

THE OBSERVER

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THE MOVIES.

Following an editorial in last evening's Observer regarding the hard-ship of the movie theatre owner in exercising constant alertness to secure interesting plays for the theatre, comes the announcement in this morning's mail that Ella Wheeler Wilcox has signed a contract to write moving picture plays. She is going to feature in her leading parts Arthur Ashley, Walter Miller, George Marlo, Chas. W. Travis, Lucille Taft Carlotta de Felice and Katherine Butler. With such writers as Ella Wheeler, bless her practical soul, added to those already working, and the other authors who will follow Ella Wheeler's lead, the supply of plays will at once increase.

We believe that few jobs are harder today than running a moving picture house. The public is to serve and the public is spotted in its taste. Picture people can't run houses purely for glory; they must make money or their doors close, for the expense of the picture game is terrific. To obtain pictures that will draw crowds and yet give the public beautiful lessons in correct and proper living is the question that weighs down the theatre owner.

Locally, we have been fortunate. Our picture people are alert and seldom does a rank show slip through, while the highest prices are paid by theatre managers for the stars and feature films. It is well known throughout the northwest that La Grande is the one town where ten cents permits one to see shows that sell for fifteen to twenty-five cents elsewhere.

STRIKE MAY BE AVERTED.

The most gratifying news La Grande has had for some time was the news telling of accepted mediation by the Brotherhoods in the possible strike that threatens to stop commerce indefinitely.

It is very apparent that the Brotherhoods are composed of fair minded men. They are not seeking to work an injury on anyone. They do not wish to hold the public as a whip over the railroads, and their efforts toward mediation will be hailed by railroad officials with praise, as well as by the general public.

Of course, this does not mean that there will be no strike. It merely means that the Brotherhoods, after

due deliberation, have decided to take every step possible for them to take in settling their differences with the companies, with prospects very good for no strike.

It is not to be presumed but what if given a chance the railroads will strain every point toward an amicable compromise, which taken with the apparent attitude of the Brotherhoods means the question of the eight hour day will be settled without a strike.

The matter is now in the hands of the United States government virtually, with the Brotherhoods holding reservation that if they are not treated as they believe they should be treated they will strike.

HUGHES A HARD HITTER.

Judge Hughes seems to be possessed of the Roosevelt punch judging by his speeches of the past week. He is calling a spade a spade and in the language of the oldtime Populist he "is hewing to the line and letting the chips fall where they may."

Those who feared the able jurist would be inclined to compromise the case were badly mistaken.

President Wilson did the right thing when he ordered the civil service rules amended so that convicts out of prison can work under civil service rules. Every man has a right to a place in the sun, and heretofore the great social problem has been what shall we do with the convicts. Probably the President has found the solution.

Just as well begin to plan for the big picnic on August 17th, when the O.-W. employes take a day off at Gibbon and have a bushel of fun. La Grande should and will have a good representation out side of the company's employes.

Ed. Wallington, manager of Hot Lake, intends to place signs over the interior country directing automobile tourists where they can go to take a bath. A very welcome bit of news after a day's trip in an automobile.

Business must still be dull in Portland, for they are having some very juicy fires in the metropolis.

Oh, you Dollard Wheat. Now, no one can joke Walter Pierce about holding his wheat crop.

Dog days and coyote days seem to go hand in hand.

Savoy Hotel Guests.

W. C. McLane, Chicago; J. Myers and wife; Carl Barlow, Elgin; D. M. Madden, M. H. Briggs and son, Walla Walla; May Smith, H. Van Elsberg, J. Daniel, M. E. St. Peters, Elgin; Katie March, City; C. A. Williams, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Noble, Bomont, Ida.

SALESMEN WANTED—Energetic, reliable men wanted to represent one of the oldest nurseries on the Pacific coast. A complete line of fruit trees, small fruits and ornamentals. Liberal commissions. Cash advanced on orders.—Albany Nurseries, Albany, Oregon.—Adv. 6-2-2t.

THE MAKING OF TUNNELS.

An Industry That is Almost as Old as the World Itself.

