

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

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A NEW NATIONAL ANTHEM.

Next to being a poet, the greatest glory comes from discovering a poet. Representative Leonidas Carstarphen Dyer of St. Louis has the honor of presenting to the people of the United States the author of some verses for whom he demands special recognition at the hands of congress. He asks that the song of hymn "The U. S. A." composed by Henry McEuen Jones of somewhere in Missouri, be adopted as a national anthem.

Lest there be any doubt about Representative Dyer's discrimination in matters of taste or Poet Jones's lyric gifts, the first stanza and chorus of "The U. S. A." may here be quoted: We will sing as a Nation of freemen, Of liberty, thrift, and of power, For we're built of the best of all races, And we stand like a great beacon tower, Flashing light to all points of the compass To attract the oppressed of the world, Neath the beautiful folds of Old Glory, Our flag, which will never be furled.

CHORUS Our old flag is a grand inspiration, For it guarantees freedom to all; And it signifies sweet independence No sovereign can ever enthrall. Then "American first" is a motto To be proudly proclaimed every day. By all men who are worthy the title A citizen of the U. S. A., For we have but one title that's noble— A citizen of the U. S. A.

At the words "We will sing," the audience will please rise and remain standing to the end. When played in public, all within hearing will uncover. If there are no objections, the

House and Senate will declare as one man "The U. S. A., the national anthem. It is so declared. Representative Dyer's poet is immortal.

HUMOROUS AND SARCASTIC

There is no normal woman—The only rule about her is that no rule will apply to her.—Louisville Courier-Journal. Colonel Watterson has just celebrated his golden wedding. He ought to know. Hearken to the words of wisdom from Kentucky and let woman have her own sweet way, reflecting that she will get it anyhow, and she almost deserves it.—Buffalo Times

A Detroit audience listened to a lecture on "The Relations of Insects to Man." On a chance, we would say these relations were too friendly.—Minneapolis Journal.

The baseball team at Sing Sing needs a new pitcher. But the Mutual Welfare League looks for no rush of boxmen from the bush.—New York World.

His "Southern Chivalry" induced a New York judge to save from jail a wealthy Boston milliner, but did not prevent his sentencing a poor immigrant to a thirty-day term. Must have Georgia.—Philadelphia North American.

A Colorado man has sent a live American eagle to the White House. That's all right, but why not send it to the House of Representatives where it is needed.—Cleve. Plaindealer.

EARLY DAY POLITICS

The Elgin Recorder is in possession of a clipping from a Union county newspaper giving a call issued for a Democratic county convention in 1874. As will be noticed the call was issued by J. B. Hulsey, chairman, and W. B. Hindman, chairman, of the county organization at that time. The reprint follows:

"To the democratic voters of Union Co. At a meeting of the Democratic Central Committee of Union county it was resolved that Saturday, the 25th day of April be appointed as the day of meeting at the several precincts for the purpose of electing delegates to the county convention to be held at La Grande, Friday, May 1, 1874, for the purpose of nominating county officers. The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the proxy of no delegate shall be received in the coming County Convention unless presented by a person who resides in the precinct from which the proxy comes. The apportionment of delegates to the several precincts is as follows: Union 5, Cove 4, Bedrock 2, Summerville 4, Grande Ronde 1, Indian Valley 2, Union 4, Eagle 4, Powder 2, Iowa 3, Augusta 1, Wallowa 1. J. B. HULSEY, Chairman. W. B. HINDMAN, Secretary."

Twenty-Four Years Ago Dan Sommer of Summerville, paid our city a visit on Tuesday last. The pleasant, smiling countenance

Yesterday--Just Received--New Coats



Every woman wants a new spring Coat. And we were never better able to serve her. Not another time have we been so proud of the charming coats as these we have just received from New York.

In the last four-weeks we have received dozens of new coats—and they are being sold as fast as they are unpacked—never was apparel more delightful.

They are different—the styles are newer—the patterns and weaves are newer—we are sure we have just the coat you are looking for—come in and see.

The moderate prices add much to our enthusiasm. No wonder our Ladies' ready-to-wear section is so busy.

