

THE OBSERVER

CLARIE LEITER, Editor and Publisher; J. D. MEYERS and H. B. LEITER, Owners.

Entered in the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By Carrier. Daily, single copy 5c. Daily, per week 35c. Daily, per month 1.00. Daily, per six months in advance 5.50. Daily, per year in advance 10.00. By Mail. Daily, by mail per year, in advance 10.00. Weekly Observer-Star, per year in advance 11.50.

Advertising rates on application. All copy for display advertising must reach the office the day before the ad appears.

Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1916.

A DUTY TO OUR CHILDREN.

A recent investigation made by the U. S. Public Health Service in connection with studies of rural school children showed that 49.3 per cent had defective teeth, 21.1 per cent had two or more missing teeth, and only 16.9 per cent had had dental attention. Over 14 per cent never used a tooth brush, 58.2 per cent used one occasionally and only 27.4 per cent used one daily. Defective teeth reduce physical efficiency. Dirty, suppurating, snaggle-toothed mouths are responsible for many cases of heart disease, rheumatism, and other chronic affections. The children are not responsible for the neglected state of their teeth. The ignorant and careless parent is to blame for this condition—a condition which hampers mental and physical growth and puts a permanent handicap on our future citizens. School teachers can and are doing much in inculcating habits of personal cleanliness on the rural school child but this will fail of the highest accomplishment unless parents co-operate heartily and continu-

ously. This is a duty which we owe our children.

ON STRAW VOTES.

A straw vote by any other name would lie as fast.

The beautiful thing about a straw vote is that it pleases the man who takes it.

Read one newspaper and you are certain your favorite candidate is already installed in office. You then pick up another and see a straw vote which knocks your hopes in smithereens.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

What Our Boosters Are Saying. New faces are appearing in large numbers in Sumpter, and while this does not mean a boom, it does mean new blood in the district, and this means new life and progress for Sumpter.—Blue Mountain American, Sumpter.

Steamer Aground in Fog.

Seattle, Oct. 25.—(United Press)—The Pacific Steamship liner Governor was grounded off Point Gray while entering Vancouver sound in a fog. The vessel is harmed but little and there were no passengers aboard. Officers expect to float the steamer at high tide. The local company officials received telegraphic reports from Victoria, B. C., that the vessel was undamaged and tugs are standing by, ready to pull to safety late this afternoon. The Governor will return to Seattle and sail for San Francisco October 27, carrying 400 passengers.

For Medicine Only.

As is generally thought, liquor can be obtained in Maine is a medicine only and ostensibly. As a New York man was purchasing a toothbrush in a drug store in that state, a big, rakoned fellow entered with a four-gallon demijohn. He slammed it down on the counter in front of the druggist, and, handing him a bit of paper, said: "Fill her up, Henry; baby's took bad."

LA GRANDE IS JOINING MOVE

GOVERNMENT SURVEY FOR FOREIGN-BORN ASSISTED BY SCHOOLS OF LA GRANDE

Government Bureau Will Assist in Educating Every Alien in United States for Full Citizenship.

Washington, Oct. 25.—(Special)—The great nation-wide campaign in which the public schools of the country, in co-operation with the Bureau of Naturalization of the U. S. Department of Labor, are preparing foreign born residents for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, is receiving additional support daily. La Grande, Oregon, which last year failed to provide for the instruction of its alien population, has now joined this tremendously important movement for the betterment of civic conditions, both locally and nationally, and reports that night classes will soon be established.

According to the census of 1910 the total population of La Grande was 4,843 of which approximately 390 were foreign born. The foreign born whites of voting age numbered 235 of which only 121 had been naturalized. Of the foreign born whites 10 years of age and over three were classed as illiterate.

In 1910 the total population of Union county was 16,191 of which 1,250 were foreign born. There were 784 foreign born whites of voting age of which only 399 were naturalized, while 13 foreign born whites ten years old and over were classed as illiterate.

These figures indicated the pressing need for alien instruction and the movement has the cordial support of public spirited citizens generally.

The Bureau of Naturalization will assist in every way possible the public school authorities of the United States in this campaign for citizenship preparedness, which has been so successfully launched and vigorously prosecuted. It will furnish a textbook for the instruction of candidates for citizenship and adult aliens generally, based on material supplied by teachers who have been engaged in the education of foreigners.

Cards bearing the names and addresses and other necessary information concerning all candidates for citizenship and their wives are to be transmitted to the respective school districts. Similar blank cards will also be forwarded for recording the names of adult foreigners who enroll but whose names are not sent by the bureau. Public school teachers will be supplied with preliminary naturalization forms for the purpose of assisting present and prospective candidates for citizenship in properly filling them out, and for such other possible educational purposes as may develop. The bureau will continue to send personal letters to all candidates for citizenship and their wives, urging upon them the vital importance of attending the public schools.

The bureau will also continue to furnish advice to the public school teachers based on its experience and knowledge concerning naturalization, citizenship preparedness and education, both direct from the Washington headquarters, in the Department of Labor, and through its field officers located throughout the country.

In a word, every public school, wherever located, if engaged in alien instruction, will be fully equipped by the Bureau of Naturalization for this great and constructive work.

Stop the First Cold.

A cold does not get well of itself. The process of wearing out a cold wears you out, and your cough becomes serious if neglected. Hacking coughs drain the energy and sap the vitality. For 47 years the happy combination of soothing antiseptic balms in Dr. King's New Discovery has healed coughs and relieved congestion. Young and old can testify to the effectiveness of Dr. King's New Discovery for coughs and colds. Buy a bottle today at your druggist, 50c.

Rural Credits.

