

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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THE GOOD ROADS FUND.

The United States, opposed in the very essentials of its being to centralized power, has been backward in establishing many of the improvements which are best furthered under such power.

Hitherto, the building of good roads essential to progress and prosperity, has been left to state, county, township and to individual initiative.

President Wilson has signed the Good-Roads bill, calling for the distribution of \$85,000,000 among the various states co-operating in road building.

Properly supervised, this appropriation should work inestimable benefit. It can take the place of "pork" and satisfy the inordinate appetites of certain legislators and their constituents for this commodity in a manner that will profit the country at large.

METCHNIKOFF'S ELIXIR OF LIFE

Prof. Elie Metchnikoff, the apostle of the deathless life, himself is dead.

Prof. Metchnikoff was one of the greatest of modern scientists whose name will stand with those of Jenner and Pasteur, but who with Ehrlich and Wright, escaped the persecution which was the lot of the earlier exponents of the germ, theories as distinguished from the sin theory of disease.

Metchnikoff's later book, "The Nature of Man," is the very last word in scientific and philosophical analysis. In this he again attacks death

itself, after having exhibited the numerous disharmonies in life. But it was thirty years ago that he first started the scientific and medical world with his phagocyte theory in which he showed that senile decay was caused by the triumph of the malevolent germs in the plasma of the blood.

That death may not be inevitable, that we may compel the commutation to life imprisonment on this planet of the sentence of death under which we are all placed, that death by old age may be avoided, that life may be prolonged indefinitely, this became the passionate belief of Metchnikoff.

Ponce De Leon, sought the Elixir of Life in Florida not more vainly than Metchnikoff sought it in Bulgaria, where he believed the lactic acid of the buttermilk diet of the Bulgarians accounted for the great age of the peasants. But the buttermilk fad was only a single incident in his long life of scientific achievement.

A few days ago Metchnikoff, when asked what he was doing for France, replied:

I am surviving for my country.

But not for long. None the less important were his theories of old age and death, which have been taken up where he left off by Wright and Ehrlich. The irony of his theory and of his death is further heightened by the fact that even as the malevolent overcame the benevolent germs in his plasma, so the bacteria of destruction were slaying tens of thousands daily on the battlefields of Europe, for Mars has long ago discovered that potent Elixir of Death—the sword.

New York has served notice on its hand-organ men that they must keep their instruments in tune. New York is bound to have harmony this year at all hazards.

An eastern theorist says the girls' fad of going in bathing barelegged is what is attracting the man-eating sharks. Sharks aren't all it attracts, either.

A Philadelphia man wants to trade his interest in an automobile for a house. He ought to be able to do it, too; a lot of folks make that trade every day.

A Brooklyn woman says she has reformed her husband by spanking him. And yet they say force never accomplished anything.

Villa is said to have thrown away his crutch. Has he also discarded the shroud he was supposed to have been wearing?

Boston landladies have formed a union, as if the lot of the boarder wasn't hard enough as it is.

Bull fighting is to be replaced by horse racing as a popular sport in Spain, it is said. Next, in the order of civilization, will come baseball.

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

Women, says a writer, are taking up the vices that men have discarded.

If they only stop there they'll never do anything very wicked.—Washington Post.

The nation's liquor bill last year was certainly a staggering total.—Boston Transcript.

Exchange of inhabitants by Russia and Germany is proceeding merrily.—Wall Street Journal.

Included in the cargo of the Deutschland is a goat once the property of J. Bull.—Baltimore American.

Fatal mistake not to have crushed that army when it was contemptible and little.—Wall Street Journal.

Ought not the Treasury Department at once to equip collectors of the ports with diving-suits?—New York Sun.

"Britain will win the war in a few months," says Lloyd-George. This will be news to Russia and France.—Boston Transcript.

Ford has climbed down to a nomination for Governor. He would make an ideal highways commissioner.—Wall Street Journal.

The Deutschland will carry at least 1,400 tons of nickel and rubber for the starving babies of Germany.—Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph.

It having been definitely established that hand-shaking spreads germs, we are all the more proud of our heroic politicians.—Washington Post.

A Western organization has recently adopted the slogan "The truth in politics." Every campaign develops its own humor.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

This call of meetings in fifty German cities to protest against annexing Belgium and Poland shows persistent lack of confidence in the Allies.—Boston Herald.

The Republican organization is doing everything possible to make the Progressives feel the parable of the prodigal son has its modern application.—Washington Star.

Five Virginians who joined the militia "to oblige a friend", and were called out, now want to be discharged. Why kick? Uncle Sam is the best kind of a friend to oblige.—New York Sun.

John M. Parker suggests that the Progressives abandon the moose as a party emblem and adopt the eagle. An especially good idea, considering how far they are up in the air.—Nashville Southern Lumberman.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT VITAL.

Helena Superintendent Says Treat Youth Like Human Being.

Missoula, Mont., Aug. 1.—John Dietrich, superintendent of the Helena public schools, addressed the faculty and students of the Summer session at the State University with "Things Which Make for the Social Development of the Child" as the subject of his talk.

