

### THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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#### IMBLER'S COLT SHOW.

The public in general may well doff their caps to that energetic bunch, although only a few of them, who reside in Imbler and vicinity and who have done as well as they have in promoting the local colt show. Their work has all been gratuitous and for the good of the horse family beginning with the colt. In the horse industry, for which the great Grande Ronde holds very conspicuous honors, it is important to look after the welfare of the colt. This is what the managers of the Imbler colt show are after. In such an undertaking the enthusiasm and support of all the county is necessary.

There are indications that the forthcoming colt show will be more extensive in every way than the shows that have been held heretofore. It will be the best that can be had if the horsemen at Imbler have their way, and all they need is the backing and encouragement of colt-owners in other sections. Let everybody stick like a brother with Imbler in the efforts to further boost the Grande Ronde horse.

#### ONE BIG DIFFERENCE.

Lord Northcliffe, one of the few British journalists having a big reputation in this country, says that affairs in America are not unlike those in England before the war. "You are eaten up with commercialism and pacifism as we were," he warns us. "You have lots of money, few soldiers and comparatively few sailors. Yet I doubt if the United States will really prepare for any war. There will be an immense amount of talk, as there was with us. One day the Laplanders or the Greenlanders—change the names as you choose—will notice that you are rich and pacifist, and will come and take what they want."

And then again they may not.

England never had any such discussion of preparedness as is sweeping over this country. Here the voice of the people counts, and the people are already talking over plans for meeting possible aggressors who are even more powerful than the Laplanders. Nevertheless, we are grateful to Lord Northcliffe for the prod. It requires a few such jolts from the outside to awaken the people of America to a sense of realization of what they need. The English journalist is not the first to tell us of our shortcomings but he is helping to impress them upon our minds.

#### ENGLISH SPARROW AS A PEST.

(From Farmers' Bulletin 493, U. S. Department of Agriculture.)

The English sparrow was introduced into America a little more than 60 years ago, and now it is distributed over nearly all of the United States and Southern Canada. The English sparrow among birds, like the rat among mammals, is cunning, destructive and filthy. Its natural diet consists of seeds, while much of its fare consists of waste material from the streets. It destroys fruit, as cherries, grapes, pears and peaches. It also destroys buds and flowers of cultivated trees, shrubs and vines. In the garden it eats seeds as they ripen and nips off tender young vegetables, especially peas and lettuce, as they appear above the ground. It damages that and other grains, whether newly sown, ripening or in shocks. As a flock of 50 sparrows requires daily the equivalent of a quart of wheat, the annual loss caused by these birds is very great. It reduces the number of some of our most useful and attractive native birds, as the bluebirds, housewrens, swallows, etc., by destroying their eggs and young and usurping resting places. It attacks other familiar species, as the robin, vireo and catbird, causing them to desert parks and shady streets of towns. Unlike native birds they are vituperative. It defiles buildings and ornamental trees, shrubs, and vines with its excrement and with its bulky nests.

The evidence against the English sparrow is on the whole, overwhelming, and the present unfriendly attitude of the public towards it is reflected in our state laws. Nowhere is it included among protected birds.

The most effective method of preventing the increase of sparrows in a locality is to destroy their nests at intervals of 10 or 12 days throughout the breeding season. In a town of 4,000 inhabitants, where this method of attack has been practiced during the past four years, 20,000 eggs have been destroyed and the number of sparrows greatly reduced. This work, however, should not be entrusted to boys or persons unfamiliar with the native species, as otherwise valuable birds may be destroyed under the belief that they are English sparrows. By concerted and continuous efforts to destroy every nest after the eggs are laid, the numbers of English sparrows in any locality may be rapidly reduced.

English sparrows are abundant in most towns in the United States and in many suburban districts. They are noisy, filthy and destructive. They drive native birds from villages and homesteads. Practicable methods of dealing with them include destruction

of nests, shooting, trapping and poisoning. Of these, trapping is unquestionably the best. English sparrows are good to eat, and their use as food is recommended because of their nutritive value and as a means of reducing their numbers.

