

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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BIRDS AN ECONOMIC FACTOR.

One quail will destroy 75,000 bugs and 6,000,000,000 weed seeds annually, according to Mrs. Margaret M. Nice of the Massachusetts state university.

Cotton growers lost \$100,000,000 a year because hunters slaughter by the thousand the quail, prairie chickens, meadow larks and other birds which destroy the boll weevil.

If the destruction of bug eating birds could be prevented \$1,000,000,000 a year would be saved to this country, says Col. G. O. Shields, president of the League of American sportsmen.

Bird appreciation, the study of bird songs, and "hunting with an opera glass," are popular sport with college girls and women. A good deal of time is given to bird study in the public schools.

But the average boy and thoughtless hunter who carries a loaded gun into the woods seldom responds with any enthusiasm to the aesthetic appeal of birdology.

They might, however, learn to respect birds as a considerable economic value to agriculture, if they received frequent lessons in figures such as those quoted above.

Automobiles have been found to be very useful in the European war, but when it comes to scaling a mountain, they are not there with 100 per cent efficiency.

OREGON WEEKLY INDUSTRIAL REVIEW.

Salem, Ore., Dec. 27.—Work will be started at once on new road down the Umatilla river from Pendleton to Pilot Rock Junction, cost \$20,000.

It is planned to oil roads around Echo.

Steam and electric roads in Oregon in 1915 paid \$2,200,688.27 taxes and operating revenues fell off \$1,177,430. Oregon corn acreage nearly doubled during the year, largely due to educational campaign of O. W. R. & N. company.

Standard Oil Co. will build tank at Stanfield.

Eugene sends dried loganberries east for Christmas gifts.

Reedport gives lumber company 75 acres of land for factory site and water frontage on condition it will bring mill of 125,000 feet capacity and operate for 15 years.

O. W. R. & N. will spend \$400,000 lining St. Johns tunnel with concrete. Portland's tax is \$25.40 on the \$1000.

Newport—Signal-Review plant sold to H. G. Guild, owner Toledo Sentinel. Columbia River & Nehalem Logging railroad running to capacity.

Pendleton building a country club for 100 members.

Portland's new Franklin high school will cost \$600,000, have seven buildings and 200 students. It will have a complete agricultural college course.

County road to be built from Newport to Yaquina.

Tax commission announces that taxes for 1916 will be about 15 per cent lower.

State tax levy on 1915 valuation is reduced \$562,000.

Citizens of North Bend voted to amend charter extending franchise of Southern Pacific Co., from 35 to 60 years.

Union Pacific system to spend \$1,560,000 on Oregon lines in 1916.

Portland Chamber of Commerce making fight to have all Douglas fir

and Oregon Stone used on new million dollar postoffice.

Sutherlin getting new two-story brick building.

Roseburg—Kendall, Pittsburg capitalist, returns in January to take up work on railroad and sawmill. Some right of way has been secured.

St. Helens industries in full blast employ 90 men in shipyards, 30 in crosscutting plant, 150 in two sawmills, and 50 in two road metal plants.

Facts About Well Known People.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—Joseph P. Tumulty, Secretary to President Wilson, has, among sundry other accomplishments, those of being a linguist and a mimic of exceptional ability. He speaks Italian fluently, also several other languages. In "taking off" men in every walk of life, prominent and otherwise, he affords friends and callers vast amusement.

South America Likes New Policy.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Latin-America likes the United States' new Pan-American policy. Definite assurances of this were given today as the representatives of 20 American Republics responded to the welcome Vice-President Marshall and Secretary Lansing extended to the second Pan-American Scientific conference. Both speakers emphasized the new policy of non-interference in the affairs of other American nations. The object of the conference is to bring about closer co-operation in Pan-American relations in solving transportation, financial and scientific problems of common interest. President Wilson's recently announced interest in Pan-American matters gave it an unusual importance. Every one of the 21 Republics in the Western hemisphere is represented. Argentine appropriated \$90,000 for its part in the 13-day session. An elaborate series of entertainments for the delegates and their wives has been arranged. Chief of these are the Pan-American reception at the White House, Jan. 7 and a farewell banquet, Jan. 8, both considered diplomatically important.

Pioneer of 1852 Is Dead.

Corvallis, Or., Dec. 23.—John Cummings, who in the pioneer days carried the United States mail between Albany and Eugene, died Tuesday night at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lee Anderson, 15 miles southeast of Corvallis. He was born in Iowa in 1842, crossed the plains when but 10 years old and had been a resident of the Willamette valley for more than 63 years. As a young man he took up a donation land claim and it was on his old homestead where he died, a victim of pneumonia.

He is survived by four children, his wife having died several years ago. The children are Hugh Cummings, of Corvallis; Mrs. Lee Anderson, at whose home he died; George Cummings, of Albany, and Mrs. Geo. Irvine, of Loma, Mont.

Bankers Buy Ranch to Raise Stock.

Lebanon, Or., Dec. 23.—A real estate deal recently closed near this city involves the 418-acre farm generally known as the David Williams place, which was sold to bankers Gray & Gath of Turner, Or., for \$10,000. The new owners are making arrangements for improving the farm. They have let the contract for new buildings and the place will be fenced and converted into a dairy and stock farm. It will be stocked with registered stock and S. L. Hulén has been made foreman of the ranch.