Coats priced \$10.00, \$12.50, \$17.50, \$20.00, \$22.50, \$25.00.

N. M. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

of Jack Oliver, deputy county clerk, beamed in on us last Monday.

Quite a number of our citizens left Sunday evening for Portland to attend the republican state convention. Among them were S. R. Reeves, mayor of our city, J. N. Norval, W. J. Snodgrass, Chas. Goodnough, E. W. Bartlett and several others.

Mr. Southwell of Starkey, brings word that the home of John Gavin was destroyed by fire one day last week and none of the contents were saved. The loss is \$400.

PIONEER REMINISCENT

Dunham Wright, Medical Springs Patriarch, Muses on Good Roads.

Medical Springs, March 30.—(To the Editor)—I cannot refrain from asking permission to add a line when I see in your paper letters from the horny handed soils of toil who picked their flints and set the woods of Union county afire for the first time. Those grand old moss-covered posts are surely a safe anchorage for the old ship of state to prevent it drifting over the breakers of financial ruin. I too, feel proud of a residence of 53 years in Union county. It certainly is a very dear old spot to me. I, in common with a few others, that are still lingering in the twilight of life have contributed to the strength and energy of our young manhood to what we conceived to be for the betterment and replenishing of Union county and its people today, a foundation that those coming after us can safely build. We are not going to saddle a bonded debt on the girls and boys who are just now blooming into womanhood and manhood that will tax their physical and mental powers for years to come to pay it off. I have traveled Union county where there were no roads, save the old Oregon train, have assisted in laying out and building many of its highways and believe them to be creditable, still we should improve them as we reasonably can; a thorough system of graveling the roads where worst needed should be inaugurated. The day of autos has come. Farmers must use the roads and if they are satisfied with them our townspeople ought to be. It is better to levy a few mills more for road purposes than to bond for hard surfacing of a few miles of road. Let us take a lesson from Multnomah county. You girls and boys who are to cast your first votes in the coming election, beware! You will soon need money for other purposes than for hard surfacing of a few miles of road. Stop, think! Take a long breath while you lean on some of those old moss-covered posts.

DUNHAM WRIGHT.

WHERE ARE WE AT?

(Continued From Page 1)

and hay farming does not admit of much expansion except in the matter of breaking bulk by feeding to hogs and cattle and converting into butter fat.

After a community has developed the primary conditions of agriculture there is very little growth unless the more intensified forms of farming and horticulture are adopted and this is followed up by converting the raw materials into finished products that transforms work into articles of value.

Some years ago it was conceived that the wealth and population of La Grande could be greatly increased by more intensified farming, and lands within a few miles of the town were cut up into tracts of from five to 40 acres and in most cases sold to actual tillers of the soil. The slogan was here, as elsewhere, "back to the farm."

Much of this movement may have been speculative, nevertheless it was a laudable undertaking, and in the direction of community development if all the other conditions of success had been developed at the same time. Production, distribution and adequate returns are what makes prosperity. In the rural community of La Grande some of these elements were lacking.

What Is the Matter With Us? With a town like La Grande, with a population made up mostly of consumers of farm products this is assumed to be a good market. If it isn't why not? That is the question that prompted this communication. What are the conditions we find in the suburban communities of La Grande where everything seemed so

promising for the small tract. Other localities have developed prosperous rural communities, why have we so signally failed? Have we organized? Yes, many times. Is there a proper spirit of co-operation? Do the merchants and the men of enterprise develop the markets, and give the preference to the home producer?

Where Are We At? Here you will find one of the most poverty stricken rural communities anywhere to be found between the two oceans. What does the record disclose? Take the census of one district which is typical of all the others. Forty-five small tract places should furnish employment for sixty-five owners and their sons. Taking these 65 persons we find them distributed as follows:

- 10 live on and pretend to make a living on their places.
13 are in the employ of the Railway Company.
14 are employed in offices, stores and mills.
23 work at other jobs in town or elsewhere.
4 starved out and left the country.
1 died to beat it.
Of the six boards of directors of

associations of five members each, only seven remain of all this company. Three boards of directors show every member missing but one and he is trying to escape, but can't.

Take the record of one car of fruit by way of illustration which will show how much the grower gets out of it, or it gets out of him.

