

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

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COMMISSIONS TO RULE.

Permanent rule is to be obtained in the United States through commissions. These evidenced by the work of the Interstate Commerce Commission, by the general desire now to have a tariff commission, and the final suggestion on matters of national importance that it be left to a commission to ferret out.

We are coming to a full realization that congress is made up largely of inexperienced men, and that those possessing experience do not have it along special lines, such as is plainly needed in order that commerce may thrive in this country.

As an indication of the sentiment on New England on the rule by com-

missions we print the following from an eastern paper:

The Interstate Commerce Commission exercises a large measure of control over railroads. The Federal Reserve Board has wide discretionary powers in the banking field. The Federal Trade Commission, though it has not yet found and shaped itself, is empowered to intervene pretty extensively in manufacturing and trade. The new shipping bill proposes a board authorized to build or buy ships with public money—then to lease, sell or operate the vessels in its discretion; also, to fix freight rates for American vessels.

The proposed Tariff Commission will begin, at least, by being advisory only; but if it does what is expected it must have considerable influence on American affairs through its recommendations as to rates of duty on imports. There is a bill for a Waterway Commission—to be advisory only, like the Tariff Commission, yet to supervise the whole scheme of inland waterway improvements. We seem to be moving rather decisively toward extensive government by commissions, some of which, at least, will combine to some extent legislative, executive and judicial powers.

This may be our way of getting government efficiency. Certainly the tendency need not go a great deal farther than is now proposed in order to bring about a situation in which a set of commissions will be exerting a greater actual influence upon American affairs than Congress or the President or the court exercises—when the ordinary citizen, in looking to Washington for action that is going to touch him personally, will look, not to any of the three constitutional branches but to a certain commission.

Nominally, at least, the commissions are nonpartisan. Theoretically, at least, they are expert and disinterested. This may finally be our way of getting government efficiency. At any rate, it may be worth trying.

A NATION-WIDE SENTIMENT.

The Literary Digest, published by Funk and Wagnalls at New York, recently made a canvass of 500 newspapers in all parts of the nation to obtain the sentiment existing on preparedness. The expressions of different editors, as published in the Digest, make interesting reading and prove beyond a doubt that the nation is ready for a campaign of sane preparedness.

Some hold that the government should own all munition plants, while others claim supervision should be adopted rather than ownership. Nearly all would have a navy equal to any nation on the globe and quite a few favor a very large standing army. Generally speaking, the standing army question resolves itself into state militias with a Federal army of fair size. Torpedo boat destroyers, submarines and aeroplanes are demanded by nearly every editor.

Congress can do nothing better than study the Digest's compilation of opinions and give heed to what seems to be the prevailing sentiment.

INDIAN NAMES ARE BEST.

Indian names for the west seem in favor even in the effete east, where once anything in the west was considered coarse and subject to revision. We are told by a Philadelphia paper that some Blackfeet Indians, with a taste and respect for nature that shames the

paleface, have protested to the Secretary of the Interior against the barbarous custom of tacking silly, meaningless, vulgar names to notable natural objects which the Indians long ago named with appropriateness. A melodious word, with poetic significance and very likely commemorating some charming native legend, is calmly ignored in favor of Jones' Gulch, or Smith's Falls or Dolly Lake.

It is even worse in the matter of towns, says the eastern paper. Nearly all the good names in North America are those bestowed by the Indians or the early French and Spanish explorers. After them came the Anglo-Saxon, spattering the landscape with his own patronyms and other tasteless and meaningless proper nouns.

We can understand why a person with the imagination of a hitching post might prefer for a beautiful natural object his own name or that of a female relative, or some foolish Grand Falls, High Peak, Swift Rapids, Broad Canon; but we cannot understand why authority should permit him to vandalize that way. Unless there is some excellent reason to the contrary, authority ought to insist always upon the Indian names.

AUTOMOBILE ORDINANCES.

