

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

Entered in the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, a second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, single copy 5c
Daily, per week 35c
Daily, per month 1.00
Daily, per six months in advance 5.50
Daily, per year in advance 10.00
Daily, by mail per year, in advance 11.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year in advance 1.50

Advertising rates on application. Ad copy for display advertising must reach the office the day before the ad appears.

Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

THE NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS.

After all, the business interests of any town have to bear the expense of more newspapers than the town can properly support, and they should have a voice in how many newspapers there should be.—Jefferson Bee.

In the end the business interests decide how many papers there shall be in a town. The business interests of the town include the subscribers to the newspapers. The subscription list is the basis of the newspaper's existence. The advertising is based on the subscription list, and the newspaper list and its advertising. So in the end the business interests control the situation. Certain cases there are where an "angel" supplies the deficit and a newspaper continues to exist as the plaything or tool of some person who is both able and inclined to pay its losses. But that usually grows onerous, except where the paper is subsidized in such a manner that its power of publicity may be commercialized sufficiently to make it to the interests that employ it.

The newspaper field, is like other fields, open. Any one can start a newspaper or a store with sufficient capital or credit. Success is another matter. Poor newspapers are even less a factor in the upbuilding of a community than poor stores. Bad markets, poor trade facilities and cheap newspapers are all in the same classification as community liabilities. One good store and one good buyer of hogs and cattle and grain are vastly better than a half dozen cheap affairs. One good newspaper is a stronger force for town betterment and a better advertisement for the town than two or three or a half dozen struggling, straggling sheets begging for existence.

The merchant, who not many years since favored multiplication of newspapers because he vainly imagined that newspaper competition gave him an advantage knows better now. He understands that his publicity to be had at a central station capable of complete service is to be better service than division of his patronage among several newspapers of limited or duplicated circulation. The subscriber discovers that he gets news more promptly, that he receives quicker and more capable market reports. From beginning to end one newspaper conducted properly is a town asset, whereas three or four are liabilities. It is the difference between a complete city transportation service and a hack service, between a trunk line railway and a tangle of small competing lines.

Newspapering is a business. At one time it was an excuse. When a man failed at everything else he started a newspaper and hung on. He traded advertising for a pair of pants sought due bills, established himself as a sort of privileged mendicant and

was so accepted by the merchants and the community. All that is ancient history. The Iowa country newspapers are in business. They sell and buy. They sue and are sued. They are business enterprises, business propositions equal with other business enterprises and business propositions in their own home town. The plea that the newspaper must be supported as a public charity went out with the "chance press and the box of shingle nails."

Consolidation is the watchword. Wherever one newspaper can be made to bloom where two or three grew in sickly fashion before, the community profits. It is the old blade of grass proverb reversed, but not changed.—Marshalltown, Ia. Times Republican.

Salvationist War-Theology

There are something like 40,000 Salvationists in the British Army, 20,000 of them out-and-outers and 20,000 adherents says the Literary Digest. These figures are furnished to Mr. Harold Begbie by Bramwell Booth, the present head of the Salvation Army. Some are "naturally troubled in their souls by having to kill. One of them mentioned this difficulty and another Salvationist made answer: "Look here, what you have got to do is this: you've got to do your duty to God and King and country. If, in the course of doing that duty, you happen to kill your fellow man that's no affair of yours," Mr. Begbie, who interviewed the head Salvationist for the London Daily Chronicle, reports him as declaring that the war has strengthened the spirit of internationalism, and hence effected the international character of the Salvation Army.

"Throughout the neutral nations there is a fresh enthusiasm for the Army; and in Germany itself the Salvation Army is expressing a renewed loyalty to the international idea. Some of the relief-work in Germany is administered through the Salvation Army, and also the German Government has naturally called up a great number of our German people, still they have left a considerable body of the men whose services in the administration of charity—feeding starving children and so on—are felt to be valuable. In Belgium all our officers, with only two exceptions are at their posts. Meetings are held relief-work is going on; but the meetings are now of a strange character—there is no singing. Those poor people can't summon up enough joy to sing. It moves me to tears."

