

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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LAST FIGHT OF THE DRESDEN

One by one German cruisers afloat on the high seas at the beginning of the war are being rounded up and dispatched to Davy Jones locker. The Dresden is a late victim of the British admiral's long arm, the German cruiser going down before superior weight and numbers off Juan Fernandez island in the south Pacific.

The Dresden tasted the delights of victory and the dregs of defeat. Twice she rounded the tip of the southern continent. On the first journey she steamed from the West Indies southward, sinking merchantmen enroute, timing at the rendezvous upon the Chilean coast where five German vessels met to form Von Spee's gallant squadron.

With four other ships the Dresden aided in the defeat of Craddock's squadron and then ran into the heavy British fleet off the Falklands. Of that brilliant encounter the light cruiser was the sole German ship to escape. Fleeing around the Horn again she cruised along the stormy coast of South Chile. Hunted and without a haven she came at last to her doom not far from Robinson Crusoe's isle.

Thus ends a record which for high lights and shadows eclipses the record of the Emden, a sister ship of the Dresden's. The Emden sunk plenty of merchantmen, but took part in no battles on a part with those which the Dresden passed through. It is easy to foresee that the Dresden will stir the imagination of the youth of Germany as long as that nation endures.

Warden Tynen of Colorado penitentiary reports that after six years' trial, the honor system of working convicts showed that men under duress are improved by the application of faith. He declares that 80 per cent of the men so trusted make good and that no convict placed upon his honor ever committed a crime, or misdemeanor. The warden bases his belief that the system will be made permanent in Colorado upon the following results of the experiment: Colorado convicts support themselves and give the state \$100,000 a year additional. They have in six years built 356 miles of the finest roads in the west.

principally mountain highways many of which are blasted through solid rock. They have practically rebuilt the penitentiary. They have erected eight buildings with a value of \$300,000 at a cost of but \$50,000. Also they have brought to a high degree of productivity 1,700 acres of farming land that was formerly desert.

Of 2,825 convicts sent out through the state, unguarded, only 130 broke faith with him. No convict on honor ever committed a crime or misdemeanor. No community in which convicts have been quartered has ever suffered annoyance as a result.

Tynan's trial of honor system is an adventure of faith. That it has succeeded so well is bracing to those altruists who believe in the potential decency of humanity. Such cling to the old fashioned notion that every human being is the custodian of an immortal soul which may be quickened and inspired by friendliness, trust and sympathy. They would consider the honor system worth while even if it cost money, but dividend statistics are joyfully received the ammunition by which more practical persons can be brought to agree with them.

Of course Tynan of Colorado did not discover the honor system. Every sensible warden in the country has been using it to some extent for years. But Tynan by making it a general policy instead of an exception has taken a forward step of importance.

One of the hardest parts of the officer's life in the war zone nowadays is lugging around the medals conferred on him by a grateful country.

Though there seems to be a lull along the great European battle front is doubtless would still be unwise to saunter between the trenches looking for four leaf clovers.

Old Doc Wiley announces that women may be kissed on the cheek without the slightest danger. Which doesn't interest some of the dare-devils at all.

Certainly the rulers of Europe should not be inaccessible to Miss Jane Adams, the dowager queen of the Progressive party.

Philadelphia is building a new race track. Evidently Billy Sunday didn't save the old town, after all.

New York complains of lack of fenders on its street cars. Perhaps, but there are plenty of offenders.

The wise girl is the one who examines the bonds of matrimony to see if they are coupon bearing.

A fish lays 7,000,000 eggs a year. Why not keep a fish instead of a lot of hens, friend neighbor?

INDEX OF ADVANCING TIDE OF PROSPERITY

The Philadelphia Public Ledger of May 5, says: The sale of \$65,000,000 general mortgage 4 1-2 per cent 50-year bonds by the Pennsylvania railroad, which it had been understood recently was under negotiation, was concluded and officially announced yesterday.

There is not a man in Wall Street who honestly believes that he will live to again see conditions in this country similar to those existing from the beginning of last August to the close of the year. On the other hand, many big men like Jacob H. Schiff believe firmly that the country is now face to face with a period of unprecedented prosperity. If these predictions materialize, Pennsylvania with its 5 per cent increase in freight rate, will give a good account of itself. Any one who has any doubts about that subject will find it profitable to study the trend of gross earnings on the Pennsylvania since the figures can be obtained without any trouble.