Mr. Dietrich showed the audience that, even in the infant, are found signs of a tendency toward or a desire for community life. The first faint smile, he said, is but a sign that the child has begun to recognize people as distinct from things and is a manifestation of a desire for companionship. At this same early age he shows a delight in and a wish for self-pleasure. Late in life, though, these desires may become adulterated and exaggerated if they are not properly curbed.

Imitation is probably the greatest agency which makes for social development, said Mr. Dietrich. Without this the child could make little or no advancement. Thus the choice of associates, most of whom he will imitate, are a great factor in development. Care should be taken then that the opportunity for group development which is afforded in the present age, is a worthy one.

Every opportunity should be given for development. The school life should give the child a chance to de-

All Quitters, Cowards and Yellow Streak Folk are Warned Not to See "THE QUITTER" Sherry Theater - Sunday and Monday

See Our Window Display of "Henderson" and "Nemo" Corsets. You can find no more stylish Corsets, no better fitting, no better wearing Corsets than these and at moderate prices. We invite your inspection of these new models, which we are showing. Dozens of good models in Front or Back-laced "Henderson" Corsets, priced from \$1.00 to \$4.00. The Famous "Nemo" self-reducing corsets, Priced \$3.75, \$4.00, \$5.00. Special Display of Some Very Dainty Muslin Gowns. Pretty Embroidery and Lace-Trimmed Muslin Gowns in new styles. The prices are extremely reasonable for Gowns so conscientiously made.

"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. Pure Silk Boot Hose, all colors, pair 50c.

A great opportunity to buy cool comfortable Summer Footwear at almost Half Price. Now on Sale at the Shoe Department about 150 pair of Women's Low Shoes at almost half the regular prices. Dozens of styles, including fine pumps in patent leather, kid, calf, and swede, with either turn or welt soles, Cuban heels and Louis heels. Also button styles in patent leather and kid with cloth tops or kid tops, turn soles and welt soles, Cuban heels. Regular \$3.50 and \$4.00 "Utz and Dunn" and "Pingree" makes—broken sizes being the reason for the special price of only \$1.98.

N.W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

The Careful man knows that the best protection he can have is a Bank Account. Accidents will happen, so it is a comfortable feeling to have money in The Bank. EVEN IF AN ACCIDENT OR SICKNESS NEVER HAPPENS TO YOU, IT MAKES YOU FEEL SECURE TO HAVE MONEY IN THE BANK. MONEY IS YOUR BEST FRIEND AND WILL COME TO YOUR RESCUE WHEN NOBODY ELSE WILL OR CAN. WHEN YOU ARE OLD "MONEY" WILL KEEP YOU. WHO IS GETTING THE MONEY YOU ARE EARNING NOW? THINK OF IT. PUT SOME IN THE BANK. BANK WITH US WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST 6 1/2 % Money for Improved Farm Loans 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. B. Brownson, F. L. Meyers, A. Blokland, A. T. Hill, H. E. Coolidge.

velop personality, said Mr. Dietrich, and every effort must be made to break away from the formal, the stereotyped. The old idea that children should be "seen and not heard" has given way for the new one that children should be treated like human beings. Rules make a child too meek, too dependent, and give him the idea that he must always be ruled.

Public Utilities Report Salem, Or., Aug. 3.—The Salem Water, Light & Power company, operating at water plant at Salem, had an operating revenue of \$72,985.26 and operating expenses of \$40,164.14, leaving a net revenue of \$32,821.12. The total gross income was \$13,275.12 and the net income \$10,089.57. The surplus at the beginning of the year was

\$34,256.57 and the total surplus at the end of the year \$44,346.14. The Rogue River Water company of Grants Pass submitted the following figures: Operating revenue, \$19,629.16; operating expenses, \$11,724.34; net operating revenue, \$7,904.81; net income, \$576.72; deficit for year, \$56.88. The Oregon Power company reported as follows: Operating revenue, \$420,885.34; operating expenses, \$223,118.62; net operating revenue, \$197,766.72; gross income, \$171,819.03. The old water system of Canyon City did not get much revenue, but expenses were light, and so the profit was heavy, as these figures show: Operating revenue, \$181.70; operating expenses, \$4.75; net operating revenue, \$176.95; net income, \$159.48.

Hospital News. Enock Wardell, of Cove, aged 72, who was brought in a few days ago and operated on for stomach trouble, is reported critically ill today. Mrs. Ray Duncan and baby have left the hospital and returned to their home in Cove. Steve Angeless, a Bulgarian who has been in the hospital since a year ago last April doctoring a knee injury, left the institution yesterday. Ellis Hess, of North Powder who was operated on for appendicitis a few days ago, is improving. Mrs. Nancy Kofford of Union is getting along very well. Mrs. Beulah McClure and baby are doing well. Charles Best, of Union, is among the convalescent appendicitis patients.

Home Institution RICHEY PIANO HOUSE Home Institution Pianos \$187.00 Easy Payments. Knabe Ivers & Pond. Estey. Schumann. Bush & Gerts. Bennett. Sterling. Several Others of the best makes. No catch penny methods to catch the unsuspecting customer. We do not offer music lessons and charge accordingly. We buy goods direct and not from Portland retail houses. No culls or worked-over pianos to dump upon the public. Your contract or notes will be right at home, and not with some eastern concern. Prices count, together with selection of goods, call and we will convince you that we are right upon both.