Mr. Booth's internationalism is perhaps illustrated by his analysis of the causes of the war:

"Wars come about through a certain state of society. It's no use saying Germany wants world-domination. Every nation wants something very much like that. Every nation in its policy affirms the heretical principles of materialism. Almost everybody you meet is descended from some thumping Viking! No, men of all nations, our own as well as others, have forgotten God. They are materialists. They don't believe in the Divine. They are after prosperity, and their only god is Mammon. Nothing can save them but a return to God. Men say that after the war all will be changed, and when you press them you find they are speaking of political changes—Socialism, and the rest. But there's an old saying in the North of Scotland, New best, old rocks. No political changes can bring the millennium. No internationalizing of labor can prevent strikes and wars. What you want in your boat, new or old, is a captain; and unless you have got the Almighty on the bridge you'll go to pieces on the very same rocks which made shipwreck of your former state.

"Oh, but what an opportunity for the churches! It's not a part of my religion to deery other religions, but I can't help feeling that too many of

the churches, instead of using this war as an opportunity to convert men to the religion of Jesus Christ, are only struggling to associate their particular branch of the Church with the patriotism of the moment. I want to see an immense crusade against sin. I want a fiery crusade against national apostasy. I want to see this great nation converted to God."

There are worse things than war according to Mr. Booth, and the world doesn't, as a consequence, speak of them as "evidence against faith in a Supreme Being."

"This war is nothing like so devastating in its effects as the drink-traffic, or prostitution or commercial oppression. Wouldn't you except such a war as this once in every hundred years, horrible as it is, if by so doing you could get rid for ever of the destruction—destruction of bodies and souls, destruction of lands and houses—wrought by drink, prostitution, and swearing? People who accepted without a murmur the atrocious suffering caused by these enemies of the human race suddenly wake up now ask: How can you believe in a God with Christians killing Christians and Europe deluged with blood? Has Christian never killed Christian till now? What nonsense they talk! This war is nothing—nothing compared with the murderous destruction of sin. God does not work like an autocrat in the moral sphere. God is omnipotent; but omnipotence can not make five of two and two, or make a lie a truth. Why does God permit this war? Why does he permit sin? God is not responsible for sin, and he is not responsible for war. Man is responsible. And war is here spreading anguish, destitution, wretchedness and sorrow incalculable, from the very same cause which allows sin to work a worse havoc among the human race.

"Let me give you an idea of the Salvation Army creed by narrating an incident from France. Two ladies sang recently at an entertainment given in one of the huts. They were rather elaborately gowned, and they sang the usual vulgar songs from contemporary comic operas. At the conclusion of the entertainment a young sergeant was called upon to propose a vote of thanks. He fulfilled this duty quite civilly, but added: 'At the same time, I should like to say that many of us would have preferred songs which would have given us something to think about on our way to the front.' To the Salvationist, the singing of songs in the face of death, and in the midst of suffering and pain, is simply unthinkable—Don't people realize that the British Army is largely made up now of men who have enlisted for the highest motives? Would Cromwell's soldiers have fought better if fashionable women had sung comic songs to them?"

SHORT AND SHARP.

Few people are disappointed in love until after marriage.

When we look for trouble it generally comes in an unexpected form.

So swiftly does time move that the jitney bus is already old fashioned.

A man is never too old to learn unless he is too young to realize it.

The man who stands in his own light imagines the whole world is dark.

The best way to forget your own troubles is to think a little of those of others.

When it comes to stepping into a fortune no man objects to putting his foot in it.

No man ever thinks it possible for him to fall before the bait that has trapped the other fellow.

Switzerland has spent \$51,000,000 in maintaining her neutrality and, at that, seems to think she has a fine bargain.

A generous inclination to point out one another's weak spots is still in evidence among the nation's great political parties.

