

THE OBSERVER

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

HOW ABOUT THE WEEDS?

This is seeding time—for the weeds.

On many vacant lots in La Grande there is a heavy crop of weeds and to allow them to seed will mean more weeds next year.

The city has cut many of the areas along streets where weeds are plentiful and the burden now rests upon property owners to cut their weeds if La Grande would free herself from a tremendous weed crop next season.

We believe there is an ordinance in force whereby the city can order weeds cut and tax the expense up to the property, but this is an undertaking that no official likes to follow unless the case be forced. Rather than have the weeds go to seed however, it would be better for officialdom to assert itself and rid private property of weeds, charging the expense up to the individual owner.

By all means, let's get rid of the weeds.

SAVE THE JUNK.

"The waste in every household is considerable. Part is unavoidable waste and part is necessary waste. Altogether too much food goes into the garbage can. Clothes are not taken care of, are not pressed or mended, or hung up when not in use, and so become shabby long before their usefulness is ended. Shoes that, with a little mending, would go many a mile, are thrown out and throughout the house there is waste. The attic bears testimony to this fact, says the American Bankers' association.

"Waste that is waste should not be hoarded, but turned into profit. Old rubbers, rags, iron, can be turned into many an honest penny, and clothing that has served its day may be sold to second-hand dealers glad to get such articles.

"The conservation of household waste affords a living for thousands of people. The junk man is usually a leading citizen, well-housed and well-fixed. The privilege of 'trimming' the scows that take the waste of New York to sea is worth millions annually. It makes millionaires. And the waste that finds its way to the gar-

bage scow is what breaks some families.

"A certain school teacher has the right idea. Every spring she asks the children to bring to the school the worn-out rubbers of the winter, and from the proceeds she buys pictures for the walls and phonograph records for the dances. At times these contributions amount to over a ton. Waste becomes profitable as you get it together. And when so gathered it should be used for a good purpose as a standing object lesson that 'waste conserved is profit earned.'

"Here is a junk story from the Far East: A Japanese rag man of excellent speech and manner has been making a canvass offering to buy all the old junk offered. Instead of paying cash he gives a coupon good at a certain bank, where it must be left untouched for a certain number of years.

"Upon investigation the ragman turned out to be a former superintendent of Yokohama police and manager of a large dock corporation, interested in teaching his people the proper use of junk.

"Junk money is apt to be regarded as 'easy money' and spent foolishly. While it is easy money, it should be conserved to usefulness and not wasted. The school teacher uses one method, the Japanese junk man another, but both tending in the right direction. We can teach our children no better lesson than to avoid waste, but avoiding all possible waste to so use junk that it will prove a lasting benefit. Save your junk and save the money your junk turns in."

BUILDING YOUR SUCCESS ON MISTAKES.

Last year in New York City one organization sold three hundred and fifty million lead pencils that had rubbers on the ends. Why was it profitable to put the rubbers on the ends of those pencils? Because people make mistakes, says Frank Jewel Raymond.

Now, when any of us think we can swell up and point the finger of scorn at a co-worker, let him take out his pencil and see if the rubber is soiled or worn down—then you realize that mistakes are universal.

What you and your firm do with your mistakes is the most crucial problem of your business.

Nine people out of ten make the same mistake twice. There isn't a greater sin against God or man recorded on tablet or stone.

Millions of money and laurels of fame are not made by luck or sweat or inspiration—they are always made by using mistakes as stepping stones away from more mistakes.

Don't be afraid of more mistakes—but loathe the same old mistake. Then success darts like an arrow to its bull's eye.

THE BRITISH BLACKLIST.

Publication of a British blacklist, intended to cut off trade of the entire allies from certain firms in the United States, will undoubtedly inflict losses and inconveniences upon

many firms which have not deserved such a commercial punishment. The reason for this attempt at trade limitation is not far to seek. It has its root in the elaborate system of espionage which prevailed for several years previous to the war. The British government, although partially aware of its existence, for years treated the system with contempt, because it did not know the extent of its prevalence. A rude awakening carried British sentiment to the opposite extreme so that today it holds every person of German name or antecedents, no matter how far or how long removed from German sympathies or association, as a probable enemy. It does not expect such people to be neutral and classes them as Germans and enemies even when they have been citizens of the United States for a quarter of a century or more.

