

THE OBSERVER

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PORTLAND AS A WOOL CENTER.

One of Oregon's great crops is wool. For years and years the wool grower has taken pride in growing an excellent quality of wool. He prepared it carefully and waited for the men from Boston to come and buy it; he had nothing to say about holding it for better price; he knew little about the wool business, outside of knowing how to grow good wool.

The Boston and other eastern buyers would come out and make offers for the Oregon wool and the offers were accepted because there was nothing else to do. When every other line of business went under the clamp of keen competition the wool buyer remained supreme and his position was lofty and unapproachable.

Lately Portland has conceived the idea of establishing wool warehouses and two are now in operation. The completion of the Panama canal was the direct cause of this movement which is of vital interest to woolmen, for it is found there is a saving of 79 cents a hundred in freight on wool from Riverton, Harney county (which is the most interior railpoint at present) to Boston when shipped by rail to Portland and from Portland to Boston by water.

The railroad rate from Riverton direct to Boston is \$2.19 a hundred. From Riverton to Portland the railroad charges are 95 cents a hundred, and from Portland to Boston by water through the canal the rate is 45 cents, making the total rate from Riverton to Boston by way of the canal, \$1.40 against \$2.19 by rail to Boston.

There is another feature that is important to woolmen. When wool is shipped to Portland and stored in the warehouse it adds weight because of the damp climate, and when it is shipped by water route it adds more weight. But when sent by rail from the dry climate of Eastern Oregon and routed over the dry deserts the wool continually shrinks from the time it leaves Eastern Oregon until it

arrives in Boston. This is quite an item on large shipments.

The two wool warehouses in Portland have been in operation only a short time but they have demonstrated their need to the woolgrower. The business last year was not enormously large but it opened the way and clarified the atmosphere to such an extent that this year it is very doubtful if any of the Boston buyers succeed in purchasing much wool in Oregon. It will go to Portland and be properly warehoused, where it will be held for the grower until the market reaches such point as he desires to sell.

We can see no reason why this movement has not greatly helped the wool industry of Oregon.

WORMS AND WORMS.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance company has just issued a booklet telling people how to live a hundred years or more. Besides admonishing everyone against poor sanitation, urging them to cut out meat and eggs as diet, recommending vegetables and green things, the booklet takes up the subject of worms. It shows the hook-worm according to this eminent author enters the body through the skin usually boring its way in until a blood vessel of sufficient size to carry it is found when it sails up and down your circulation like a banker's yacht on the Columbia. Finally he gets into your stomach and then into the bowel where he lodges and begins doing business. Multiplication of this worm is fast and furious; he sheds his hide often and is ready for battle every time his hide comes off. He sucks the blood on the inside of the bowel, finally letting loose leaving a wound which bleeds. As a result of this worm's presence the patient becomes weak, his blood gets thin, he is emaciated and has no energy.

The booklet also deals with malaria, which is one of the most common of all complaints. It shows the mosquito and how he operates in sending the malaria germ into the system, depicting every stage of that unpleasant disease.

Unlike most medical work this little booklet is brief and to the point. Common English is used in description and the whole thing can be read in fifteen minutes.

For further knowing of worms and microbes it is a good thing to have lying around, and for advice on what to eat in order to live to a ripe old age the booklet is very valuable.

The United States Senate is said to have been "moved to tears" when Washington's farewell address was read by Senator Johnson of Maine. Senator Johnson is surely an orator to accomplish such a result.

Preparedness Urged.

La Grande Feb. 28.—(To Editor Observer)—Our country from present outlook stands to have trouble thrust upon her at an hour's notice even to the extent of becoming embroiled in

the world-wide war now on. Should this come to pass every able bodied man within her borders regardless of military age limit should prepare and willingly place himself at the service of our government. Young and old we need organization and training. The younger to go whenever called, the older to be able to systematically and efficiently handle events which may need attention in their home towns or surroundings. I suggest that we take up this matter and start things moving in La Grande.—Organize a home guard. Plenty of us old fellows know how to aim and shoot straight. Try us out. There will be work for all no matter what foreign country we mix up with. Let La Grande set an example which will spread not only throughout Oregon, but take in every state in the Union—let the slogan be "Fight we can and will if fight we must."

J. W. EGAN.

AMERICA'S GREATEST RURAL DRAMA SCREENED.

Famous Players Adapt Denman Thompson's Classic, "The Old Homestead."

