

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

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Constructive building up, impetuous, ran pageous and vehement, Roosevelt hold two men stood by them in shone of those stormy strong men willing garments.

So surcharged are these men with energy that they disturb the equilibrium of established order, topple over traditions, and provoke agitations that reverberate long after they have been tamed from the world.

Such characters are condemned by many as revolutionary and dangerous. Yet they perform a very great and necessary service to humanity. They relieve a sultry political atmosphere. They are the safety vents of pent-up passions. They are the daring fire-brands, and other women that were moans in the grand, onward march of the Democracy.

A man of great decision of character, the combative colonel leaps abruptly to his conviction and expresses it in swift, straightforward and sometimes sulphurous diction.

A veritable steam engine dressed up in man's clothes, his arm has the sweep of a piston, his words the hiss of hot steam. And when you hear the blast of his whistle, get off the track for the Empire Express is on the way.

Whatever else may be said of him, the Colonel is a power.

DOES IT PAY TO ADVERTISE?

Ask Earl Zundel, assistant cashier of the La Grande National bank.

Some time ago Earl came to the conclusion that he could not run a dairy farm along the lines he wished to and at the same time give attention to the various sundry checks, gold and silver that the people passed through his window at the bank. He chose between the two and bumped the farm. But he had a fine bunch of dreamy, creamy Jersey cows on hand and he wanted to dispose of them. Turning to the Evening Observer he ordered a small classified advertisement inserted. One day Earl called

up the office and said, "For pity sake take out that advertisement, I am completely out of cows and inquiries are still coming thick and fast."

His bill was a dollar and two cents, to be exact, and on the strength of that amount of advertising he sold twenty head of as fine milk cows as ever chewed on Grande Ronde alfalfa. It would be very hard indeed to convince Earl that advertising does not pay.

GEMS FROM THE BIBLE.

Luke XXIV: 1-12

1 Now upon the first day of the week very early in the morning they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold two men stood by them in shapely garments.

5 And as they were afraid, and disturbance, breaking upon the world, they said unto them, Why seek ye the demonstrations of thunderclap and lightning among the dead?

6 He is not here, but is risen. Remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee.

7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified, and the third day rise again.

8 And they remembered his words, many as revolutionary and dangerous. Yet they perform a very great and necessary service to humanity. They relieve a sultry political atmosphere. They are the safety vents of pent-up passions. They are the daring fire-brands, and other women that were moans in the grand, onward march of the Democracy.

10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and the other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre, and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

St. John, Chap. XX 11-18

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping; and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the sepulchre.

12 And seeing two angles in white, sitting one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She

turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni, which is to say, Master.

17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father; but go to my brethren, and say unto them I ascend unto my Father and your Father, and to my God and your God.

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

Prison Flax Plant

With the flax plant and the prison school running full blast the empty edifices of the penitentiary shops have given way to the hum of industry, and commercial flax and elementary education are being turned out under the supervision of Superintendent Cady and Principal Frank Davey, respectively. Says the Salem Capital Journal.

The three principal operations of preparing for use is being carried out by about a hundred men in the flax mill. The flax is broken, scutched and hackled, then bound into bundles. The breakers consist of serrated rollers that break the woody covering from the flax as it is fed into the machines by one man to each machine; another breaks the bundles and separates them for the feeder. Another man takes the flax as it comes from the breaker and piles it up on a table where it can be reached by the men working at the scutching machine.

The scutching machines consist of 4 dull knives shaped like a cavalry sabre which revolve on a shaft. The bunches of broken flax are held against these knives which scrape the woody parts from the fibre which is then twisted and turned over to the hacklers. The hacklers consist of huge steel spiked combs nailed to a table. The bunches of flax are then combed out much the same as mildy combs out her hair switch.

The hacklers leave the fibres of the flax free from tangles and in suitable bunches for handling. They are then assembled in bundles about 12 inches in diameter and the full length of the fibre and in this shape it is ready for sale to the flax mills and other factories that make linen products. The flax that is separated by each operation from the first quality fibre has its uses as tow, twine, and the short tangled refuse is baled for upholstering furniture.

The fibre flax is easily distinguished from the seed flax by its coarseness but for certain uses the seed flax fibre is in demand and finds a ready sale although its primary purpose is to make linseed oil.

"Rotten" Flax is the Best

It will be noted in looking over the samples of flax now ready for sale, that the most colored and best cured flax is the so called "rotten" flax that aroused widespread comment last winter when the flax was undergoing the retting process.

About 100 men are employed in the flax plant and not one of them ever worked in a flax plant before and as a result Mr. Cady is not able to put out the quantity of finished flax that would result from experienced free labor. However, the men are being taught their new duties and next year when the acreage is increased to 600 acres the plant will provide labor for over 100 men during the entire year and promises to return a handsome profit to the state, once the industry is in good working order, as well as opening up a new endeavor for the farmers of the Willamette valley.