The blacklist infliction, however, may be regarded rather as an inconvenience than as an absolute barrier to trade. It is almost impossible to lay restraints upon commerce that cannot be evaded by processes of indirection. Firms that are cut off from the rich profits of direct trade will still be able to trade through neutral firms, though possibly at the cost of some of their profit, for the neutral firms will hardly be expected to pay the prices commonly charged against the buyers of the allied powers. The infliction will fall upon the neutral and the unneutral just as the rain falls upon the just and unjust, because abuse of confidence has destroyed good faith, which is one of the foundations of business.

Here's hoping the President can make the railroads and the Brotherhoods see the strike question through the same glasses and thereby have an amicable settlement of the difficulty.

Portland has announced the ten-cent loaf of bread. Leave it to Portland to raise the price at the least opportunity.

Mayor Gill seems to have Seattle in his hip pocket now for everything he does he is "loyally backed by the people."

Are you ready for the big picnic on August 17th? Let every business house be represented at Gibbon for the day's fun.

HOW TO CAN FRUIT WITHOUT SUGAR.

Fruit for use in pies or salads or as stewed fruit can be put up or canned without the use of any sugar at all according to the canning specialists of the department. They, therefore, advise those who, because of the high price of sugar, have been thinking of reducing the amount of fruit they put up, to can as much of their surplus as possible by the use of boiling water when sugar syrup is beyond their means. Any fruit, they say, may be successfully sterilized and retained in the pack by simply adding boiling water instead of the hot syrup. The use of sugar, of course, is desirable in the canning of all kinds of fruits and makes a better and ready sweetened product. Moreover, most of the fruits when canned in water alone do not retain their natural flavor, texture, and color as well as fruit put up in syrup. Fruit canned without sugar to be used for sauces or desserts must be sweetened.

Can the product the same day it is picked. Cull, stem, or seed, and clean are fruit by placing it in a strainer and pouring water over it until it is clean. Pack the product thoroughly in glass jars or tin cans until they are full; use the handle of a tablespoon, wooden ladle, or table knife for packing purposes. Pour over the fruit boiling water from a kettle, place rubbers and caps in position, partially seal if using glass jars, seal completely if using tin cans. Place the containers in a sterilizing vat, such as a wash boiler with false bottom, or other receptacle improvised for the purpose. If using a hot water bath outfit, process for 30 minutes; count time after the water has reached the boiling point; the water must cover the highest jar in container. After sterilizing remove packs, seal glass jars, wrap in paper to prevent bleaching, and store in a dry, cool place.

If you are canning in tin cans it will improve the product to plunge the cans quickly into cold water immediately after sterilization. When using a steam pressure canner instead of the hot water bath, sterilize for 10 minutes with five pounds of steam pressure. Never allow the pressure to go over 10 pounds.—Ex.

STATE NEWS

Rainier Has Fire.

The Knights of Pythian hall, a frame building of two and half stories at Rainier, was completely destroyed by fire Sunday. The loss was about \$4000 covered with \$2500 insurance.

Young Man Drowned.

Slipping from a rolling log into Vancouver Lake, William H. Schmitt was drowned although he had been in the water only two minutes. A pulmotor was used but two hours work failed to revive him.

Trail To Be Marked.

An impressive ceremony has been

Just In! A Big Assortment of Exquisite Autumn Blouses. Awaits Your Inspection and Approval. Blouses of Crepe De Chine-- Blouses of Georgette Crepe-- Moderately Priced \$3.75 to \$7.50. We Show a Large Variety of House Dresses. The development of House Dresses in the past few years has been remarkable. No longer are they strictly 'House Dresses.' They have taken unto themselves the dignity and beauty, or at least the neatness and prettiness, conveyed by the terms 'porch' and 'neighborhood' dresses. In other words if the door bell is rung, announcing an unexpected caller, one may appear without confusion clad in a dress like one of these. We are prepared to show a large assortment of these pretty, becoming, practical house dresses moderately priced from \$1.25 up. N.W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

arranged for the unveiling of the first monument marking the "Old Oregon Trail," the route by which pioneers crossed the Cascades. This monument is to be unveiled at Tumwater next Friday. Governor Lister is one of the speakers.