This car sold for \$1028.43 to the wholesaler. No telling what the consumer paid after the jobber, the retailer and the pedler took a whack at it. These are the charges against this sale that the grower had to pay after losing his apples:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Items include Railway freight, Ocean freight, Car rental, Dockage, Insurance, Commission, Foreign Holding, Marketing charges, Advertising, Sub-central commission, Local association, Boxes, packing, paper and hauling. Total net loss to the grower of \$1096.34.

\$67.91 besides the cost of picking, storage and the cost of producing the fruit.

Can you beat it? It needs no comment. Everybody can see the "graft" sticking out in big chunks.

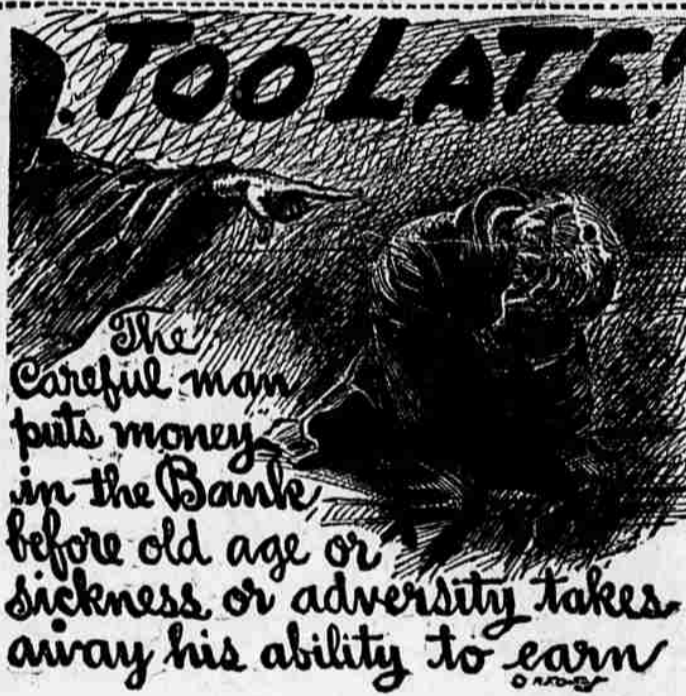
What Are We Going To Do? As far as we have gone the record shows about where we are at, but it don't show where we are going, although we are on our way.

Talk about the "back to the farm" movement, that we have heard so much about since the cost of high living got so high. The consumers of the car of apples herein listed could understand what the "high cost of living" meant but the grower couldn't help them out any. He gave the apples away and paid 10 cents per box to make it a good bargain. Paraphrasing a line in "Thanatopsis" I ask: Why have "all these left their mirth and their employment and have come and made their bed with thee" in town? What are we going to do about it? In another communication I may have some suggestions to offer which may provoke a discussion that will lead us out of the wilderness.

Yours truly, J. B. STODDARD.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure No Alum—No Phosphate



JUST LOOK AT THIS PICTURE AND DO A LITTLE "THINKING."

THEN YOU WILL 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, Resources \$1,000,000.00. Fred J. Holmes, President; C. C. Pennington, Vice President; F. L. Meyers, Cashier; E. Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Assistant Cashiers.

DIRECTORS

Fred J. Holmes, J. G. Snodgrass, J. F. Conley, C. C. Pennington, H. S. Brownson, F. L. Meyers, A. Bickland, A. T. Hill, H. E. Coolidge.

Advice to Young Men

If you think you are beaten, you are, If you think you dare not, you don't. If you'd sure like to win, but you think you can't It's almost a cinch, you won't. If you think that you'll lose, you're lost, For out of the world you'll find, Success begins with a fellow's own will. It's all in the state of your mind. If you think you're outclassed, you are; You've got to think to rise, You've got to be sure of yourself before You can say to yourself, you're after the prize. Life's battles you know, don't always go To the stronger or faster man; But sooner or later, the man that sure wins; Is the man who thinks that he can.

The above item applies to the Mammoth Grocery, which will soon open. The Big Store, in the Middle Room, of the middle Block --- Easy Found.

W. S. ALLINSON Proprietor