In the flood of thrilling romances, vulgar comedies and sex dramas, it is a relief to find a good old-fashioned play like Denman Thompson's rural classic, "The Old Homestead," being adapted for the motion picture screen. This beloved old comedy-drama, which for over thirty years has held the laughter and tears of the public under its magic spell, has been adapted by the Famous Players Film Company and will be the Paramount Picture at the Arcade Monday and Tuesday. "The Old Homestead," like "Uncle Tom's Cabin," has proven its popularity and its undying interest to generations after generation of theatergoers, and it is estimated by Frank Thompson, son and heir of the celebrated author-actor, from whom the rights to the adaptation were obtained, that in the three decades during which the play was being presented on the stage, it was seen by over twenty million people in the United States and Canada. Though it might seem that such an estimate was too high, it must be remembered that during the entire period that Denman Thompson was presenting the play and appearing as the beloved Josh Whitecomb in person, there was at least one other company touring the country in the same play.

It is interesting to know that Thompson drew his characters from real life, and that the name Joshua Whitecomb is actually a composite of the names of two New Hampshire neighbors whom the author knew and admired. The scene of the rural portion of the drama was laid in and about the Thompson home in the farm district of the adjacent country, and every character in the play had its counterpart in real life.

In that fact lies the explanation of the universal appeal which this simple play has had from the day of its first presentation. It was away back in 1875 that Thompson first conceived the idea which he worked out as a short sketch under the name of "Josh Whitecomb." The success of this short play encouraged him to expand it into the form in which it was presented for over thirty years as the familiar "Old Homestead." It is, of course, this version which has been converted into a motion picture.

In the role made famous by Denman Thompson there appears Frank Losee, the distinguished character-actor, who, after a long and successful career on the speaking stage, became a member of the Famous Players Company. Mr. Losee will be remembered for his notable work in "The Eternal City," "The Masqueraders" and other productions by this pioneer feature concern. As Josh Whitecomb he will have the greatest opportunity of his career.

Books in Great Demand.

Salem, Ore., Feb. 25.—According to a report submitted by Miss Cornelia Marvin, state librarian, to the state library board at its meeting here

PLUG CHEWING A WHOLESOME HABIT

In No Other Way Can You Get All the Richness and Flavor of the Leaf

"SPEAR HEAD" BEST CHEW

Many prominent physicians declare chewing to be the most wholesome way of enjoying tobacco. "I began chewing some years ago," said one, "and I soon found that it is the only way to get the benefit of all the rich juices stored up by nature in the tobacco leaf. I refer, of course, to the plug form of tobacco, which is the most natural and the cleanest form. "Chewing good tobacco like Spear Head makes the salivary glands more active, which in turn has a beneficial effect on the whole system. Add to this the sweet, mellow, delicious flavor of a chew of Spear Head, and you have the highest possible degree of tobacco satisfaction.

"I mention Spear Head because I have found that this brand is exceptionally pure, being made in a factory that's run strictly according to pure-food rules."

Spear Head is made of sun-ripened Fines, which is acknowledged to be the richest, mildest, finest flavored tobacco leaf in the world. And it is produced by the latest processes, which develop the quality and luscious flavor of the choice Burley to the supreme degree.

A chew of Spear Head has a wholesome effect that is not found in any other chewing tobacco. In 10c cuts, wrapped in wax paper.

"Hirsch-Wickwire" Spring Suits for Men are Here

You have seen these clothes advertised in the magazines—now come here and try on the new Spring Models.

We sell them because it is the policy of this store to supply the best in every line of merchandise, and we know how these clothes are made.

The splendid styles made of fine quality, hard finished and soft finished wools, combined with the best tailoring and fitting qualities—win all who come to see them.

They will win you too. You who know what is what when you see it. Let the clothes themselves prove it. Try them on.

PRICES RANGE FROM \$20 TO \$30.00.

Sold in La Grande Only at West's

- Men's Interwoven Hosiery 25c, 35c, 50c
Men's "Big 4" Hosiery Two pair for 25c
Men's "Tilt" Shoes all styles \$3.50 to \$6.00
Men's "Bergman" Loggers \$8.50
Men's "Manhattan" Shirts \$1.50
Men's "Gordon" Hats \$3.00
Men's "Keiser" Neckwear 50c

- Boy's "Best Ever" Suits \$5.00 Up
Boy's "Kagney" Blouses . . . 50c
Boy's "Eagle" Brand Caps 50c
Small Boy's "Koveralls" . . . 75c
Boy's "Boss of Road" Overalls 50c and 60c
Men's "Boss of Road" Overalls \$1.00
Men's "Bell" Brand Suspenders 50c



Every Woman is Interested in the New Spring Styles---

and almost every La Grande woman planning a Spring wardrobe has been in during the past few days to see the

NEW SPRING SUITS, DRESSES, COATS AND SKIRTS

which are now arriving daily. They have all the dash and chic—with just a touch of quaintness—that make the Spring Styles so charming. We invite you to see them today.

