

THE OBSERVER

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1916.

LUMBER FUTURE BRIGHT.

Within the next ten years Pacific coast lumber manufacturers will be called upon to produce one-half of the lumber output of the United States. At present they produce one-sixth of the nation's cut.

This was the most startling information developed at a Spokane conference of lumbermen on questions of present and future production and consumption. It was brought out that the great southern and middle western timber areas will not continue to meet the demands at the present proportion; that the northwest and west coast mills will see a constant increase in volume of business; that in meeting 500 per cent of the consumption 10 years hence, the western mills will be compelled to maintain an output far above 50 per cent of the present consumption.

This will mean prosperity to Oregon lumbermen and also employment of labor.

LAIR THOMPSON'S RETIREMENT.

If W. Lair Thompson, president of the state senate, is beaten by one vote for re-election by Judge George Baldwin, it will mean the retirement of a unique figure in Oregon politics.

Lair Thompson is an active resourceful lawyer and he showed his abilities in the state senate.

He was always in the thick of political fights and his defeat this year is probably due to the bitter fight waged upon him in the past by partisan newspapers.

Thompson was regarded as gubernatorial timber and it will be interesting to note his future career.

It will be hard to keep down such an energetic, able, young man, who has a natural aptitude for politics.

THE NEXT MOVE.

If Germany and Austria are successful in crushing Roumania, the Germans, Bulgarians and Turks will drive towards Odessa, the great seaport of Russia and the outlet of Russia's vast wheat shipments. If the Germans capture Odessa watch for wheat to jump up in Chicago.

IGNORANT VOTING.

Oregon in refusing to repeal its constitutional provision forbidding negroes to vote is flying in the face of the United States constitution. The 100,000 or more voters who voted no on the question of repeal evidently didn't know what they were doing. Negroes have the right to vote. They are full citizens now and the Oregon constitution should recognize this fact.

ALLIES BORROW BILLIONS.

The borrowing power of the allies is one of the interesting features of the present war. Including the latest \$300,000,000

loan to England, and the \$100,000,000 provided recently for the French and the \$50,000,000 loaned the city of Paris, the foreign loans placed in this country since the outbreak of the war amount to \$2,040,000,000. England is now paying 5 1/2 per cent interest and Russia 6 1/2 per cent.

It seems inevitable that the borrowing of such huge sums will raise interest rates in this country.

It's time to begin your Christmas shopping.

Santa Claus sent this cold weather to remind you that he is soon to start on his southern journey.

The weather has supplanted politics as an interesting topic of conversation.

Enter: The old, canned jokes about the plumber and the coal man.

The average man would rather go to war than get up these cold mornings and light the kitchen fire.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Why Oregon Went Bone Dry.

Without question the brewer's interests are responsible for the passage of the amendment which forbids the importation into Oregon of alcoholic liquor in limited quantities. They wanted the bone dry amendment, as well as their own amendment to win. If breweries had been permitted to manufacture and sell beer, and all importations barred, it would have given the brewers a monopoly of the drink business.

The ballots in every precinct in Portland furnish abundant proof of the brewery vote. There was scarcely a precinct where the systematic effort of the brewers' contingent was not disclosed. Literally thousands of ballots were marked "yes" on both amendments. Very few citizens, acting on principle, would vote for the manufacture and sale of beer, and yet vote the state bone dry.

During the campaign The Telegram reiterated the belief that the time was not ripe for total prohibition, and advised all true friends of temperance to vote against it. The bone dry amendment could not have prevailed without the united support of the brewing interests. As to the effect of total prohibition, time will decide. It is too early now to make predictions.—The Portland Telegram.

The Strength of the Nation.

The strength of the nation is to be found in intelligent, well ordered homes.—Up-To-The Times Magazine, Walla Walla.

Tends to Greater Morality.

The complaint is sometimes heard that in a small town everybody knows everybody else's business and no one makes a move without a neighbor seeing it. This fact may be disagreeable to some folks but it makes for morality. Most persons are moral to the extent that they fear detection. In the small town the danger of being found out is much greater than it is where practically all people are strangers, hence the greater morality in the country.—Halfway Herald.

Man Wanted.

(Atlanta Constitution.)

"Men wanted in the West" is the heading of a recent news item.

But the West is not the only part of the country where men are wanted. The East wants men. The North wants men. The South wants men.

A man is needed everywhere that people live and work and build and tear down that they may build again.

The city wants men—men of energy and initiative—men who can take hold of things that have hands—men who can pull success out of failure.

The farm wants men—brainy men

who can see the opportunities the tilling of the soil offers—men who can take advantage of those opportunities and dig out the fortunes that other men are finding on the farm.

"Man Wanted!" Yes, men are wanted everywhere and all the time. There will never be an oversupply of this commodity. They are scarce. A fool may be born every minute—a man is not!

The Live Merchant.