The Prison School

Frank Davey, the prison school master, has about 60 "boys" in his prison school which is being conducted in one end of the most southerly of the prison shops. The building has been painted white inside and is a well lighted school room. The boys have learned the lesson of industry and are hard workers. No paper was besmear the black board, no cat-o-nine tails adorns the masters desk and no whispering or gum chewing is evident otherwise the school is about the same as any other school except that the pupils carry their pipes and tobacco to school though they do not use them during school hours.

Some of the boys are grey haired, some of them have thin patches on top but all are "boys" in enthusiasm and endeavor to learn the subjects taught them in the prison school. The prisoners are grouped according to their previous education and ability to assimilate and as the pupil advances he is promoted to the next class. Some fifteen of the pupils are foreigners of various nativity and these are being taught the English language in order that they may better cope with the problems that confront them in America, when they are released.

Mr. Davey is assisted by two instructors who are convicts but have had advanced educational training and classes in reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, history, civil government, geography and other subjects are earnestly bending to their tasks. The prison school room will seat 216 pupils and it is expected that the enrollment will increase materially in the winter when the outside gangs are not able to work, because only those that have nothing else to do are enrolled in the school and no man can get out of work by going to school.

Governor Withycombe today conducted a party through the inside plant of the penitentiary with State Treasurer Kay and the newspaper men were given their first chance to see the pen plant in operation since the small pox scare at the pen has died down.

Geology of Canal Zone.

BY HAMILTON FOLEY.

(Special Correspondent of the New York World writing from Ancon, Panama, in the canal zone.)

That the rocks in which all the present sliding in the Panama Canal is taking place cannot be weakened to any notable degree by heavy rains, and other facts instructive for the civil engineering profession, are results that have been derived from in-

vestigations made to ascertain what value, if any, there was in the innumerable suggestions for controlling the canal slides that have been mailed to Gen. Goethals from all parts of the world.

That there was nothing practical in all the schemes that contemplated draining the area that has been giving trouble, by means of tunnels or wells, as has been suggested, from many quarters, has been conclusively proved by a series of experiments made under conditions that will make the results convincing and of interest to all civil engineers and geologists.

Advised That It Was Water.

"It is the water in those slides that makes them slide," Gen. Goethals has been advised in all languages. "If you had drained off that water by means of small tunnels and wells these slides would not have occurred," and "by means of wells and tunnels future slides from this rock will be avoided" are two other opinions that have been insistently sent to him for a long time, and especially of late. What Gen. Goethals thought he did not say, but a cable was sent for everything that was needed to conduct a series of investigations that would be the last and convincing scientific answer to all these suggestions. Donald F. MacDonald, the canal geologist for the last five years, was retained and ordered to conduct the most exhaustive experiments along the lines of the latest geologic knowledge and the suggestions of the commission of scientists that lately came to the canal. Prof. J. M. Mead, a geologist from the University of Wisconsin, who has made a specialty of just such experiments as were suggested, was engaged to come to the canal and assist Mr. MacDonald with his very special knowledge of his latest development of geological work.

What Experiments Prove.

The experiments Messrs. MacDonald and Mead have been making prove that the rocks that have been sliding contain about thirty per cent, by volume, of water, a very large amount. The rocks that are moving toward the channel of the canal are so broken up that they have had every opportunity to drain and to lose their water by evaporation. Notwithstanding these conditions, these rocks, as these experiments prove, have only about one-half of one per cent less water than the rocks of the same class that were examined after they had been submerged in the canal for months, a period long enough to have thoroughly saturated them with water.

With this general result as a basis, Messrs. MacDonald and Mead continued their experiments until they proved conclusively that while the rocks that have been sliding contain the high percentage of water mentioned, this water is largely in capillary form and cannot be effectively drained except to the extent of possibly four or five per cent by any system that could be devised. No more convincing argument can be advanced to prove that not deep drainage of the weak rocks but vigorous digging away by dredges of the material now sliding, is the remedy for the slides under present conditions.

One Theory Absurd.

A theory held tenaciously during the dry excavation construction period among the engineers directly connected with the Culebra Cut was that the high ground above the canal channel should be allowed to slide so as to reduce the amount of blasting. This was one of the many ideas that Gen. Goethals had to over-rule during the building of the canal. These experiments prove that he was absolutely correct from a scientific geological viewpoint in overruling this theory and in digging away with steam shovels as much earth as possible of the banks that might slide. Geolog-

ist MacDonald from the first maintained that initial movement, and by this the great weakening of the canal banks should be prevented by terracing the slopes back with steam shovels; for before any movement occurred slides might be maintained at an angle of something like one on three, or steeper; but after movement was once started, the sheared rocks could contain enough extra water to bring them almost to the consistency of mud. They would, therefore, stand only at a very flat angle, perhaps to one on ten.