While tunneling is among the most ancient of enterprises, yet more progress has been made in it the last century than in the twenty centuries which preceded it. It is now known that back in the semi-mythical days of the Theban kings the long tunnel into the mountain rock, expanding at a distance of 400 feet or so into some lofty chamber, was a common work of princes. The rock temples of Nubia, too, and of India show that in certain matters, at any rate, moderns may still learn from ancients.

Then again in Algeria, Switzerland, wherever the Romans went, are to be found tunnels of all kinds and designed for all purposes, for roads and drains and water supplies. Pliny makes mention of one notable achievement, the greatest of its kind in his day, the great tunnel constructed for the drainage of Lake Fucino. It was by far the longest artificial tunnel in the world at that time. More than three and a half miles long, it was driven under Monte Salviano and required for its construction shafts of no less than 400 feet. Some 30,000 men were employed on it for eleven years.

From the time of the Romans until the latter end of the eighteenth century no great advance was made in tunneling methods. Old engravings of mining work in the early years of the seventeenth century show the pickax or hammer and chisel as still the chief tools employed. With the advent of the railway, however, tunneling became one of the grand necessities of construction, and progress was more rapid.

VALUE OF GOLD.

While That is Fixed, Its Price is Regulated by Premiums.

Gold is not considered a commodity in the ordinary sense of the term, but is the basis on which the values of commodities are determined. Its value does not fluctuate, but is universally fixed at \$20.00 2-3 ounce or its equivalent. Its price, however, fluctuates, as in the case of premiums. Its value is stationary; hence the term premium. The difference between the fluctuation of that and the purchasing power of gold may be simply illustrated as follows:

That while its value remains stationary a premium would serve to reduce its purchasing power, to be added to its cost, but an advance in the price of commodities would operate to reduce the purchasing price of gold, taking \$1 as a unit.

For instance, a dollar will purchase an article whose price coincides, but if an advance in the commodity raises the price of that particular article to \$1.10 the purchasing power of gold would necessarily be reduced proportionately. Or, again, in times of adversity, commodities are cheap, the supply invariably exceeding the demand, the purchasing power of gold would then be greater than in times of prosperity, when the supply does not meet the demand and higher prices for commodities result.

There is no difference in the cost of a pennyweight of gold today from what it was ten years or more ago.—Pittsburgh Press.

Force of Habit.

The late H. Gassaway Davis, once a United States senator and candidate for vice president on the Parker ticket, was a brakeman before he became a millionaire and is said on one historic occasion while sleeping soundly in the senate chamber to have dreamed that he was still guiding an unruly freight train through the mountains of West Virginia. The dream was inspired by a nearby colleague, Senator Allen G. Thurman, who blew two mighty blasts on his nose. Davis, thinking he had heard the freight whistle, seized his desk as if it were a brake and nearly twisted the thing from its moorings before he came to.—New York Mail.

Delayed.

"Henry," said his wife reproachfully, "do you know that it was 3 o'clock when you came home this morning?" "You are mistaken, my dear," he replied. "It was just 1:30. I looked at the clock on the church tower as I passed the corner." "Far be it from me to doubt your word, Henry," answered his wife, "but if that is the case it must have taken you an hour and a half to open the front door."—Exchange.

The Subject He Liked Best.

"You talk well on the subject in which you are most interested," said the impertinent girl. "And what is that?" said the man, smelling a compliment. "Yourself," said the impertinent girl demurely.

It Seemed Like It.

Lecturer—The idea of eternity, my friends, is something too vast for the human mind to conceive. Voice From Audience—Did you ever pay for a \$700 piano on the installment plan?—Life.

Easy.

Teacher—What makes the grass grow? Willie—The grass has blades, and with these it cuts its way through the earth.

Poetry in Motion.

"What is poetry of motion?" "The kind that's always going from one editor to another."—Woman's Home Companion.

Carry the radiance of your soul in your face. Let the world have the benefit of it.—Fox.

Yes, we Might as Well Admit it



There is a man in this town who simply wouldn't come around to the ready-to-wear idea.

"No use to look," he said, "you can't fit me." One day we managed to get him into one of our finely tailored suits.

Talk to him now—and see what he says. Are you one of those men who are saying "No use to look"?

If you are, we'd like to see you.

