

THE OBSERVER

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"ASK HOYT."

The necessity of L. M. Hoyt to the city of La Grande is never so firmly felt as when frosty weather causes water to congeal in the pipes and the cry of the housewife is heard pleading for someone who knows where the lateral pipe leaves the city main. She has plumbers waiting for the information. Think, of it, "plumbers waiting."

It is then the water superintendent's office is the busiest place in the city. Telephones ring, messengers arrive and it resembles the board of trade when a break in the wheat market is imminent.

Fortunately La Grande has a Hoyt, whose information relative to the water system is vast and varied. He can go to any tap in the city almost with closed eyes, and in this way he brings system and order out of chaos and confusion. He also brings water out of frozen pipes, which is abundantly pleasing to the home folk.

No doubt some one will say, "Well, why isn't this city platted showing clearly all of the water system and taps?" Wait a minute. There are such plats in La Grande, just as there are in any city, but—

Bear in mind cities grow out of villages. In village days pipes were laid any old place. It was convenience and economy that prevailed in those days. If it was easier to lay a water pipe across Widow Jones' front yard than to follow the street, across the yard it went; if Elder Smith's pig pen was split in halves by the new water ditch the Elder said, "Well and good," and people did not quibble over damages and a lot more foolishness. They wanted city water and were willing to do anything to get it.

Now we have it, but a lot of the village pipe still lays in La Grande boundaries and is rendering service. Hoyt knows. "Ask Hoyt," is the common expression pertaining to water

and it is a good expression, for Hoyt answers you immediately and the work begins. It beats hunting up plats and then not finding what you want.

And, while La Grande is a city, she has not reached "hunting up plats" period yet, especially when by word of mouth all necessary information is obtained.

So, in the last analysis, lean on Hoyt, rely on Hoyt, and when the water pressure is down and you are dissatisfied "cuss" Hoyt; he's used to it and doesn't mind it a bit, for he is still young and strong and La Grande has every reason to believe that for many years yet to come Hoyt will carry the load.

CHIEF JUSTICE MOORE.

Announcing his candidacy for nomination, which is equivalent to reelection, Chief Justice Moore has caused a feeling of satisfaction not only among members of the bar but among the people as a whole.

The Chief Justice is recognized as a full, rounded out, experienced and ripened western character, possessed of broadness and tenderness that makes for him a place in the hearts of Oregon people that only he can fill.

To show what's in a man one must know some of the "little things" that pertain to his manner and make-up. Along this line we would call attention to one of Chief Justice Moore's greatest traits of character, if he will pardon us for so doing. (And we will ask him after this has been published.)

When the Chief Justice was carrying a heavy load of work years ago it became necessary for him to work a great deal in the evening after all eight-hour-a-day men had sought their beds or the amusement halls. It so happened while working in the library at the Salem state house one evening he noticed a young boy from the farm delving into a bunch of law books. The boy was an inexperienced lad wearing a seven dollar suit of clothes; his hair was untrimmed and his appearance was anything but inviting.

Yet, Chief Justice Moore approached the lad asking him what he was doing. When told that he was trying to study law the experienced attorney and jurist remarked, "It is a long tedious road, my boy, but do not let that discourage you. Tell me when you can be here and I will come an hour earlier and help you to get started as best I can." The lad assured Justice Moore that he would come every evening and the conversation closed.

For months Justice Moore came an hour earlier each night to his work and that hour was spent with the boy from the farm as earnestly as though a high salary was being paid him

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for instruction. It might be added that the farm boy made good and is now one of the foremost lawyers of Oregon. Mention of Justice Moore now almost brings tears to the eyes of this prosperous attorney and were it possible for him to re-elect Justice Moore by walking in his barefeet from Portland to Marshfield, the walking would begin forthwith.

We mention this bit of personal, inside history to show our readers the human side of this able man who asks to be returned to his place on the bench, and we wish to leave the decision with the big hearted, child-loving men and women of Oregon. In our opinion the demand for his return should be unanimous.

THAT INVITATION.

When the engineers seemed scheduled to remove to Pendleton that city planned a big Coyote Cut-off banquet and all engineers were invited to attend. Then followed the deliberation and a plan was adopted permitting the men to continue their residence in La Grande.

One old-time railroadman, in reviewing the matter said, "Pendleton has a fine bunch of people; they are alive all the time, neighborly and generous. But I have been wondering, now that it has been decided to have engineers stay in La Grande, if the Pendleton people care so very much whether we attend the banquet."

And then he told a story about an old Virginian who was accosted by a pedestrian for the loan of twenty-five cents to pay fare across the river. The Virginian looked at the man and said, "if you haven't twenty-five cents what matters it which side of the river you are on."

The lesson drawn is of some importance. It is not altogether how much money a man can make and spend in a community that determines the desirability the community holds for that man's citizenship, but certainly it is too much that way.

The witnesses from La Grande and Elgin at Federal court are detained until the government gets good and ready to release them. No one worries about expense at the Federal court.

That winter small pox scare is way past due in Eastern Oregon.

The water pipes have begun to show, now watch for the leaks.

It is almost taxpaying time again.

Mill-Girls Make Good Wives Philadelphia Inquirer: Miss Ida Tarbell, who knows about as much concerning her sex as anyone, an-

nounces that the mill-girl of today will make a better wife than the average high-school graduate. This is strong language and the unpleasant fact is that it contains entirely too much truth. It is not that Miss Tarbell or anyone else objects to education; on the contrary, it is the lack of education for wife-hood and motherhood which is deplored. Any sane per-

son has noted during the past dozen years an astonishing rush for luxury on the part of women. The new ideals of young womanhood seem to be clothes and a good time, regardless of almost any other consideration. In the last analysis this love of display is sexual, it looks to securing a mate, but, unfortunately not always with success.



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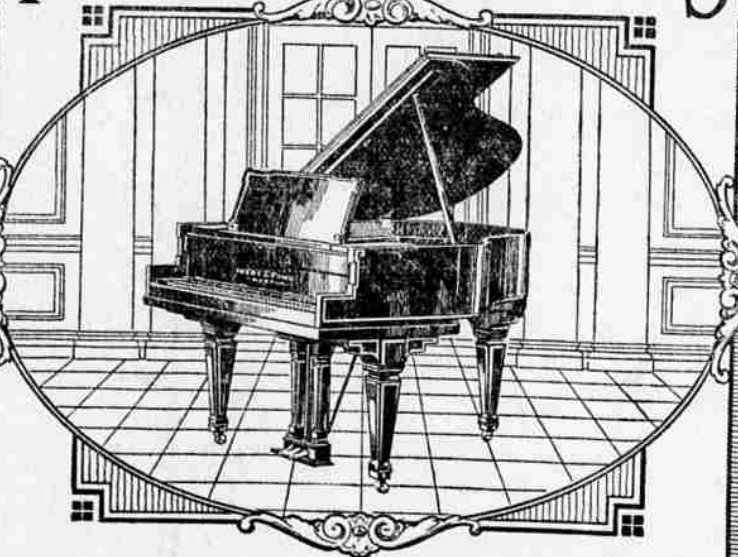
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