Benton to Have County Farmer.

Corvallis, Or., Dec. 23.—Unless the proposed budget of Benton county expenditures for 1916 shall meet with objection in the very near future, Benton will be listed among the counties of the state employing county agriculturists. Fifteen hundred dollars has been appropriated pending the adoption of the budget. This will be equaled by a like appropriation from the state.

Legal Fight Settled.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 22.—Bringing to an end litigation waged since 1909 affecting nearly 1,000,000 acres of land in the Imperial valley, an agreement was reached here today by representatives of the Imperial Irrigation district, the California Development company and the Southern Pacific company and the New Liverpool Salt company, whereby the claims of the two latter were settled and the way paved for the purchase by the railroad of the development company's property.

The land and irrigation system affected embraces 650,000 acres in Southern California and 300,000 acres in Mexico, just across the international boundary.

Wallowa High School Drama.

The "Black Heifer" given by the high school students Monday evening in the gym had a good and appreciative audience. Each one of the students showed that he had prepared his part and presented the drama in a very satisfactory manner. We are glad to see the townspeople support them as they do.—Wallowa Sun.

Lebanon Library Closed.

Lebanon, Or., Dec. 23.—The public library, maintained for about six years by the local W. C. T. U., has been closed on account of the lack of financial support. A measure, asking the city to take over the library and appropriate \$500 for its maintenance, was submitted to the people at the last city election, but failed to carry.

Society Brand Clothing
CAD & C

4 Great Clothing Lines

That represents the best in tailoring and the last word in style from America's best men's clothes manufacturers. The largest assortment in Oregon this side of Portland. The famous lines of men's suits can only be bought in La Grande at the N. K. West store.

"Society Brand" -- "Benjamin"
 "Hirsch Wickwire" -- "Fidelity"

Prices \$15.00 to \$30.00

We sell the famous Kenyon rain coats—all styles; all weights; all prices.

NK West & Co.
 THE QUALITY STORE

Shoot: at the Butte

5 Miles North of Island City

Thursday, Dec. 30th.

Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, Beef

A turkey will be given as a "booby" prize to the poorest record for the day.

C. C. CONRAD

Lunch on Grounds at Noon.

The careful man knows his time is slipping away and his earning power is also slipping away. Your time and earning power are going; put your money in the bank for old age or a rainy day.



BANK YOUR MONEY TODAY.

YOU MUST DO SO TO HAVE IT TO-MORROW.

BANK WITH US.

WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST ON TIME DEPOSITS

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON

Capital \$200,000.00 Surplus \$50,000.00

Resources \$1,000,000.00

Fred J. Holmes, President
 F. L. Meyers, Cashier

C. C. Penington, Vice President
 E. Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Assistant Cashiers.

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Ridgefield Water Found Pure.

Ridgefield, Wash., Dec. 23.—A sample of the drinking water from a well supplying the local schools, sent to the board of health recently, has been analyzed and the statement that it shows no evidence of contamination has been received by the school clerk.

Safety Hooks and Belts for Capital

Salem, Ore., Dec. 23.—Stating that the state house and supreme court building are not equipped with safeguards to protect window climbers, Labor Commissioner Hoff has written a letter to the state board of control calling attention to the law on the subject. He declares that under the law it is incumbent on the board to put hooks on the outside of the buildings to which safety belts may be fastened.

CHRISTMAS SIDELIGHTS.

(Continued From Page One)

ter of the bride, and Cam Caylor were attendants at the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. O'Neal are spending a few days with his brother out in the valley. Both Mr. and Mrs. O'Neal are well and favorably known residents, and the wedding congratulations heaped upon them were extensive. Mr. O'Neal has been connected with leading cigar stores for the past seven or eight years.

Thomas P. Driscoll a traveling salesman, and a graduate of the University of Oregon, was married Christmas day Phyllis Davis, daughter of Mrs. J. Davis, at whose home the wedding took place. Rev. J. J. Tickner D. D. of the Baptist church officiated. After a short wedding tour they will be at home in La Grande after January 1st. The bride is a graduate of the Baker high school.

Perry, Dec. 27.—(Special)—Saturday night the young people gave a Christmas dance as a farewell party for the old year. During this party the Social club was reorganized, the old officers, C. F. Robertson, Harry Hansen and Geo. W. Perry retiring, having served two years. As next year is leap year, the Social club was turned over to the ladies to conduct during the 1916 season. Miss Magdelone Hansen, Mrs. C. F. Robertson and Margaret Davis were elected as officers to take charge of the dances and socials. Their opening Leap Year dance will be held Jan. 1st.

A TEST PROVES THIS TRUE

If you appreciate the importance of getting the best drugs and the economy of getting them at the most reasonable prices, we are sure that the service this store provides will please you.

GOODS ARE RIGHT—PRICES ARE RIGHT
 —SERVICE IS RIGHT.

We wish to build business permanently. We seek the trade of careful buyers. We endeavor to so treat every person who enters our store that they will wish to come again.

No matter what you want in drug store supplies it will pay you to see us. Buying here is sure to mean satisfaction every time and a notable saving in the long run.

La Grande Pharmacy
 A. NEWLIN, Manager

West-Jacobson Building - - - La Grande, Oregon