

THE OBSERVER

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

WHERE ARE WE AT

Two thousand soldiers are left in the United States and Alaska, since the last detachment of troops was sent into Mexico.

Scarcely enough men to make a street parade on Decoration day.

And yet America goes singing on her way. Few people realize what it means to have no military protection whatever. Kind Providence has filled the cup of this generation to overflowing with everything that could be asked for. Americans know no want. We are fast becoming egotistical in our ignorance of world politics and rest in a belief that because the stars and stripes have waved triumphantly in the past there is no danger in the future. People feel "this is our country and there is no danger of an enemy invading it." But they overlook the commerce of the world which has ever brought on wars. They forget that "made in Germany" has a great deal to do with the present titanic tragedy being enacted on the other side of the Atlantic.

We are weak, very weak, in everything except self esteem and ability to make money. With our troops in Mexico, with Villa not caught, with possible uprising of Carranza's forces encircling our boys and forcing them to fight for their lives, the United States has no one at home in a military sense.

This country needs active work

along the lines of defense and needs it badly. By this we do not mean that we should go in for the huge standing army or the tremendous preparedness program advocated by some—among whom are the munition makers. But we do need some constructive defense work which will protect the coastlines and augment our army to such extent that when one bandit is being sought we will have more than two thousand men left for military duty in the states.

AT FRIGHTFUL COST.

The battle of Verdun still rages. The Germans may take the forts but is anything save probably the decisive battle to settle the war worth what this battle is costing Germany?

The Crown Prince is hurling tens and hundreds of thousands of Germany's flowering manhood into the death hopper at Verdun. It seems almost unbelievable, accustomed to war reports as we now are.

The frightful cost in lives. And yet when Verdun is taken, if it ever is taken, the war is not decided. Paris is then a long way off and more fortifications will be encountered, for the French are fighting every inch of the ground with the Germans.

Human life is becoming cheaper and cheaper as the war progresses and both sides are sacrificing men as men were never sacrificed before in the history of the world.

Senator Barrett of Athena is plugging hard against the Umatilla bond issue, and from reports that percolate across the mountains the old senator is making headway. He will likely have a chance to continue his fight in the legislature next winter, for it is apparent one of the biggest bonding schemes ever attempted will be up for consideration at the coming session. Barrett will fight the bonds as will Senator Kiddle, for each have gone on record in a positive manner and neither of them is a man who will break his word to the people.

Union's Horse Show dance was largely attended by La Grande people, each of whom has a personal interest in the success of the Horse Show this year. La Grande is a god-father to that horse show and never fails to come to the center when any good can be done to the annual exhibition.

Deputy Sheriff Hal Rees reports \$195,816.04 collected in taxes before the gavel dropped at the appointed time declaring a penalty on all unpaid taxes. Hal should have grabbed another five thousand and made it even money.

A little warm weather is needed to lower the snow so the logging camps can resume work. But the rancher in the valley says, "hold up, let this snow go off easily so we will not have an overflow," and thus we have the conflicting interests in this life.

The romance amid fumes of ether at the hospital opens up a new sphere for the imaginative author. In this case it happened that the setting was as described and the love story was deeply entwined about the hospital surroundings.

If a lawn is to make good it must have endless care. Note the lawn at the railroad station. Not quite a year old, yet it is a gem and no mistake. The attendant clips the grass every morning before breakfast.

Still the new automobiles come. Some are fours, some are sixes and some are eights. Who will be the first twelve cylinder owner? Shall he have a prize? Well at the price of gasoline he will need a bonus.

But Ormsby McHarg will not get much of a hearing in his advocacy of Du Pont for president. People in Oregon, and several other states, are onto McHarg and refuse to be guided by his wishes or advice.

We are going to get out of patience with that man Hicks if he does not quit turning our beautiful April showers into snow storms.

Cold weather is a little hard on dandelions, but they may pull through.

April Crops Summary.

Washington, D. C., April 7.—A summary of the April crop and live stock report for the State of Oregon and for the United States, as compiled by the Bureau of Crop Estimates (and transmitted through the Weather Bureau) U. S. Department of Agriculture, is as follows:

Wheat. State—Condition April 1 this year, 95 per cent of normal; ten-year average of condition figures for April 1, 94 per cent.

United States—Condition April 1 this year, 78.3 per cent; ten-year average April 1 condition, 87.3 per cent.

Rye. State—Condition April 1 this year, 99 per cent; ten-year average April 1 condition, 97 per cent.

United States—Condition April 1 this year, 87.3 per cent; ten-year average April 1 condition, 89.9.

Hogs. State—Losses from disease past year, 2.5 per cent; ten-year average, 1.8 per cent.

United States—Losses from disease past year, 6.63 per cent; ten-year average, 6.62 per cent.

Cattle. State—Losses from disease past year, 1.4 per cent; ten-year average, 1.4 per cent. Losses from exposure past year, 2.7 per cent; ten-year average, 1.7 per cent.

United States—Losses from disease past year, 1.96 per cent; ten-year average, 2.48 per cent. Losses from exposure past year, 2.17 per cent; ten-year average, 3.11 per cent.

Horses and Mules. State—Losses from disease past year, 1.7 per cent; ten-year average, 1.7 per cent.

United States—Losses from disease past year, 1.75 per cent; ten-year average, 1.95 per cent.

