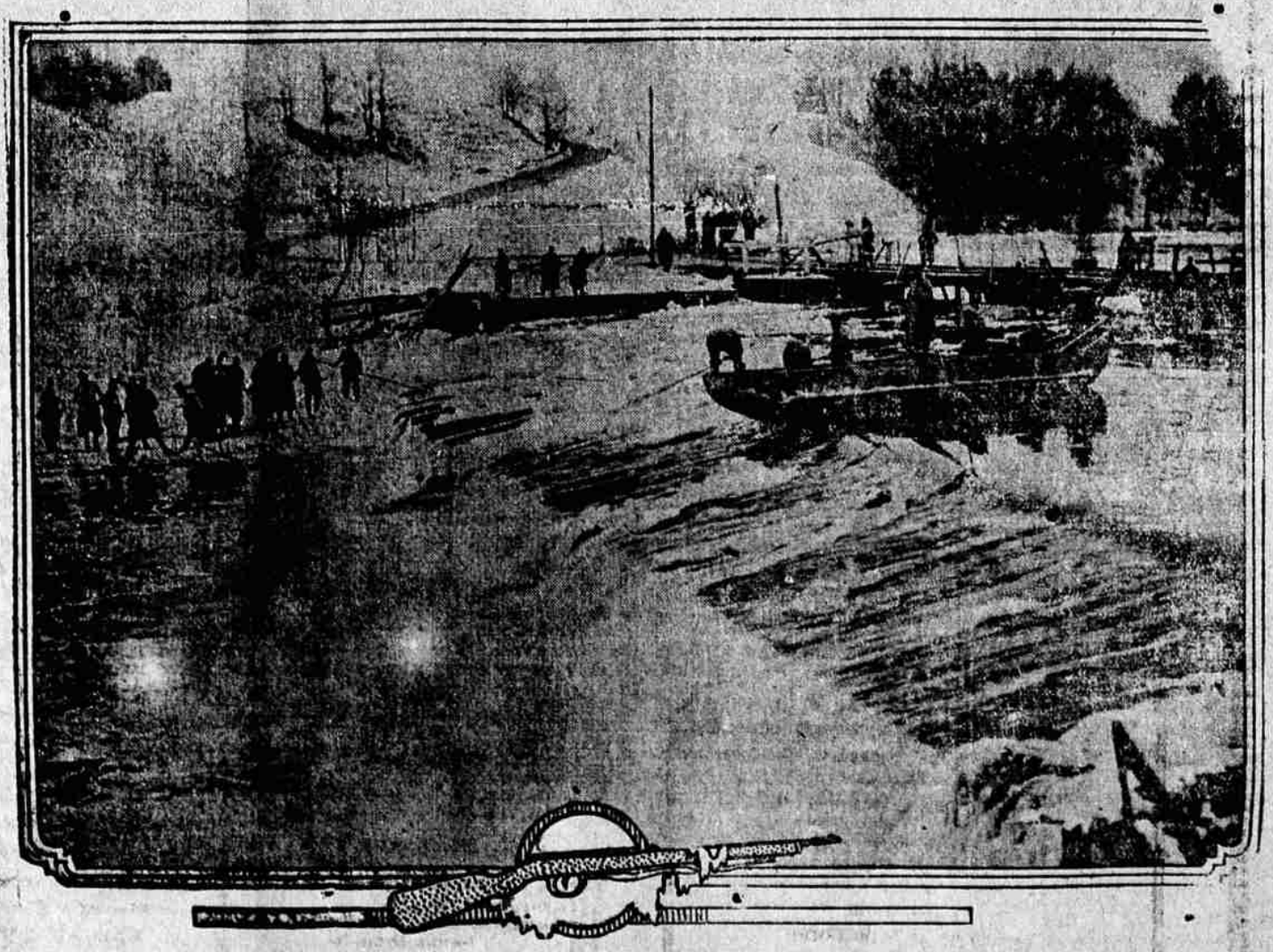
—anything you may need from a drug store—promptly and without extra charge. Our phone is Main 87. Goods will be at your door in a few minutes. Try us.

Newlin Drug Co.

—Adv. 1 22 3t

LOST OR STRAYED—White Yearling steer, branded "G-5" on left hip Two slits in right ear.—Reward. G. G. Tall.. d 1 23 2tp.

GERMANS BREAKING ICE ON RIVER ANGERAPP TO KEEP RUSSIANS FROM CROSSING.



This is war in the winter where the thermometer is far below zero. The photograph shows German soldiers breaking the ice of the Angerapp river in east Prussia, near Kisselen, to keep the Russians from crossing in it. At one of the falls of the river there had been a jam of ice which would have made it possible for them to take their cannon and cavalry across when they came up. In the face of the approaching Russians the Germans stopped long enough to break the ice. It would take a day or more to freeze sufficiently for the Russians to cross and then the Germans could retreat to a safe distance.

LA GRANDE NATIONAL BANK

Capital $200,000.00 Resources $1,000,000.00
Surplus $50,000.00

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F. L. Meyers, Cashier
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What This Bank Aims to Do

To promote our customers' interests as we would our own;

To do all we can to make their relations here profitable and agreeable to them;

To contribute to their enterprises, the co-operation, foresight and timely assistance which a good Bank can properly bestow.