Hart Schaffner & Mar, Hirsch Wickwire, Fidelity Suits, \$15, \$17.50, \$20, \$22.50, \$25, \$27.50

"Manhattan" Shirts

"Interwoven" Hosiery

N. K. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

Gordon Stetson HATS

Nettleton "Tilt" SHOES

Sommer Hotel Guests.

Geo. E. Bliss, Salt Lake; Wm. M. Powell, Boise; Geo. Bergerman, A. Attmans, Fred B. Duff, J. E. Tourtellet, Portland; J. H. Smith, San Francisco, E. H. Howe, Spokane; Mrs. Frank A. Moody, Enterprise; J. E. Markam, Salt Lake; S. Aiken, W. D. Powell, Portland; Chas. A. Montandan, Enterprise; E. T. Bell, Los Angeles; G. L. Rourk, W. M. Hartford, Portland; H. H. Kurtz, Payette; H. C. Baskett, Boise; A. E. Brown, Portland; J. W. Chapel, Seattle.

Foley Hotel Arrivals.

E. Beldeman, San Francisco; D. W. Bailey, Pendleton; W. A. Wallace, Freewater; C. E. Rude, Pendleton; D. A. Maxon, G. E. Stanfield, Portland; C. S. Huntion, San Francisco; E. B. Mires and wife, Vera Mires, La Grande; Bob Coleman, C. W. Mobley, Portland; Jas. A. Hill, Pearl Smith, St. Louis; Fred Ashley, W. B. Zurcher, Enterprise; L. E. McDow, Spokane; G. L. Uhl, Portland; Jack Lazeni, St. Louis; D. S. Perrins, Wm. Loyd, W. J. Lyons, W. P. Brennan, Portland; Jack Carpenter, Salt Lake; W. T. Stephens, Mrs. Batoux, New York; W. G. Kennedy, Long Creek; Mrs. A. E. Jerome, The Dalles; P. D. McRea, Chicago; W. B. Baker, Haines.

Our Want Ads bring results.

RED PEP'S PHILOSOPHY



Saturday Cash Special

Bathing Suits (Ladies) Reduced 33 per cent
Bathing Suits (Mens) Reduced 33 per cent
Gaberline Outing Suits, \$25.00 \$16.00
Khaki Outing Suits, \$4.50 \$3.75
Auto Dusters, Saturday \$3.50 \$2.10

This is one chance to get what you want cheap. As everything in all lines are going up.

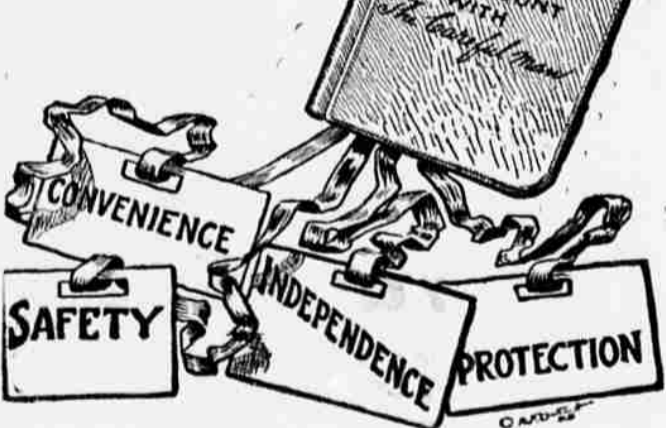
"When times are good, we are worked to death and when times are bad, we are starved to death."

THE TOGGERY Andrews Bros.

DOINGS OF THE DUFFS



The careful man knows what a Bank account means



THIS BANKER IS INTERESTED IN HIS DEPOSITORS. HE IS THE ONLY MAN IN TOWN WHO WILL GIVE YOU HIS ADVICE FREE. THE BANKER LIKES TO SEE YOU AND EVERYONE IN HIS COMMUNITY GETTING RICH.

SUCCESS BREEDS SUCCESS AND SUCCESSFUL MEN CAN AND DO ASSIST EACH OTHER.

BE A SUCCESSFUL MAN. PUT SOME MONEY IN THE BANK OFTEN AND BECOME ONE OF THE RICH MEN IN OUR TOWN.

BANK WITH US

WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST

6 1/2 % Money for Improved Farm Loans

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Capital \$200,000.00, Surplus \$50,000.00, Resources \$1,000,000.00
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