Coos Bay Fete Draws. One hundred and fifty reservations, providing for one train, are already in sight for the excursion of Portland business men to the railroad jubilee in the Coos Bay country, August 24-27. The Royal Rosarians with their band will accompany the Portland aggregation.

Best Man Makes Claim. M. Appleton, (Mapleton), situated on the Willamette Pacific railroad at the head of tidewater on the Siuslaw and one of the towns to be benefited by the new railroad, has put in an application to act as best man at the wedding of Eugene Lane and Miss Coos Bay.

Neuralgia Epidemic Raging. An apparent epidemic of neuralgia has been raging in Portland for the past week or ten days.

Bridge Plans Approved. Crook county court has approved plans for the construction of a wooden bridge across the Deschutes at Tumalo at a cost of \$1200.

Wheat Brings Big Price. Chas. Fletcher, well known farmer of the Prescott district near Walla Walla, has made the largest individual wheat sale of the season, the amount of the check being \$66,666 for 150,000 bushels.

Mother Classmate of Son. A woman and her 17-year-old son are among the students registering at the University of California this year.

Chehalis Library Robbed. Three thieves broke into the Chehalis library a few days ago and stole \$3.16. It is thought the theft was by boys.

Woman Badly Hurt. Mrs. Joseph Wells, who lives near Chehalis, was badly hurt in a runaway when the horse she was driving became frightened and started to run. Mrs. Wells jumped out and in the fall broke both her legs near the ankle.

Mt. Emily News.

Mt. Emily, Aug. 12.—(Special)—There are two fire wardens up here this year. Frank Perry is the paid warden and J. H. Blumenstein is serving as volunteer warden without pay. There are several of these volunteer wardens in the county. They are men who are interested in preventing forest fires.

Forest Rangers Al Bottcher and Elmer Thomas are up here quite often. They are at present finishing a trail back of the top of Mt. Emily and incidentally keeping an eye on wood-haulers and on campers who are careless with fire. It happens quite often that campers and others do not put out fires completely recently. Fire-warden Perry noticed a smoke on one of the prongs of Five Points creek. On arriving at the place he found that some one, probably a man looking for

stock, had left a campfire which spread and would have developed into a bad forest fire in a short time if he had not put it out. The worst of it is that such criminally careless parties seldom if ever realize that someone less reckless than they, took the trouble to put out the spreading fire. They will probably repeat the offense until some day they are caught at it and receive the heavy sentence provided by law for such cases. The account recently published in the Observer of ten girls who were camped on Rock creek and walked back to town after being serenaded by a cougar, reminds the writer of the time four years ago when ten high-school girls were camped near his home for about a week. They were dressed for mountain climbing and called themselves the Overall Girls. They had no adventure with a cougar but they do not know to this day that they had a narrow escape from having the following "poem" read to them. On account of an unexpected rain they left a little before the author had it quite ready: The Overall Girls. Oh you Overall Girls

With your braids and your curls! With your bright young faces! And your manifold graces; With hammocks to swing in And forests to sing in And with campfires every night And such an appetite! Mocking coyotes and owls With your whoops and your howls; You made twice as much noise As would that many boys. All the wild beasts vamoose When you turn yourselves loose. You seemed happy always With your songs and your plays; With your strolls and your walks, Your never-ending talks, Your romps and your rambles, Your climbs and your scrambles, Your squeals and your screeches, Your suffragette speeches, Picking huckleberries Was least of your worries. All city ways loathing And dressed in boys clothing; Wholly free from all care, Breathing pure mountain air, With so much to inspire And so much to admire, You were happy always During those camping days.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE—BY CONDO. A cartoon strip showing a man in a suit talking to a man in a hat in a hardware store. The man in the hat says: 'WHAT'S THE IDEA IN SELLING ANY SIXTEEN-YEAR OLD KID A REVOLVER?—SO HE CAN ACCIDENTALLY MAIM OR KILL HIMSELF OR SOME OTHER INNOCENT CITIZEN?' The man in the suit replies: 'I DON'T KNOW, BUT I'VE SOLD THEM FOR YEARS.'

The careful man knows what a Bank account means. CONVENIENCE SAFETY INDEPENDENCE PROTECTION. 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 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. E. Brownston, F. L. Meyers, A. Blokland, A. T. Hill, H. E. Coolidge.