

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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WHERE THE GOLD IS.

That the United States will continue to be the center of gravity of the world's gold and silver supply is easily manifested by a study of the conditions.

This continent is producing gold and silver in large quantities, in addition to the gravitation here of Europe's gold. The total mined gold of the past centuries, together with the looted treasure of the orient and of Mexico and Peru, is placed by the Journal of the American Bankers' association at \$30,000,000,000. But \$20,000,000,000 of this has utterly disappeared from the coinage of the nations, probably \$10,000,000,000 of it going into the arts.

An increasingly large amount of the gold supply is going into the arts in the United States. The "riches of the orient" have been dissipated.

Europe remained the treasure house of gold up to the outbreak of the war, but paper money has supplanted gold to such a degree, and such large quantities of gold have been shipped to New York to meet exchange needs,

that Europe will henceforth use paper money for the most part.

In 1820 the money of Europe consisted of \$345,000,000 in gold and silver, and \$115,000,000 in paper, the paper forming twenty-five per cent of the whole. In 1896 the money consisted of \$3,000,000,000 in gold and silver, and \$3,720,000,000 in paper, the paper forming fifty-five per cent of the whole.

And today, with the enormous issues of war paper, the gold constitutes a small percentage of the money in use in Europe. But while the United States has acquired the bulk of the world's gold, and a large portion of the world's silver, the circulation of gold has not increased. No one sees more gold on the market place on this account.

As a result the American bankers will have a problem in what to do with the gold. It will doubtless remain in the vaults. Paper is the best coinage. Gold or silver are barbaric mediums of exchange. The faith and credit of the government are as good as the gold.

If the European nations depended today upon their supply of gold where would they be? They rightly depend instead upon their confidence in the capacity of their soil to redeem their promise to pay.

GOVERNMENT NITROGEN PLANT.

If the government builds a nitrate plant, a proposal to which the senate has declared itself favorable, it will undertake a project that may cast light in several directions.

In looking for the cheapest way of extracting nitrogen from the air, it will have to take up in serious, probably experimental fashion, the use of waterpowers, and it will thus secure valuable information on a question which it has been trying for years to solve—the proper terms on which private companies should be allowed to acquire waterpower rights.

It will go into the manufacture of powder for itself, taking this very im-

portant business out of the hands of contractors, and preserving the secrets of new processes likely to be discovered.

The nitrogen not used for powder will go into the making of fertilizers. Probably a close co-operation with the department of agriculture will be set up, so that the farmers of the United States will be made acquainted in a short time with the large fund of knowledge regarding the importance of nitrogen which German farmers have possessed and used profitably for many years.

This is a war measure which is unique in that it is of value to the country in time of peace also.

A Chicago laborer feared that he would be obliged to pay personal taxes on his six children. He placed their value as greater than that of all the wealth in Chicago and he earns \$1.60 a day, so, naturally, he was anxious.

A scientist has been laboring for five years to teach an ape to talk. He has given up, having decided that the beast would have very little of interest to say, anyway.

Villa seems to look upon it as a family secret as to whether he is dead or alive, and if alive where he is spending his time.

Women soldiers in New York have voted to drill in trousers. This is going to drive many men from the pacifist ranks into the war party, we fear.

A Pennsylvania man who wanted a drink took possession of a locomotive and ran it a mile to the nearest saloon. Now he has bars all around him.

BIDS WANTED

For School Building, North Powder, Oregon

Proposals are invited for the construction of a school building. Same is of masonry construction, two stories and basement, about 76 x 108 feet ground area.

Proposals for (1) general contract, (2) steam heating and ventilating, (3) plumbing.

Certified check in the sum of for No. 1, \$500; No. 2, \$150; and No. 3, \$50.

Bids received at the store of L. B. Russell, Clerk of the School Board, North Powder, and until noon of Thursday, May 11, 1916.

Plans can be secured of Tourtelotte & Hummel, Architects, Rothchild Bldg., Portland, Oregon, or the clerk of board at North Powder, on deposit of a check of \$10 to guarantee prompt return of plans.

Board reserves the right to accept any bid or reject all bids.

SCHOOL BOARD. CHAS. JACOBSON, Chairman. L. B. RUSSELL, Clerk. 5-3-16

Methodists at Baker. Baker, May 3.—A two days' session of the La Grande district M. E. conference opens to day at the Methodist church in this city under the direction of Rev. W. A. Winters, district superintendent. It is expected that the 30 churches in the district will all be represented by the pastors and lay delegates and Rev. C. E. Helman is assured a large attendance. Plans for the entertainment of the delegates have been made and the programs of the two days promise to be highly interesting. Special music by the choir under the direction of Mrs. C. T. Godwin will be a feature.

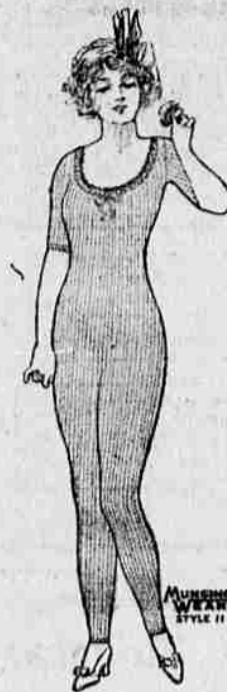
Spring Underwear Week

Our New Spring and Summer Stocks are Most Complete—See the Window Displays of the Many Attractive Values.

Exclusive Agents

MUNSING WEAR

For Women



Munsingwear Union Suits for Women are so fine in Quality as to satisfy the most particular women, so perfect in fit as to be absolutely comfortable, and so moderate in price none be without them. The fit won't wash out.

Women's Union Suits in all styles—low neck, V-neck, Dutch neck, wing sleeves, no sleeves, elbow sleeves, knee length, lace knee, ankle length.

Women's Munsing Union Suits, priced 50c
Women's Cotton Knit Union Suits, tight or lace knee 25c
Women's Fine Mercerized Union Suits 75c, \$1.25, \$1.50
Women's Summer Vests, all styles 10c, 12 1/2c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c, 50c

Exclusive Agents

Cooper Kenosha-Klosed-Krotan

Union Suits For Men



Perfect fitting Union Suits—popular because they do not bind or gap at the crotch. Men's Union Suits here in all styles and weights. Short sleeves, long sleeves, knee length, or ankle length, in cotton, balbriggan and mercerized lisle; athletic or B. V. D. styles in nainsook, mercerized silk, or pure silk.

Men's Athletic or B. V. D. Style Union Suits 50c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$5.00
Men's Chalmers Genuine Porosknit Union Suits \$1.00
Cooper's Light Weight Union Suits, knit of fine Egyptian Cotton, priced \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50
Boys' Union Suits, priced 50c

N. K. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

THE OLD RELIABLE

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure

No ALUM—No PHOSPHATE



The careful man puts his money in the bank. If he dies he won't leave helpless children.

ARE YOU A DADDY?

YOU LOVE YOUR FAMILY; PERHAPS YOU WASTE A LOT OF MONEY IN "DRIBS AND DRABS" THAT IF PUT INTO THE BANK NOW WOULD GROW TO A BIG SUM.

IF YOU LIVE "YOU" CAN ENJOY YOUR MONEY, IF YOU DON'T IT WILL PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN.

YOU ARE SETTING YOUR BOYS A GOOD EXAMPLE WHEN YOU PUT MONEY IN THE BANK.

BANK WITH US.

WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST

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.

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MONEY at 7 and 8 Per Cent

No Delays

No Outside Appraisers

No Outside Auditors

Money in any Amounts Ready as Soon as Title is Perfected

La Grande Investment Co.