#### Laundry Marks in Europe.

Laundry marks vary greatly in Europe. Those used in Britain consist of certain small letters or figures stitched in red thread. Not all continental laundries are so considerate. In some parts of France linen is defaced by having the whole name and address of the laundry stamped upon it and an additional geometrical design to indicate the owner.

In Bavaria every piece has a number stamped on in large characters. In other parts of Germany a small cotton label is attached by means of a waterproof (hot) adhesive. In Bulgaria each laundry has a large number of stamps engraved with designs, and in Russia the laundries mark linen with threads worked in arrow shapes.

In some Russian towns the police periodically issue regulations for laundries, while in Odessa books of marks are furnished annually to the laundry proprietors, and these marks and no others may be used. By this system criminals and revolutionary agitators are often traced.—London Mail.

#### The Bulldog.

The bulldog, unlike the majority of dogs, very seldom barks. In fact, owing to the construction of his throat his attempts at barking are more like a burlesque of the real thing. He wades into a fight without any vocal warning, and the only sound he emits is his heavy breathing. His courage is astonishing, and the largeness of his opponent never acts as a deterrent when hostilities are imminent. Still, as he is not a quarrelsome dog, he very rarely indulges in street brawls, and, as he is exceedingly good natured, it takes a lot to rouse him.

The modern bulldog is undoubtedly a different looking animal from his bullfighting ancestors. The most conspicuous "improvements" introduced by the present day "fancy" are largeness of head, width of chest, heaviness of bone and more typical tail.

#### What the Peruvians Believed.

A unique idea of the future state was that of the ancient Peruvians. As the disembodied soul winged its way to eternity it encountered two rocks, upon one of which it must needs rest. The choice was determined by the morality of the life in the flesh. If it rested upon the left hand rock it was instantly translated to "Po," or oblivion, a state analogous to the Nirvana of the orient. If through early misdeeds, however, the unhappy spirit was guided to the right hand rock it entered into a purgatorial hell where floods grated away the flesh from all the bones in succession, after which the skeleton was re clothed and sent back to earth for another try. There was no haste about this grating process. It took something over 10,000 years.

#### Antiquity of Soap.

In spite of the antiquity of soap, as evidenced by a soap shop still to be seen in the ruins of Pompeii, the chemistry of soapmaking was not understood by us until about a century ago. Since then soap and armaments have become intimately associated with each other. For a long time soap-makers made no profit out of their "lyes." Now they extract from these byproducts glycerin, which, besides being a drug, food and "toilet requisite," enters into the manufacture of nitroglycerin and is the basis of dynamite and other high explosives.—London Spectator.

#### Mucilage to Stick on Tin.

Whoever has tried to stick a paper label on a piece of tin knows how difficult it is. Here, however, is a recipe for a mucilage especially designed for this purpose and published by Nature: In 150 cubic centimeters of boiling water dissolve twenty grams of gum tragacanth and add a paste made of sixty grams of flour and ten grams of dextrine dissolved in forty cubic centimeters of water. Dilute the whole with 200 cubic centimeters of boiling water and add ten grams of glycerin and ten grams of salicylic acid. Boil for five minutes, stirring constantly.

#### Cutting Up Old Furs.

There is a knack of cutting up old furs with which all women are not familiar. The pelt should be turned wrong side up and the skin slowly and carefully cut with a sharp penknife, the blade penetrating the skin only and not touching the long hairs. Cutting fur with scissors destroys the beauty of the hair and wastes much of the pelt that might be saved by the penknife process.

#### Not All For Love.

Little Florrie—Oh, aunty, dear, don't you go yet, please. Aunty—But I must, darling. I should like to stay longer, and it is sweet of you to love your aunty so. Florrie—Oh, please, aunty, don't go yet. Mamma said she'd whip me as soon as you went.

#### Turkestan Lovers.

In Turkestan every wedding engagement begins with the payment of a substantial consideration to the girl's parents. If a girl jilts her lover the engagement gift has to be returned unless the parents have another daughter to give as a substitute.