The Saturday Post calls attention to automobile regulation in most cities as follows:

"Speed limit, ten miles an hour" is the sign that faces you at the city boundary, and in the next ten minutes a dozen cars go by you at twenty miles an hour. We should say offhand that hardly one community out of fifty lives up to its automobile regulations. Spasmodic enforcement of local laws is a constant source of grief to motorists. You cut across the street intersection forty-nine days in succession, and on the fiftieth day are arrested for not turning a square corner. Naturally you are offended.

Another affliction is the absence of signs. In some towns you may park your car anywhere you please. In others, of the same general aspect and with no warning sign, you may be arrested for leaving it on a certain street or too near a fire plug. Your muffler cut-out is a tolerated nuisance in a half a dozen towns, while in the next one its use is a misdemeanor; but there is no sign to tell you the difference. Signs cost little too. The beginning of automobile regulation for any town should be: "Say plainly what you mean and stick to it."

THE COUNTY ROAD BOND ISSUE AGAIN

La Grande, March 21.—(To the editor)—There is being circulated a petition for a \$400,000 bond issue to give this county a few miles of nine-foot hard-surface roads. We are to pay 4-1/2 per cent interest on that bond issue for five years then start to pay the principal with the like rate of interest on deferred payments. The interest the first year would be \$18,000. This is a dead weight, paying for a dead horse. Why not take the \$18,000 and buy 9,000 loads of gravel placed and distributed on the roads? If the present roads are properly graded, rounded up in the center then a hollow made down through the center then filled first with large gravel, then smaller and at last capped with small gravel and sand the roads will be like those in Canada which are not excelled any place. The trouble with the roads in the county in my judgment is that they are not properly drained. If a road is graded good, then rounded off and the drains to either side put in shape so that the rains will readily find their way to the river the roads will be in good shape with very little repair each year.

Now what do the hard-surface men want? They want a 9-foot concrete or bitulithic road I asked a man who is a road builder and an enthusiast of this proposition, how much it would cost and he said \$1.60 per square yard. I said: "Does that include anything else?" He said, "No, of course the gravel on the sides would be extra, the excavation would be extra, the drainage would be extra and the culverts and tiling would be extra." So you can begin to realize how much it will cost when they get done. Then what have you? You have a few miles of road for joy riders to have a good time on and an indebtedness of \$400,000 with interest of 4-1/2 per cent per annum. A man with ordinary judgment can figure a little what it costs. You pay \$6.50 for every five foot square of side walk you have put in. How would you like to pay twice that for a double sidewalk down the middle of the road past your farm for a quarter of a mile? Now, of course, I do not mean to say that you will have to pay for all of that. Not at all. You see the county is bonded and we all have to pay. You see, the fellow who does not pay any taxes that signs that petition will help you out. (I guess not). A lot of people can't afford a concrete walk out to the front gate, still they think they can afford a concrete road 9 feet wide down the full forty acre fence bordering the road.

Some people talk about the Roman roads and how permanent they were and what an advantage they were. You might as well talk the same way about the pyramids. The Roman roads were usually built with slaves and the people taxed to death. Its like Fourth Street here in La Grande. We have better, under-

This Store a Big Fashion Book. Nearly every woman in the land is just about now turning over the pages of a spring fashion book. This store is the big fashion store of La Grande where the modes are displayed as soon as they come out. To come here and walk about the store is like turning the leaves of a great book of fashions. What is the length of the sleeve? The size of the hat? The styles of the coat? The volume of the skirt? The newest thing in neckwear? The latest shoes? Hosiery, Flounce petticoats, ribbons, wash goods,—gloves—waists? Do any of these problems puzzle you? Come to the fashion store and find them solved. We have the new things as soon as they come out in New York—and we can keep you posted.