Eczema Cured or Money Refunded. This guarantee goes with every box of Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment. Makes no difference whether it is a baby, child or aged. No matter how long standing the case the guarantee holds good. Cut out this strip, go to your druggist, get a box of Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment, use if as directed and if you are not fully satisfied, the druggist or maker will refund your money. Try it just once, you will be happily surprised.—adv.

Factions Bury Hatchet.

Guantanamo, Cuba, April 10.—That the Marines and bluejackets of Uncle Sam's Navy have buried the hatchet and there is now only the kindest feeling between the enlisted men of the Marine Corps, was evidenced at a banquet tendered Gunner's Mates Charles E. Hills and Robert Conroy by the Marine Detachment of the U. S. S., New York, the other evening.

The naval gunners were presented with handsome watches by the Marine Corps boys, and the speakers of the evening took for their theme the new relationship between the enlisted men of the two branches.

In the old days of wooden sailing ships there was considerable jealousy and ill-feeling betwixt the bluejackets and Marines, but since the advent of the modern man-of-war that feeling has entirely disappeared and the men of the two branches now live aboard ship in perfect peace and harmony.

Joint shore operations at Vera Cruz and Hayti have brought about an even better understanding between the men, the officers declare.

Why Constipation Injures

The bowels are the natural sewerage system of the body. When they become obstructed by constipation a part of the poisonous matter which they should carry off is absorbed into the system, making you feel dull and stupid, and interfering with the digestion and assimilation of food. This condition is quickly relieved by Chamberlain's Tablets. Obtainable everywhere.

For Women and Misses Easter Neckwear The Loveliest of Charming New Styles--Just Received Just unpacked—and as chic, dainty, and fresh as you could wish for Easter Wear. New styles in round, square and V-shape, from the simple little turn-overs to the large big flat collars, lace-trimmed and embroidered. Among this lot is many new square turn-overs that can be worn with coats with high collars; also a very pretty new collar is of Georgette-Crepe. See these new collars now; there is just a limited number that came in (5 doz. in the lot) and they are so pretty and new they won't last long. Moderately priced, as always, at West's 25c and 50c

La France Pure Thread Silk Stockings for Women at \$1.00 95 per cent pure thread silk, 5 per cent pure dye. Nothing is used in the finishing process to make La France silk hose appear heavy weight—no tin nor weighing matter at all; nothing to injure their service to you. Extra reinforced heel, toe and foot; 3 thread knee; strong garter top; only pure Japanese silk used. That's why we believe "La France" to be the best value yet produced in Silk Hose—we want you to try a pair of them, the best silk stocking for \$1.00 in America—Black, white and every new shade, every size, a pair \$1.00. In extra wide top (out size) pure silk in black or white, pair \$1.25. A big assortment of fancy pure silk hose in plaids, stripes, checks, etc.—new black and white effects and other new combinations, priced, pair \$1.25 and \$1.50

We Dress the Boys Right, Too, and do it Very Economically You'll find every thing in the way of good clothing and furnishings for boys. We invite you're early inspection of the New Spring Stocks and call your particular attention to the splendid assortment of Boy's "Best Ever" Suits, guaranteed all wool, 16 special features \$5.00 up Boy's "Kaynee" Blouses with no tapes or strings, priced \$1.00 Boy's New Spring Four-in-Hand Ties, at \$1.00 Boy's Medium Weight Union Suits, for Spring wear \$1.00 Boy's "Black Cat" Hose, reinforced sole, triple knee, pair \$1.00 Boy's Suspenders and Leather Belts, priced \$1.00 Boy's New Spring Wash Suits, newest styles \$1.00 to \$1.50 Boy's Caps, the best quality in town at \$1.00

N. K. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

Prince Albert will show you the real road to smoke-joy! PRINCE ALBERT was made to create tobacco content where it never existed before! It permits men to smoke all they want without getting a sore tongue, without any comeback but real tobacco enjoyment! The patented process by which Prince Albert is made (and controlled exclusively by us) fixes that—and cuts out bite and parch! PRINCE ALBERT the national joy smoke comes right to your taste fair and square! And it will do for you what it has done for thousands of men—make pipe or cigarette smoking the cheerfulness of your pleasures! Prince Albert is to be had everywhere tobacco is sold in tony red bags, 5c; tony red tins, 10c; handsome pound and half-pound tin humidors—and in that classy pound crystal-glass humidor with sponge-moistener top that keeps the tobacco in such fine shape—always! What we tell you about Prince Albert is a fact that will prove out to your satisfaction just as quickly as you lay in a stock and fire-up! R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO., Winston-Salem, N. C.

SHINOLA The wax and oil polish that shines quickly and saves the leather. SHINOLA HOME SET Best at any price Sold to SHINOLA users at nominal cost. At all dealers. BLACK-TAN-WHITE Take no Substitute For Home, Grip or Automobile

DEBT The Careful man does not carry a load of debt. He is a careful man and instead of wasting his money he puts it in the bank where it is safe and when he can get it. DEBT IS A HARD MASTER. THE WAY NOT TO HAVE A DEBT YOU CANNOT PAY IS NOT TO MAKE IT. THE "CAREFUL" MAN NEVER MAKES A DEBT, UNLESS BY DOING SO HE COULD SAFELY SEE A BIGGER "INCOME" THAN "OUT-GO". THIS IS HOW HE GROWS A FORTUNE. ARE NOT YOU GOING TO PUT YOUR MONEY IN OUR BANK AND ALSO GROW A FORTUNE? 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; C. C. Penington, 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. Penington, H. S. Brownton, F. L. Meyers, A. Blokland, A. T. Hill, H. E. Coolidge.