Bankers in close touch with the bond situation stated today privately that a number of other railroad loans were pending and that the new money would be used largely for improvements and betterments.

HOW TO SAVE MONEY IN CO-OPERATION

(By John M. Oskison.) It isn't hard where many workers are associated, to put into use plans for saving money. The varieties of such co-operative efforts are amazing in number.

In a recent week I came upon mention of four that are flourishing one in the country's biggest trust company, and two in big printing and publishing houses.

Nearly every employe of the hundreds in the trust company is a member of the club whose primary object is to have a committee of five, chosen from various departments, to run this club; it takes charge of and invests the savings for members which are turned into the club treasurer. Members in the draw savings on giving 30 days notice; and interest months.

In one of the publishing houses I mentioned, 78 per cent of the employe have agreed to save certain definite sums weekly for investment in the preferred stock of the company. The company cashier is authorized to deduct the amount from the pay envelope.

In the other printing house what is saved by the members of a thrift association is deposited in a savings bank until a sum sufficient to buy a good bond is accumulated. This association's object is to offer to the workers "a safe and convenient depository for their weekly or monthly savings, and to secure for them a reasonable rate of interest thereon."

The flour milling company early last winter gave to each of 700 employe a check for \$25, good only when deposited in a savings bank. Then the company made this further offer:

"If you continue in our employ until November 1915, bring your savings bank book to us. We will then give you a check for half the net increase in your bank balance in excess of the original \$25. In no case will the amount paid under the arrangement exceed \$25."

FOREST SERVICE TESTS

The Forest Service Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin, has just completed a series of preliminary tests of wood preservatives, the result of which have been published in a Department (of Agriculture) Bulletin, No. 145.

When it was announced that these tests would be conducted by-products of all kinds were sent to the Laboratory for testing, the condensed fumes of smelters, the waste liquors of pulp plants, the refuse of tanneries, the skimmed milk of creameries, and a miscellaneous assortment of compounds. The desire was to find how many of these various compounds and chemicals were really valuable as wood preservatives. Only those which showed some promise were admitted to test.

The tests aimed to bring out the important physical and chemical properties of the preservative, its effect on the strength of the wood, its permanency, its ability to penetrate, the combustibility of the wood, the effect of the preservative on paint, and so forth. It was found that the preserving oils had no appreciable weakening effect upon the wood, although water-soluble preservatives did cause some slight weakening. The creosote and oil preservatives were satisfactorily penetrative, while wood-tar was very difficult to force into the wood. Viscous or sticky oils did not penetrate the wood readily unless both wood and preservative were well heated during the process. Woods treated with oils ignited at lower temperature than those treated with water-soluble salts. Oil treatment rendered the wood unfit for subsequent painting, but water-soluble salts caused no discoloration of the painted surface.

It was known that 60 per cent of the cost of treating wood was due to the preservative alone. Tests had shown that half a pound of coal-tar creosote to a cubic foot of wood was sufficient to prevent fungous decay; yet it was common practice to inject from 5 to 10 pounds of the preservative to the cubic foot of wood. In fact, from ten to twenty times as much creosote is used as is theoretically required. It is hoped that a continuation of these tests will bring out data that will safely reduce the amount.

The results secured from these experiments may be changed by subsequent tests, for the field is a new one. Every possible precaution, however, has been taken to avoid errors. In fact, sweeping conclusions cannot be drawn as yet from the data brought out by these first tests; yet they will serve as a foundation for a study of the most efficient use of wood preservatives.

JUST THE ONE UNIT OF WOE.

(Portland Telegram) Touching the greater burden which war imposes upon the woman, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw eloquently visualizes the one unit of woe—the one slaughtered son on the field of blood. Dr. Shaw was speaking at Pittsburgh and turned her attention to some of the scoffing comments upon the peace gathering of women at The Hague; particularly that which takes the form of the query: "What do women know about war?" Dr. Shaw had read a newspaper headline which ran: "Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dead," and she made that serve as a text for her answer to the question.