The experiments just concluded prove that this is what actually has been happening. They prove that the rock in the Canal banks that has given the recent trouble is not weakened or affected to any special degree by heavy rains except after it has moved and thus been weakened.

Geologist Vindicated.

In view of these results geologists will be interested to know that Mr. MacDonald's officially printed reports as long as five years ago emphatically urged upon the Division Engineer then in charge of the excavation of the Culebra Cut that these banks that have recently caused trouble by sliding be dug back until the slopes were very much flatter than they were when these recent slides occurred, just where MacDonald predicted they might be expected.

The Division Engineer of the Central Division, of which the Culebra Cut was the principal part, was always absolutely convinced that the slopes considered safe by engineering precedents rather than those the Canal geologist recommended and urged would be the ones at which to stop steam shovel excavation. This engineer's opinion influenced Gen. Goethals, until the time came, as it did, when the General found that he had to take personal charge of the excavation work in the Culebra Cut. When he did this, and, in actual charge, came to see more in detail the recommendations the geologist had been making, he adopted them as far as the limits of time and the advanced condition of the whole work then made possible. Since that time Gen. Goethals has taken genuine interest in the suggestions experienced geologists have been able to offer after a study of local conditions. This attitude toward practical geologists means much for their future work with civil engineers engaged in tasks in any way similar to the problems of canal excavation.

The vindication of the work of the Canal geologist during the last four or five years made by these experiments has called into notice here the fact that it was the Canal Dredging Division and not Geologist MacDonald that fixed the approximate date of the last of November last as the time when a channel, say 125 feet wide, would be cleared through the sliding ground. When Mr. MacDonald, in October, made a brief examination of these slides during a stay here of a day, he asked the Canal engineers when they could get a narrow channel through the mass of earth and rock that was then completely barring the Canal. They answered, "Two weeks." Whereupon Mr. MacDonald said to The World correspondent that if such a channel could be put through by "about the last week in November," so as to give the dredges and scows a chance properly and effectively to attack the slide, the channel could probably be kept open and gradually enlarged to normal size in spite of the sliding movement. As The World has reported, Mr. MacDonald said that there would be some possible chance of the channel closing again during the next four or five months, but when the material now moving had been brought under control by dredging, no now sliding that

would close the Canal channel would occur, "as long as Gabriel's trumpet remains unsounded." The dredging engineers did not have a narrow channel cleared through the sliding material on the last of November because a dredge broke down, but they had such a channel through about ten days later. The Governor of the Canal is not permitting vessels, except its own, to go through the channel, because passage interferes with the dredging, and because, as Geologist MacDonald suggested, there is a remote possibility of another closure of the channel should very heavy rains or other unexpected conditions occur, until such time as the dredges remove all the menacing material. After this has been removed, and it is not great in quantity, according to measures on the Canal, though it is known that small slides will occur for some years, no slide that will close the Canal can occur.

GLOOM DISPELLERS

Pay Wrong Ones

"Pa," inquired a 7-year-old seeker after the truth, "is it true that school teachers get paid?"

"Certainly it is," replied the father. "Well, then," said the youth indignantly, "that ain't right. Why should the teachers get paid when us kids do all the work?"—Ladies Home Journal

A certain father who is fond of putting his boys through natural-history examinations is often surprised at their mental agility. He recently asked them to tell him, "What animal is satisfied with the least amount of nourishment?"

"The moth," one of them shouted confidently. "It eats nothing but holes."—Youth's Companion.

Hard Luck

"Don't cry, Willie Grandpa will play Indian with you."

"But you don't do any good Y-you're scalped already!"—Judge.

A Poor Sport

The Lady—"Come back, boy; that ice isn't safe."

Boy on Bank—"That ain't fair miss I bet him a nickel he'd fall in."

Life.

Leap-Year Horrors

"Lady (young) will gladly marry and give up life to the care and happiness of wounded hero, blinded or incapacitated by the war.—Genuine Box M. 770, the London Times."

A Shortage

From an advertisement of "In the Palace of the King":

5,000 People.

4,000 Costumes.

—Philadelphia Evening Ledger.

A Hearthstone Hero

"I hear, Tommy, you saved a life in the war."

"Hi did, sir."

"How did you do it, Tommy?"

"By not hilling, sir."—Boston Transcript.

Wise Constituent

A congressman received almost daily letters from a constituent asking for garden-seed with emphasis on peas. The demand for peas got so heavy that the congressman was moved to write this letter:

"I am sending you a half dozen more packages of peas, as requested. Say, what are you doing down there, planting the whole state in peas?"

"No, I'm not planting them but they make bully soup. Send along some more."—Kansas City Star.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

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No Alum—No Phosphate



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 where 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

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