Mrs. Pankhurst at last has found real trouble. Her followers have revolted and are beginning to ask about the funds, etc.

The map making industry is more than ever on the anxious seat on the question of sticking to the old or starting on the new.

Removing a table knife from a Chicago woman's stomach naturally aroused cogitations as to how it got there until the theory was advanced that probably she had thrown it at her husband.

Thugs of India. Among the countless varieties of criminal which infest the large cities you are doubtless familiar with the one commonly designated by the name "thug," a ruffian who would stab a person in the back for a few cents. The name "thug" is derived from the old religious order that flourished in India unmolesed up to about 1836. Thuggee was practiced by religious fanatics, whose creed prohibited the shedding of blood. Any human sacrifice which might be offered to the goddess Kall must be slain without the breaking of the skin or the appearance of one bloodstain. Usually the thugs masqueraded as pilgrims or peddlers, got the confidence of their victims and then strangled them by means of a rope, a handkerchief or an unwound turban. They were then buried in shallow graves, dug with a consecrated pickax, and a third of the plunder was laid on the altar of Kall, their barbaric deity.—St. Louis Globe-Dem.

"SAFETY FIRST"

There's only one "Safety Policy"—that's in buying well known and best known makes of goods—at the N. K. West & Co. Store, you are fully assured of getting the best in wearables that will give the best of satisfaction or give you more wear and value for your money. The West Store picks from the best manufacturers of the country—everything is new and of that desirable quality which characterizes this store—and the prices are always the lowest.

- "Seigle" suits and coats for women \$10.00 to \$35.00
"Nemo" Corsets \$3.50 to \$5.00
"Henderson" corsets \$1.00 to \$3.50
"Pine Tree" school girl Ribbons yard 25c
Colonial Drapery Fabrics, Scrims 12 1-2c to 40c
Crettonnes 12 1-2c to 50c
"Utz and Dunn" and "Pingree" Shoes for women and Misses \$3.00 to \$5.00
"Romper" and "Whites" Shoes for children \$1.00 to \$2.75
Finest stock in town of Dress Goods, Silks, Notions, Linens, Domestics, etc.



Current Comment.

Winter has this advantage—it brings nothing to swat or muzzle.—Chicago News.

The most unkindest cut of all seems to be located at the canal.—Columbia State.

The best motto for the safety first organizations is "soak the speeders."—Detroit Free Press.

Uncle Sam is confronted by two very difficult problems—how to calm the storm and how to raise the wind.—New York Sun.

If the problem of diplomatic etiquette at Washington becomes much more acute a state dinner at the White House will have to be carried around by a caterer to the various embassies and legations.—Boston Transcript.

Limited Experience. Mistress (to new girl)—We entertain a good deal. Have you had much experience at parties? Girl—Only as a guest, mum.—New Haven Register.

Curiosity is looking over other people's affairs and overlooking our own.—Wayland.

PRIMER GIVES LAW.

(Continued from Page Three)

side and tell what passed in conversation while the persons were inside, and how they spent the time; number of times they drank, what they called for, how served, etc.

Q. How should we use detectives? A. Have them ingratiate themselves with the sellers and drinkers or liquor, and take such data as indicated above.

Q. What is to be done with it? A. Give it to the prosecu ; or, if he is unfriendly or incapable, to an assistant employed by yourself or sent by the governor.

Q. Should the detectives take the stand? A. It is often necessary; avoid it when possible, however, and convict with testimony of patrons whom the detective has told you to subpoena before the district attorney, justice or grand jury.

Q. In case we do put them on the stand, can we not pay them a reward for each conviction? A. Yes, but juries are more liable not to convict, thinking they would swear falsely to secure their reward.

Q. When the detctive reports, how should we proceed and when? A. Wait a couple of days after he is gone, so as to allay suspicion and permit using him again. Then raid all places simultaneously, with two officers assigned to each place.

Q. What officer does this raiding? A. Sheriff, constables, marshals, their deputies or policemen.

Q. What cautions should raiders observe? A. That no hint be given in advance. To avoid this, do not let deputies known in advance where they are going nor why.