"I can visualize one dead man," said this eminent woman, "his white face upturned on a battlefield, and I can think back to some woman in his native country. Twenty years of her life she has given to produce that soldier; twenty years of toil and weariness, and sometimes of anguish to bring him to manhood, and he is the realization of her womanly ambitions. And he lies dead. Multiply the grief of that one mother by 250,000 and you may conceive the significance of the ravages of war in terms of human suffering. Then ask, if you will, what women know about war!"

Sacrifice Sale Entire Stock Women's COATS AND SUITS Big Saving Opportunities With 5 Months of Seasonable Wear Ahead

Strictly New Models in Women's and Misses' Handsome Suits Regular \$22.50 Values at \$16.90 and all others at proportionate reductions. Exclusive, distinctive, one-of-a-kind styles. Not one left from last season. Our entire regular stock included at strikingly reduced prices. Choose at once, because only about 29 of these new, extra fine, stylish suits left.

The Smartest, Newest Model in Women's and Misses' Stunning Coats "Only \$8.65 for that coat, and only \$11.25 for this charming, new, stylish one—Oh, and this \$25.00 high grade silk coat at only \$18.75—so early in the season too, and everyone so new," is just a sample of the many exclamations from coat customers when they see the genuine reductions now on every coat in the store. And no wonder, when every coat is new this season and were previously moderately priced.

This Stunning New Shoe Just Arrived In all black or new sand colored cloth top; short vamps, Louis heel, patent leather quarter, and light weight welt soles; an extremely modish, neat dress shoe for all occasions; here in all sizes and widths, from AA to E. All black priced at \$4.00, and new sand color tops, \$4.50; new short vamp, plain toe, patent leather shoe, cloth top, for misses, priced \$3.50.

Washable Kid Gloves New tan dress gloves that will wash, priced \$1.50, white gloves with black stripes on back of hand, priced \$1.50. New Challies We are now showing several new patterns in wool or half-wool challies—very beautiful for dresses or waists, priced 35c, 50c, 60c yard. Pongee Silks Natural lustre, good weight, 34 inches wide; extra value at 50c yard.

LA GRANDE NATIONAL BANK Capital \$200,000.00 Resources \$1,000,000.00 Surplus \$50,000.00 OFFICERS:— Fred J. Holmes, President C. C. Penington, V.-Pres. F. L. Meyers, Cashier Earl Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Ass't Cashiers DIRECTORS: Fred J. Holmes A. T. Hill H. E. Coolidge C. C. Penington J. F. Conley A. Blockland F. L. Meyers J. G. Snodgrass H. S. Brownton 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.

Churches to Advertise (Editorial from the Chicago "American") It was rather startling to hear from Talcott Williams, director of the School of Journalism in Columbia College, that the success of the Billy Sunday revival in Philadelphia was due to an advertising campaign by the churches of that city. The appointment of a committee of ministers to arrange a program of advertising for Chicago churches, in consequence of this address, indicates that the churches have awakened to the necessity of modern methods. Perhaps this is the answer to the question that has been so often asked of recent years. "Why has church attendance fallen off?" England, confronted with the necessity of raising an army of more than a million men resorted to advertisement to get them—and averted the terrifying expedient of conscription. If patriotism can be stirred by advertisement there is no reason that religion should be squeamish at employing the same method. It is a simple recognition of a change in habits of thought. Everybody reads the newspapers. The advertisements jog their preception in regard to what they need, whether it is an automobile a carpet sweeper or salvation—and they go where what they want is to be had. Southern R. R. Directors New York, May 14.—The Wisconsin Association of Modern Foreign Language Teachers, which was successfully launched at Madison in May, 1914, opened its second annual meeting here this afternoon. The keynote of the program will be the contribution of modern language study in making to American education. This will be discussed in two main papers, one dealing with the ethical, technical side, the other with the ethical, cultural side. FARM LOANS Reasonable Rates SECURITY LAND & SAVINGS COMPANY La Grande, Oregon ACCURATE WEIGHTS AND THE PRICE registered before you. Try some of our sausage, made by an expert Swiss sausage maker. SATURDAY SPECIALS: Sugar cured HAMS 18c Sugar cured Shoulders 12 1-2c Compound, made from choice beef tallow and cottonseed oil, per pound 10c Grande Ronde Meat Co.