

THE OBSERVER

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KAMELA HILL.

If there is one place in Oregon more deserving than any other of state aid in road work it is Kamela Hill.

This particular piece of road is almost in "no man's land," so to speak. By this we mean it is the backbone of a rough section of country where agriculture is practically impossible and homes are very few.

It is half Umatilla and half Union and is an adopted child to each county. Everybody curses it, everybody raves at it. Each county court can find a hundred places to spend road money where that money will help some rancher market his products, and therefore Kamela Hill is a bump on the topography of the two counties and is more or less of an outcast.

For these, and various other reasons not mentioned, there should be state aid applied to Kamela Hill. It is a connecting link for state travel. It is essential to have a passable road if the Umatilla country and everything west shall reach Eastern Oregon; and likewise essential if Eastern Oregon travel gets across the mountains westward.

Let Wallowa, Union, Baker and Umatilla county join hands and appear before the state board asking that some state money be spent on Kamela Hill.

THE YOUNG TURK NO WORLD-DIPLOMAT.

So often has the doom of Turkey been seen that to predict the serious crippling of that tenacious state, even under present circumstances, is bold.

Her Teuton allies have saved Constantinople for the moment; but she has lost 30,000 square miles of Armenia, and seems destined to lose still more to the advancing Russians, while, in the south, Bagdad, is threat-

ened by the Russians marching across the mountains from Kermanshah and by the British expeditionary force at Kut-el-Amara, which will almost certainly be relieved when the czar's forces have penetrated into the Tigris valley.

What preparations the combined Turks and Teutons have made to check this threat on the Babylonian dominion are unknown. It looks, however, as if the Young Turks are reaping the fruit of their friendship for Germany. The Young Turks are not loved even in Turkey, and their influence over the other Mohammedans has been shown to be weak.

No threat of a "holy war" could keep Italy out of Tripoli, and though it is true that a union of 200,000,000 followers of the prophet could cut a big figure in the present conflict, and has even been predicted, there have been no definite signs that it will materialize. Turkish mis-government has turned even the Turks away from their rulers.

WATERPOWER.

The Shields bill, which provides for the development of waterpower in the United States under what amounts to a 50 year franchise, has resulted in a singular deadlock. Advocates and opponents of the measure both accuse the same interests. The conservationists, who say that the bill is a blow aimed at government control of public resources, accuse the monopolists, the exploiting capitalists, of furthering it.

"There are a few sections where utility corporations having a monopoly of present waterpower development are opposing this legislation because they do not want further development that would lead to the establishment of new industries, increase demand for power, upset the conditions they now enjoy, and possibly bring about a reduction of power prices."

In other words, both sides have entrenched themselves behind the abstract principle of public rights and the welfare of the nation. For the layman to determine which is the more sincere is no simple task.

A very great deal of energy in water power is undeveloped in this country. It is not accurate to say that it is going to waste, since it will be as available next century as this. But there would be a decided increase in general wealth if the possibilities of waterpower were completely utilized.

The government at present is not in the position to organize, develop and market this power. Nitrogen for the soil, motive power for manufacturing, light and traction power are the chief benefits awaiting the exploiters of the larger rivers of the

United States. The United States has seen what befalls when the people's claim in national resources such as coal, oil and timber is surrendered. We have grown suspicious. And 50 years, at the rate we are moving, is a long time for the government to tie its hands at the behest of corporations. Capital, too, is conservative. It demands compensation for investment and risk.

Granting that waterpower facilities should be turned to use, it remains for the people to drive the best bargain they can, and on no consideration to relinquish their rights in about the last natural resource.

A RATIONAL SECOND STEP

Chauncey M. Depew observed his eighty-second birthday by delivering a speech in which he discussed many current subjects from the point of view of the octogenarian, and among others said something about the threatened railroad strike. Incidentally he suggested a method for settling disputes between employers and employees of the country's transportation concerns which might prove effective in practice hereafter, although there is probably not enough time to apply it in the present emergency.

His proposal was that the Interstate Commerce commission should have power to investigate demands made by workers on railroads and to adjust conditions of pay to meet expenditures of the companies. Having taken the first step of committing to this commission one end of the railroad's business, that of income, it seems a rational second step to complement the action by committing to it the other end as well and to give it authority over outgo, so that the public shall be assured continuance of service, a need even more vital than the need for reasonable charges for the service which the commission already controls.