By HECTOR MACPHERSON, Corvallis, Ore. Oct. 28.—This bill provides for the establishment of a state system of credits to farmers. That is, the state will use its credit to borrow money which it in turn will lend to farmers for productive purposes upon farm mortgages. The borrower will pay enough to reimburse the state for all expenses connected with the system, and in addition will provide for a reserve fund which will protect the state from loss and ultimately build up a large independent Rural Credits fund which may be used in any line of agricultural development. It will insure the farmers 5 per cent money without costing the state or taxpayer a single cent.

Need of State Measure.

It has been objected that since we have the federal farm loan act, we do not need a state measure. I claim, however, that we still need a state measure almost as badly as ever. We ought to have a law in Oregon which will make it possible for an honest enterprising family to get a piece of land on which to dwell and make a living. To put into operation

such a progressive policy is the business of the state, and can never be taken care of by any federal law.

To be sure, our Rural Credits Amendment does not make much of a beginning toward this progressive policy. It does, however, make a conservative beginning, and if we prove to our own satisfaction that this beginning is perfectly safe, and without any cost to the tax payers of the state, we shall have taken a step which will make it very much easier to enter upon the full program of development. Hence, we hope that the voters all over the state will support the Rural Credits Amendment.

Chance for Confusion.

We might also call attention to the difference between the Rural Credits Amendment, and the full rental land tax amendment. The latter is single tax in the most radical form in which it has ever been framed into a bill, and should not be confused with the Rural Credits Amendment. If people want single tax, they should vote for the full rental value tax amendment. If they want to enter upon a policy which will make the recurrence of such bills impossible in the future, then vote for the Rural Credits Amendment.

By taking this step the state will do more toward bringing prosperity to our commonwealth than could possibly be accomplished by any other piece of legislation that has ever been enacted in Oregon.

Reasons Why You Should Vote For The Rural Credits Amendment. 1. Exclusive Interest Unnecessary:



Copyright Hart Schaffner & Marx

Between forty and sixty

YOU know him: established, prosperous, a little heavier at the waistline: and very busy.

His time is too valuable to spend on clothes, so he ought to know that Hart Schaffner & Marx have developed a suit model that exactly fits his figure (an entirely new idea). It is called the medium stout.

N. K. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

The home of Hart Schaffner & Marx clothes

HITTING THE NAIL ON THE HEAD

The long nail of success has been hit squarely on the head by Kathryn Williams' hammer of talent and as a result she is one of the most popular stars in filmdom today. When recently she tried to hit a nail that would permanently affix a shingle to her garage roof, however, fair Kathryn was not so successful. True she hit the nail—but a glance at this picture is enough to convince any one that she hammered the wrong nail. All of which tends to prove that the ability of an actress and that of a carpenter are separate and distinct.

Although she is not a suffragette, Miss Williams believes in occasionally doing a man's work in a man's way, especially when it involves the renovation of any part of her pretty home in Los Angeles. Attired in a shirt originally intended for masculine wear and a pair of regulation overalls the Morosco-Paramount film favorite may be found pottering around her bungalow most any morning prior to her departure for the day's work at the studios.



A "NEST EGG"

Misfortune is liable to overtake you in money matters. Then it is that a good sized "Nest Egg" in the Bank comes in "powerful handy."

Over and over again have we seen comforting relief come to those who had accumulated a fund in this bank. If you haven't started an account, now is the time to do it.

In seasons of prosperity, place a part of your income in our bank. Some day this fund may carry you over a rough and rocky road.

La Grande National Bank

Capital and Surplus \$ 250,000 Deposits \$1,000,000

occupied are not paying an average of one dollar a day wages per family in addition to 2 per cent on the investment. This low production is largely due to the lack of equipment and backward development on the farms. Cheap money wisely invested should almost double our average farm income.

6. Farm Prosperity Means Business Prosperity:—Greater prosperity on Oregon farms will mean more traffic for the railroads, more business for our bankers, more purchases from our stores, and better markets for the output of our factories and mills.

7. We Must Solve Our Own State Problems:—The Federal Rural Credits Bill is a good measure and will take care of a large percentage of the mortgage credit needs of the state. But we have development problems in Oregon which no national measure will ever be able to solve. They are state problems due mainly to our distance from markets, and from the money markets of the world. The Oregon Rural Credits Amendment is the first step in a state wide progressive policy, for the development of our enormous agricultural resources.

8. The System Simple, Safe Costless to the State:—The proposed rural credit system is simple, inexpensive and perfectly safe. It has already been tested over a long period of years in the loaning of our school funds with very beneficial results, and with no loss to the state within the past ten years.

—Oregon farmers are under a mortgage debt of about twenty-eight millions of dollars bearing an average rate of over 8 per cent interest. A saving of 3 per cent on this indebtedness will mean an annual saving of \$840,000 to the farmers of the state.

2. Idle Farm Land is Oregon's Disgrace:—Oregon has enormous undeveloped agricultural resources as compared with other states. Our tillable lands are variously estimated from twenty-three million acres to thirty million acres. But of this immense area less than five million acres are under cultivation, so that over 80 per cent of our potential farm wealth is still lying dormant. If these enormous resources belonged to an Australian state, they would be developed and made fruitful in a decade. Let us start a policy that will bring our idle lands under the plow and put new life into Oregon.

3. Lighten the Tax Burden:—The passage of the Rural Credits Amendment, by encouraging the development of land that is now paying little or no taxes, will lessen the tax burden for the whole state.

4. Relieve the Unemployment Situation:—The passage of the Rural Credits Amendment will encourage some of our surplus city population to buy farms for themselves, thus helping solve the problem of the unemployed, and creating better times for those who remain in the cities.

5. Increase Farm Incomes:—It has been estimated that the farms now