The merchant who tires himself out studying his business does not go to bed and dream of catalog houses. The merchant who studies his trade, tries to please his customers, learns how to buy to advantage and is content with a reasonable profit can clip the tentacles of the mail order octopus without danger. It is the merchant who gets into a rut, never advertises, sits down and grumbles at conditions and his customers, who opens up a big field for catalog competition.—Halfway Herald.

FRIED APPLES.

Sirloin Steak With Fried Apples.

Materials: Sirloin steak, two pounds; apples, tart, four; melted lard, three tablespoons; salt, one teaspoon; white pepper, half teaspoon; milk and flour as needed.

Process: Mix salt, pepper with the melted lard, rub mixture into the steak and let it lie at least 20 minutes. Broil over a clear fire until done, and serve surrounded with fried apples, dip in milk, toss in flour, and drop in smoking hot fat to brown.

ONE-CENT RATE FAVORED.

La Grande, Oregon, Nov. 16. (To The Editor:) Now that election is over and the question of general political issues has been settled, let's get down to business again and do something for the people of the country. One of the most practical benefits which the government at Washington could confer upon the public generally would be the passage of a one cent

letter postage law, a boon which would mean a saving of many millions of dollars to the letter users of this country annually.

It is estimated by postal experts that the letter writers of the United States are paying over \$75,000,000 a year to the post office department in excess of the cost of carrying first-class mail. Last year the total expense of the department was nearly \$300,000,000. Letter mail comprised about 13 per cent of the tonnage, but paid over 70 per cent of the revenue, showing a profit from letter mail of over \$75,000,000. Every postal expert who has carefully studied the subject is convinced that the government can afford to give one cent letter postage at once. This is on the assumption that business under a lower mail rate would increase enormously, bringing in sufficient additional revenue to offset the lower cost.

This is not a movement of big business men, mail order houses or persons interested in securing something for nothing. It is being backed by an organization known as the National One Cent Letter Postage Association with headquarters at Cleveland, O., which has a membership of 50,000 users of letter postage located in every state in the union, who are aware of the conditions that exist, and are insistent that a change be made at once. Back of the movement for one cent letter postage are hundreds of associations of a local and national character, representing millions of members.

There are many reasons why letter users are entitled to a one cent rate. Among them may be mentioned:

Because government is making about 100 per cent profit on letter postage.

Because the department was established primarily for distribution of letters.

Because it was never intended that letter mail should pay government a profit.

Because one-half of our letter postage is an overtax.

Because this tax is not used for the general expenses of the government,

but used to take care of deficits caused by other branches of the service.

Because it is wrong to tax one class for the benefit of another.

Because Postmaster General Burleson and his predecessors have said that one cent postage will pay.

Because we have been entitled to one cent letter postage for the past twenty years.

Experts who have investigated postal conditions in this country recognize the fact that the rates on letter postage have not been lowered simply because the letter users of the country have not insisted on a readjustment of rates on a fair basis. The post

office department was originally organized and for a time conducted on the assumption that each class of mail should pay cost of carriage. Gradually this program has been diverted and a condition has come about whereby letter users pay a huge overtax to the government each year, while other classes of mail fail to pay the full amount which it costs government for transportation and delivery.

Nothing congress could do would be more popular or more just than the inauguration of a one cent letter postage rate at this time.

Respectfully yours, F. L. MEYERS

Every Lady Who Needs a New Suit Should Take Advantage of Our Special Suit Sale. The Latest Styles. All Sizes Reduced in Price Which Means a Real Saving.

Munsing Union Suits Satisfy Everyone



Everything about them--- yarns, fabrics, button-holes, trimmings, workmanship---is the very best.

Munsing Wear is the most popular underwear in the world because of the perfect way in which it fits and covers the form, and because of the satisfactory way in which it stands the test of wash and wear.

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WOMEN'S UNION SUITS \$1.00 to \$3.50

CHILDREN'S UNION SUITS \$.85 to \$1.50

World famous for Fit, Durability and Washability

N. K. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

"A Time of Plenty"

The time to save is when you have.

This holds good with money as well as with other property. War times, and hard times do not worry people with a bank account, like those who have made no preparation for the days to come.

Our bank is the place to start an account and be prepared for times of need.

Our operations are conservative and at all times keep the interest of our customers in mind.

La Grande National Bank

Deposits \$1,000,000.00 Assets \$1,400,000.00

FAST TIME to CALIFORNIA MADE NOW BY UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM

Train leaving La Grande at 9:40 p. m. connecting with Southern Pacific Train from Portland 8:20 a. m., arriving at San Francisco 5:50 p. m., the day following. Union Station Service at Portland.

Automatic "Safety" Signal Protection All the Way Insures Safety—Prevents Delay

Tickets and reservations upon application to J. H. KEENEY, Agent.

WM. McMURRAY General Passenger Agent, Portland