As Mr. Depew argues, the demand now made upon the railroads would require an additional expenditure of a hundred million dollars a year. The railroads can get the money in only three ways. One is to stop dividends and payment of interest on indebtedness; that means bankruptcy, deterioration of service, ruin for holders of securities, dislocation of our whole system of credit and income, discouragement of capital from railroad enterprises and the end of railroad construction and extension. A second way is to cut down train service, maintenance of track and equipment and those outlays for betterment of systems which gives employment to about one third of the working force and are perhaps the largest single item in the nation's business. The third way is to relegate the entire subject to the Interstate Commerce commission with authority to deny the demanded increase if it shall not be thoroughly supported by proof of its indispensable necessity, and to increase the railroads' revenues if the additional outlay is demonstrated to be unavoidable with fairness to all concerned.

The reasoning seems sound. Some people will not relish the idea of extending paternal control over individual action, but the mischief of this has already been done in giving the commission its original powers. Since it is probably impossible to retrace our course, the wise policy may be to go farther.

Certainly the strike method of settling such disputes is too ruinously costly to be permitted by a sensible people. Some better way than universal suffering and wide-spread ruin must be found to dispose of these troubles.

TONIGHT AT WALLOWA.

At McRae's hotel in the town of Wallowa this evening the Wallowa Lake Tourist Travel association will hold a banquet which will be the third held in the past few weeks by that body. This evening's meeting is for the purpose of definitely determining what can be done toward making the public realize the beauties of Wallowa Lake and Wallowa county thus attracting tourists this way.

In this movement La Grande and Union county join with hearty support. Anything that will assist Wallowa county is "Jake with this county" and so when the Wallowans and Union county representatives gather at Wallowa this evening they can have full assurance that we are with them heart and soul.

Portland's Rose show was crowded completely off the front page by the conventions at Chicago. Hard luck for Sheriff Till Taylor of Pendleton will never wear those glad rags again and he should have been on the front page every day.

La Grande appreciates the compliment paid F. L. Meyers of this city when the state bankers elected him as their head for the ensuing year. May make it easier to borrow a little money without security if we can only make Mr. Meyers see it that way.

Newest Modes In Sport Apparel

Always to be found at West's. Always something new and unusual direct from New York. We specialize at moderate prices and are prepared to show you a large variety of correct styles for Street or Outing Wear in

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Are the words that describe the new arrivals in women's SUMMER - NECKWEAR as always priced at 25c & 50c



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Our sales in front laced corsets have wonderfully increased and in order that we may meet satisfactorily this larger demand we have placed in stock an extensive assortment of Henderson Front Laced Corsets, designed for the slight, the average and the stout figures.

These corsets have the deserved reputation of being unsurpassed for style, fit, beauty and service.

Henderson Front Laced Corsets have a ventilated back section, made of a soft mesh material which prevents all pressure of heavy boning or bulky seams on the spine, so objectionable in some front laced models.

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The better models have a flexible top clasp which relieves pressure on the bust.

Better or more satisfactory corsets are not made for the prices. We urge that you inspect these new Front-Laced Models \$2.50 to \$3.50

New Sport Styles Boy's Blouses 50c

In the "Kaynee" brand—no tapes or strings—bought all over by boys' mothers. No drawstrings to be pulled out in the laundry.

In all colors and patterns, etc. 50c

Beautiful Draperies

That will appeal strongly to all home lovers may be seen in great assortment in our drapery section. New cretonnes in beautiful new patterns, per yard.

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New Curtain Scrimms, the greatest values ever offered, per yard

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N. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

Judge Lowell advocates political conventions for the purpose of adopting party platforms and C. C. Chapman in the Oregon Voter advocates straightout oldtime party conventions for nominating candidates. The pendulum is swinging backward, but it is very doubtful if the people will let it swing that far.

Frank Hitchcock should manage the Hughes campaign, by all means. He is the one man who created more Hughes sentiment than any other.

According to the Public Utilities Commission report the Portland Light and Power company has been losing money for some time and is losing money now. Perhaps Frank Griffith, the president, is the man who has the bear by the tail, etc.

The Indians claim "no summer this year; winter shall meet winter." No one wants to believe the Indian but we may be forced to do so.