Q. What should be seized? A. Especially liquor, and the U. S. tax stamp, and all paraphernalia useful in dispensing liquor, and all persons found therein or thereabout.

Q. Suppose no federal tax stamp is found? A. Send the evidence of sale or manufacture to the U. S. District Attorney, Portland, and Uncle Sam will punish him for revenue frauds after you are through with him. By sending a dollar to the Internal Revenue Office, Portland, a certified copy of the tax stamp may be obtained, if one has been issued.

Q. Could not the U. S. prosecution come first? A. Yes; and if you

feel that the jury in your county would not convict, let the U. S. court have first chance, and then introduce the fact of his federal conviction into your local trial after he has paid his U. S. pentlay, and vice versa.

Q. What can we do on trial day? A. Fill the court room to see that honesty is observed in drawing the jury, the conduct of the trial is efficient, and counteract the psychological effect upon the jury of the crowds or lawless liquor sympathizers whom they always mass.

Q. Can a jury be unfairly packed? A. Yes.

Q. Who chooses jurymen? A. The sheriff, county clerk and county commissioners, including the county judge.

Q. Which of these has most power of selection? A. The sheriff selects an entire special panel when the regular jurymen are exhausted.

Q. The election of sheriff is important, then? A. Almost as much as district attorney; often more so.

Q. Is there a fund available to the county officers to secure evidence? A. County commissioners should appropriate funds. The fines pay big dividends the first year usually. No better work can be done than to urge this appropriation upon your county commissioners.

Q. Has the governor such a fund? A. He has \$7,000 expressly appropriated to be used in paying special officers for securing such evidence.

Q. The constitution makes the governor responsible for the enforcement of the laws. The statutes of 1913 permit him to institute proceedings for the removal of unfaithful district attorneys, sheriffs, etc. The prohibition law authorizes him to appoint special prosecutors in liquor cases. It is not true, then, that final responsibility for failure of the law must rest upon the governor, and very largely the credit for the success of

the measure must go to him? A. Yes. Q. How can I aid him? A. By giving him full information of local lawlessness which goes unpunished, taking care that only reliable, provable facts are set before him. Hysterical assertions and unfounded charges bring the drys into contempt and dampen official ardor. Before taking matters up with the governor, take them up with the local and county officers or the Anti-Saloon League, the W. C. T. U. or some non-partisan organization. Assure them of organized support. If this fails, then focus organized pressure upon them. It this fails, then take it up with the governor.

Q. Can the Anderson law be administered by the city officials before the recorder or police judge, when city officials are dry and dependable by re-enacting the law as a city or county officers are not? A. Yes, by re-enacting the law as a city ordinance with necessary changes. The Anti-Saloon League has such a model ordinance which it will be glad to furnish you.

Q. Is it better to do this, where possible, than to go to the governor? A. Yes. The closer home the power that enforces is, the greater is the fear of and respect for it.

Coughs and Colds are Dangerous Few of us realize the danger of Coughs and Colds. We consider them common and harmless ailments. However statistics tell us every third person dies of a lung ailment. Dangerous Bronchial and Lung Disease follow a neglected cold. As your body struggles against cold germs, no better aid can be had than Dr. King's New Discovery. Its merit has been tested by old and young. In use over 45 years. Get a bottle to-day. Avoid the risk of serious Lung ailments. Druggists.

Winter Snows Call for Heavy Shoes, Overshoes and Rubbers

It is necessary to be well shod to keep your feet dry. You can always find shoes that wear and shoes that fit at

L. J. French Shoe Co.

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. C. C. Penington, Vice President. F. L. Meyers, Cashier. E. Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Assistant Cashiers. DIRECTORS: Fred J. Holmes, J. G. Snodgrass, C. C. Penington, H. S. Brownton, A. Blokland, A. T. Hill, J. F. Conley, H. E. Coolidge, F. L. Meyers.