- SPRING SUITS \$15.00 to \$50.00
SPRING COATS \$10.00 to \$35.00
SPRING DRESSES \$10.00 to \$35.00
SPRING SKIRTS \$ 4.00 to \$15.00
SPRING WAISTS \$ 1.25 to \$ 7.50



yesterday afternoon, the number of books loaned from the library during the four months ending January 31, totaled 10,758, an increase of 2109 over the corresponding period last year.

Our stock of books has been almost exhausted in spite of the fact that the records show that there were about 8000 out of the 17,000 loaned on February 1, but so many of our books in the general loan collection are reference books that there was practically nothing left that could be used to make up traveling libraries or to loan to public libraries which depend upon us for their recreational books, says the report. We have in stock plenty of pamphlets, such as we use with the club libraries, and send out for reference, and a few books which are no longer of vital interest, but practically nothing else is left.

There has been a great demand for

books in the teachers' reading circle list. We have urged public libraries to buy these, but their book funds are so low that they get almost nothing but fiction and children's books. Feelings that they ought to get them, however, we favor borrowers who live in the country, and have brought from five to twenty copies of some of these books which we thought would be useful for years to come, but have not felt justified in buying more copies of the books which will probably not be returned on the course for another year.

The board decided to subscribe to the public affairs information, an institution that provides information as to public questions and legislative matters. It also decided to make arrangements as soon as possible for having filed in the library copies of newspapers containing legal notices.

Have your pictures made on Cyco paper and note the contrast, and snap. Ansco Speedex Films and Cyco Papers the height of perfection. At Silverthorn's Family Drug Store.—Adv. 2-24-tf

R. I. Red Cockerels \$1.50—eggs \$1.50 for 15. 605 Jefferson—Phone Black 251. 2-24-251.

Just Arrived

Car King Egg coal. Order now and be prepared for the severe weather which is predicted. There is no better coal than King Egg.

PHONE US YOUR ORDERS

LA GRANDE FUEL COMPANY.

106 Fir St. PHONE :: MAIN 700. Opposite Thorne & Wilcox Grocery.

Been Thinking About That Go-Cart

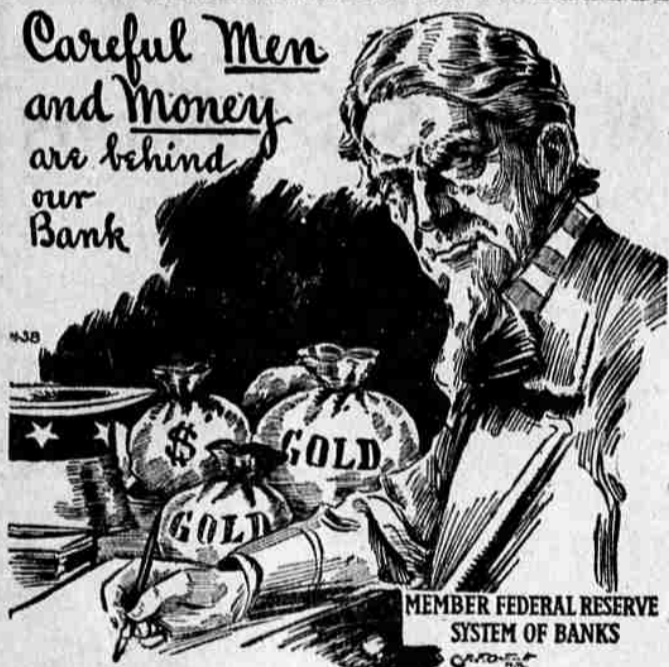


for baby? I have received a large shipment of 1916 models in the SIDWAY and RAMBLERS line of Carts and am showing the most attractive patterns brought to La Grande. Prices are most reasonable—\$4.50 to \$25.00.

I will take your old cart as partial payment on a new cart or sulky. Come in and I will show you the exclusive features that make the SIDWAY the most desirable cart for baby.

F. D. HAISTEN, FURNITURE ON EASY PAYMENTS

Careful Men and Money are behind our Bank



MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM OF BANKS

THE "FEDERAL RESERVE" BANKING SYSTEM, OF WHICH OUR BANK IS A MEMBER, IS THE BEST BANKING SYSTEM EVER THOUGHT OUT.

THE MEMBER BANKS HAVE PUT 187 MILLIONS OF GOLD INTO THE U. S. TREASURY. ON THIS GOLD THE GOVERNMENT ISSUES MONEY.

WE CAN GET MONEY WHEN WE WANT IT BY TAKING OUR SECURITIES TO OUR DISTRICT "FEDERAL RESERVE" BANK.

YOU CAN GET YOUR MONEY WHEN YOU WANT IT WHEN YOU ARE A DEPOSITOR IN OUR BANK. LET'S DO BUSINESS. COME IN.

BANK WITH US.

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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