#### Interest in Thrift Day.

Bankers, educators and citizens generally in Union County are receiving invitations to participate in the observance of February 3d as Thrift

# Tick Tock! Tick Tock!

## The Minutes, The Hours, The Days Are Passing By---

### West's 18th Annual January Clearance Sale Will Soon be Over---



Take advantage of the last days of the Clearance Sale and supply all your needs now at genuine savings—Things you need—Things you want—things for you to wear—things for your home—every article during January Clearance Sale at worth while reductions.

### Sale Ends January 31st.

# W. W. West & Co.

THE QUALITY STORE

day, and to set aside this, a special day on which the attention of the people will be called to the individual, neighborhood and national benefits that will flow from a more intense cultivation of the thrift habit.

Probably a movement of this character could accomplish much good if its proponents would pay a little more attention than they have heretofore done to make their program palatable. Most of the preaching and teaching done on this line begins and ends with the same advice—save your money instead of spending it. A good many people do not appreciate or even understand advice of this character. Moreover, as a practical matter, they find that they get the greatest amount of good out of money when they spend it. And their view is right enough. Saving as an object in itself is not praiseworthy, but quite the contrary.

The only real purpose of saving of any kind is that it may enable one to have a larger and better use of his income. For instance, if one should wish to have the pleasure of owning his home or an automobile, he must,

of course, save and for a certain period forego some enjoyments for the greater enjoyment which the home or automobile may afford. In early life one may save by keeping down expenditure in order that as life advances and he rises in the social scale his style of living may be raised proportionately. On the other hand, one who had been accustomed to living well would be moved by the dictates of prudence systematically to save something so that his standard of comfort be not reduced through the diminished earning power liable to be experienced as the years go by; or, in extreme cases, that one should not encounter the danger of becoming a public charge.

Probably, as a matter of fact, the average person does not like to be told that he is extravagant, nor can he be much frightened by holding up to him the sad fate that befalls those who neglect to save a part of their income. Horrible examples are not much to the purpose. But if men in modest circumstances, and who are dependent upon others for employment and wages, can be shown that by the exercise of thrift—that is, by

the prudent expenditure of so much of their income as is necessary to maintain themselves and families in reasonable comfort and the laying aside of the remainder—they may free themselves from this dependence and step from the ranks of employes into the employers class; or that this saving will enable them, by careful investing, to add to their own scale of comfort, here will be arguments of more compelling force than all the horrible examples of extravagance and squandering that can be brought forward to frighten the unthrifty.

True enough, saving does at some time imply sacrifice and self-denial but not in the long run. On the contrary, it usually and perhaps always means that by saving a little today we may enjoy the more tomorrow, and that the average, of our joys will, on the whole, be considerably greater.

Too much emphasis has been laid, in our opinion, on the unattractive side of economy and thrift—that is a kind of penance imposed upon us as a part of the original decree that man should eat his bread in the sweat of his face.

# The Agency That Works For You The Cheapest

Is the Newspaper with a general circulation that carries your business news to every corner of your trading district, carefully and earnestly informing the people of the Bargains you are offering, the Farm that is for sale, the house that is for rent.

## Advertising

Is nothing but business news, giving the owner of commodities opportunity to tell the public of their merit and price, and giving the consumer opportunity to read at his own fireside in a very moment's information about intended purchases that would require hours of hard work for himself and the marchants to collect in any other way.

# The Evening Observer

Works diligently every day to serve the People in a way that brings good results to both the buyer and the seller.



Take a careful man's word for it. Your money is your best friend—put it in the Bank.

YOU HAVE HEARD ALL YOUR LIFE THAT "YOUR MONEY IS YOUR BEST FRIEND".

IF YOU ARE LETTING YOUR MONEY SLIP AWAY FROM YOU, STOP IT.

YOU CAN STOP IT IF YOU WILL. YOU WANT TO BE INDEPENDENT. THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN BECOME SO IS TO BANK YOUR MONEY.

#### 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  
Reserves \$1,000,000.00

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