A Part Missing. The next Ford peace—expedition ought to have a muffler.—Chicago Post. IF KIDNEYS AND BLADDER BOTHER. Take a glass of Salts to flush out your Kidneys and neutralize irritating acids. Kidney and Bladder weakness result from uric acid, says a noted authority. The kidneys filter this acid from the blood and pass it on to the bladder, where it often remains to irritate and inflame, causing a burning, scalding sensation, or setting up an irritation at the neck of the bladder, obliging you to seek relief two or three times during the night. The sufferer is in constant dread, the water passes sometimes with a scalding sensation and is very profuse; again, there is difficulty in voiding it. Bladder weakness, most folks call it, because they can't control urination. While it is extremely annoying and sometimes very painful, this is really one of the most simple ailments to overcome. Get about four ounces of Jad Salts from your pharmacist and take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast, continue this for two or three days. This will neutralize the acids in the urine so it no longer is a source of irritation to the bladder and urinary organs which then act normally again. Jad Salts is inexpensive, harmless, and is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and is used by thousands of folks who are subject to urinary disorders caused by uric acid irritation. Jad Salts is splendid for kidneys and causes no bad effects whatever. Here you have a pleasant, effervescent lithia-water drink, which quickly relieves bladder trouble.

E. W. EASTMAN, La Grande, Oregon. STUDENTS IN CLUB. Oregonians at San Jose Normal include Two La Grande Girls. The Oregon club, composed of young ladies from California's north-western sister state who are enrolled as students in the State Normal school in San Jose, were entertained Friday afternoon by Mrs. S. G. Benson, herself formerly an Oregon girl, on behalf of her granddaughter, Miss Carol Currey, and the latter's chum, Miss Nell Bradley, both of whom reside in eastern Oregon, at the western base of the Elise mountains, says San Jose (Cal.) Daily Mercury.

Mrs. Benson was also assisted in entertaining by her daughter, Mrs. A. B. Serio. The parlors of the Benson home at 61 North Twelfth street were prettily decorated in green and gold, striking effects being obtained by artistic combinations of escholaras and snitax. The afternoon was delightfully passed with music and games, dainty refreshments being served near the close of the festivities. Those present were: Miss Mary Gore, Medford, Ore. Miss Eva Osborne, Medford, Ore. Miss Edith Allen, Grants Pass. Miss Anna Clinkinbeard, Marshfield, Ore. Miss Doris Magneas, Myrtle Point, Ore. Miss Minnie Parker, North Bend, Ore. Miss Alice Todd, Tillamook, Ore. Miss Edna Demmer, Medford, Ore. Miss Elsie Youngstead, Astoria, Ore. Miss Helen Witherspoon, Grant's Pass, Ore. Miss Helen Boston, Sacramento, Cal. Miss Bernice Best, Sacramento, Cal. Miss Nell Bradley, La Grande, Ore. Miss Carol Currey, La Grande, Ore. Misses Genevieve and Virginia Serio, San Jose.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County. Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE. Sworn to before me and acknowledged in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1906. A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

WRECKED. The Old White School Building, and Rock and Lumber are For Sale. —SEE— VINACKE OR KAMERER. Phone Black 1-32

IF KIDNEYS AND BLADDER BOTHER. Take a glass of Salts to flush out your Kidneys and neutralize irritating acids. Kidney and Bladder weakness result from uric acid, says a noted authority. The kidneys filter this acid from the blood and pass it on to the bladder, where it often remains to irritate and inflame, causing a burning, scalding sensation, or setting up an irritation at the neck of the bladder, obliging you to seek relief two or three times during the night. The sufferer is in constant dread, the water passes sometimes with a scalding sensation and is very profuse; again, there is difficulty in voiding it. Bladder weakness, most folks call it, because they can't control urination. While it is extremely annoying and sometimes very painful, this is really one of the most simple ailments to overcome. Get about four ounces of Jad Salts from your pharmacist and take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast, continue this for two or three days. This will neutralize the acids in the urine so it no longer is a source of irritation to the bladder and urinary organs which then act normally again. Jad Salts is inexpensive, harmless, and is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and is used by thousands of folks who are subject to urinary disorders caused by uric acid irritation. Jad Salts is splendid for kidneys and causes no bad effects whatever. Here you have a pleasant, effervescent lithia-water drink, which quickly relieves bladder trouble.

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Schilling's Best. If you had the time and knowledge, could pick from the world's coffee, and had the proper roasting and grinding facilities, you might roast your own coffee every morning before breakfast. Still we should say, "If you don't like Schilling's Best better, your grocer returns your money." Evenly ground, freed of chaff, its rich flavor safe-sealed in airtight tins.

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