

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

THE STATE OF MAINE.

Maine, the first state in the Union to vote, has spoken and the result is unmistakably in favor of the Republican party, or better yet, against the present administration. Maine, by her vote yesterday elected a Republican governor, two Republican senators and most of the Republican congressmen.

It was a hot contest, for both political parties selected Maine as the fighting ground. The best speakers of each party were dated for speeches and the old state was teeming with politics of the present day vintage.

While President Wilson did not enter the state in person he sent such trusted men as Champ Clark and Ollie James to argue with the voters. On the other hand the Republicans sent in their biggest and best men.

The result is hardly a surprise to those who watched the proceedings. Maine is normally a Republican state, just as the nation is normally Republican when no inter-party troubles present themselves. This would mean, figuring on a wide scale, that the nation will follow the lead of Maine this fall and a Republican administration will follow. For years it has been stated, "As Maine goes so goes the nation."

SHACKLETON AN EXAMPLE.

In the first millennium of the Christian era the achievements of Sir Ernest Shackleton would have been considered worthy of a saga. These more sophisticated days may deny the great English adventurer and scientist such a monument, but his achievements will always have a prominent place in the records of Antarctic exploration. Among them none will stand out in bolder or more creditable relief than will his heroic deeds in effecting the rescue of his marooned followers on Elephant Island.

It is a commentary on the high type of man that habitually engages in the task of conquering the frozen regions that the things Sir Ernest has done is what the world has expected he would do. Not that the world necessarily looked for success; if Shackleton had perished in his hazardous and desperate endeavors the judgment of history in his case would have been just what it will be. What the world knew perfectly well was that, as long as the English knight remained with life whole within him, he would never even consider the possibility of deserting the humblest of his followers nor leave the work of rescue to any except himself. Yet because Shackleton's worth and character were long ago correctly appraised, he is none the less what he is; he is none the less the hero.

A recital of the sufferings which Sir Ernest and his rescue party underwent, the story of their resourcefulness and unchangeableness under difficulty and privation, constitute one of the "practical" justifications of exploration beyond the circle by providing an exposition of what men ought to be and what they can be.

Shackleton was denied success for his expedition, but adversity has given him an opportunity and a fame such as come to very few.

It may be well to give Arthur Wenzel a taste of real work before he leaves us and goes back to his old home in Wisconsin. Charley Conkey caught this idea and took his vacation from the United States National bank upon assurance that Mr. Wenzel would work full time and not go deer hunting.

Farmers are hunting harvest hands every day on the streets of La Grande. Wages have advanced and it is almost impossible to keep men at any price. Thus wages the world. Only a short time ago the unemployed were sleeping on the state house lawn and Portland's north end was full of idle men.

Portland is having almost as hard a time to maintain her chamber of commerce as the small town has to maintain a commercial club. After all, cities are only towns grown large.

Does cold tea intoxicate? It may not but it makes lots of fun sometimes.

This would not be bad weather for races—but who said "races," anyway?

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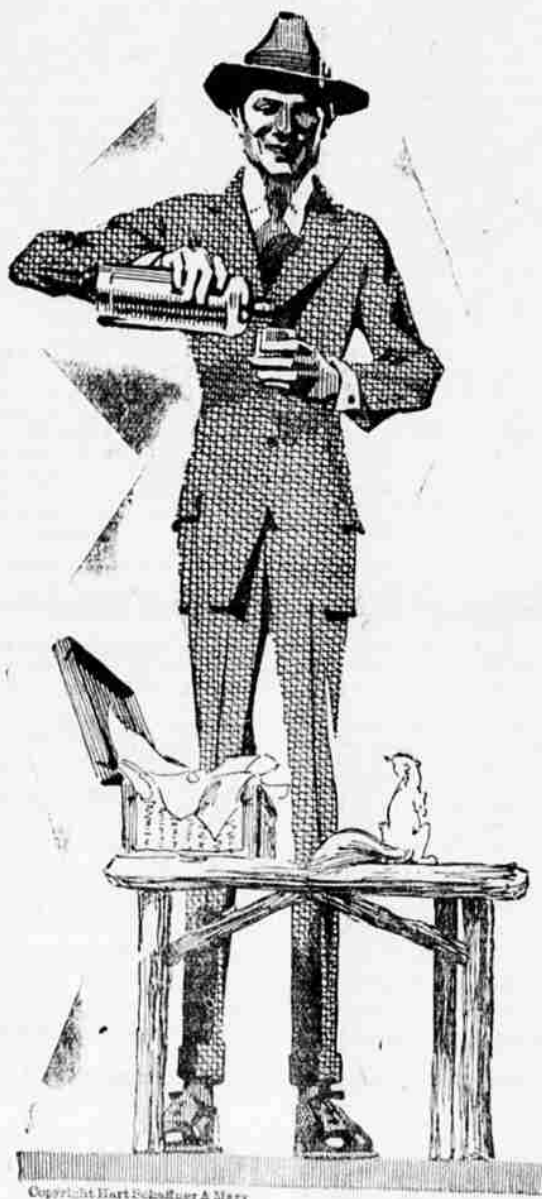


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Recreation Congress at Grand Rapids.

Grand Rapids, Sept. 11.—A system of play for little boys and girls to fit them physically to take up the defense of their home land as powerful men and women later on is the program of the International Recreation Congress which will meet here from the first to the sixth of October. About 20,000 Americans, play experts, business men and women, community building leaders, social workers, educators, political leaders and physicians representing 432 American cities, have been invited to attend. They will discuss Making Men for America, Can An Indoor Nation Long Endure?, Leisure—America's Greatest Unworked Mine of Social Power, Better Farming, People, Marketing Through Better Use of Rural Leisure. The meetings are to be open.

Heathen 128 Years, Changes Faith. Cass Lake, Minn., Sept. 12.—Ka-be-

na-gi-wes, an Indian chief said to be 128 years old and a heathen all that century and a quarter, won't be buried in the Spirit Land of the Chippewas' Happy Hunting Ground, he declared today. He has taken the name John Smith, and turned Christian.

Arrivals at Sommer Hotel.

A. B. Woodward, New York; C. G. Hawkes, Salt Lake; J. E. Tourtellette, Phillip Deschner, J. F. Lankey, L. V. Manning, H. Thanhauser, E. Coyle, H. W. Hicks, George Buri, Portland; W. L. Goodwillie, St. Paul; F. H. Squires, San Francisco; W. L. Reddy, Cedar Rapids; F. W. Edwards and wife, Milwaukee; F. A. Harmon, J. P. Lottridge, Baker; Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Fulton, Miss Fulton, Astoria; F. P. Rhoades, Pendleton; W. R. Haines, Nampa.

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