Get on the new bonnet and prepare for the journey to the Stock show at Union.

Added to the usual attractions at the Stock show this week Union is to have a sale of live stock which will eclipse anything in the west.

It surely was a funny sight to see Senator Fulton, Judge Carey and Newt Burgess locking arms with Henry Waldo Coe and Col. Emmett Callahan, while Ralph Williams and Charles Ackerman ate gum drops together. Yet that is what is reported from the Chicago convention.

Foundation for the addition to the roundhouse is under way and the pouring of cement will begin this week. The yards look like some full sized gophers had been at work.

Putting the stamp of approval on the Portland Live Stock show was not sufficient for the bankers of the state in convention assembled, for they in addition to that, appropriated \$10,000 for the show. Evidently the bankers want to encourage the raising of swine and cattle and sheep.

La Grande regrets deeply the removal of so many of the old, substantial families connected with the O.-W. to other points along the line, but we welcome the new ones who are coming to take their places.

Americanization in California.

Below is a copy of a letter sent out by State Superintendent Edward Hyatt to the school superintendents of California, under date of May 5, 1916. The California State Education Department is thus the second to attack the problem of the education of the foreign born from the state point of view.

"Please let me call your particular attention to a phase of public education that has not engaged much of our attention heretofore, but that is surely going to demand it in the near future—that is, the education and the Americanization of the adult foreigner.

"Among thoughtful people and among law makers is growing up the conviction that the presence of the illiterate foreigner is a danger and a menace to us and to our institutions. Under present conditions he may be among us twenty years or more, knowing nothing of our language, open to none of the influences that tend to good citizenship. He can be guided and moved by the intriguer and the boss of his own nationality, but can not be touched by Uncle Sam. Thus, in time of stress or danger, he may become dangerous and threatening in the extreme to the very life of the republic.

"It is coming about that the burden of teaching and Americanizing the foreigner is to be laid upon the educational forces of the commonwealth. That means US.

"The Commission of Immigration and Housing has been created. This body can investigate and plan and

recommend—but it is the school people who must teach. There are 75,000 illiterates reported in California. There are over half a million foreign born residents. These classes are becoming so large, as compared with our school population, that the state is taking cognizance of the matter and is moving toward assuming responsibility.

"At present, the most definite way to reach our adult foreigners is through the night schools. The machinery for organizing night schools is at hand in every school district. Any school may establish a night school by action of its own board of trustees. It must provide for housing and maintaining the night school itself, as it will get no additional apportionment during the following year. Free textbooks are furnished by the state, however.

"The object of this letter is twofold; first, to call your attention to the shadow of coming events; and, second, to warn you that those schools proposing to meet the situation by opening night schools must needs add to their September budgets, to their special taxes, the money necessary for opening the schools and maintaining them during the first year.

"If this office can give you any further information or assistance, please be free to call on us."

Remembers Elephant Well.

San Diego, Calif., June 9.—Having heard of the length and tenacity of an elephant's memory, and remembering a trick he had played on one year before, Private Don O. Davis of the United States Marine Corps, begged to be excused from participating in the elephant maneuvers recently held by Marines on the exposition grounds in this city.

"I remember, when a kid, of slipping a fine large 'chaw' of plug tobacco into the trolley of a pachyderm that strangely resembles that big fellow over there" he told his commanding officer.

But Marines never flinch—no matter what the danger and Davis was ordered to take his place by the side of the elephant he feared.

And then—nothing at all happened. The elephant by Davis' side was not related—not even by marriage—to the elephant he had wronged in his youth.

Advertisement for La Grande National Bank featuring an illustration of a man with a bank book and the text: 'Every dollar that the Careful Man Banks in his youth will increase a hundred fold to him in his old age'

HERE'S A FACT: THE MONEY YOU SPEND NOW IS MANY TIMES THAT MONEY, BECAUSE YOU ARE CHEATING YOURSELF OUT OF THE PROFIT THAT MONEY WOULD EARN FOR YOU SOME DAY.

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU ARE THROWING AWAY THE "FOUNDATION" ON WHICH YOU COULD BUILD A FORTUNE. YOU ARE CASTING AWAY THE SEED WHICH WOULD BECOME A TREE IF PLANTED.

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