

THE OBSERVER

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J. D. MEYERS, President, H. B. LEITER, Vice President, CLARKE LEITER, Editor and Publisher.

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1917

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

The Observer prints in this issue the full text of the governor's message. This is well worth reading. It is a duty of every citizen to be familiar with the state government, to know what activities the state is carrying on, to scrutinize the expenditures, so that an idea may be obtained whether the state government is economical or extravagant.

As one reads the governor's message, he will be struck with the sincere purpose that runs through it of doing the very best possible for the state, of doing away with unnecessary state officers and appropriations and of giving the people the very best possible service. The governor suggests having only one salaried tax commissioner, he proposes reductions in the department of weights and measures, he recommends decrease in the appropriations of the legislature. All these are in the interest of economy and should be carefully carried out.

The governor proposes two ways of increasing state revenues, one by increasing the inheritance tax and the other by levying a two per cent gross tax on insurance premiums. This would bring increased revenue of

\$130,000 a year. He also proposes a moderate increase in the licenses of automobiles which he estimates would make available for state highway purposes \$250,000 a year, which would make available in the highway fund the total sum of \$500,000 a year.

The governor points out the needs of highway improvement and better facilities for housing the inmates at the state penitentiary. Much of this work he says could be done by the convicts themselves. He also declares that there is need for giving the governor complete power and complete responsibility for the management of affairs concerning the penitentiary.

The governor points out that he is the head of the state government, that he is looked upon to carry out the will of the people, while in actual fact he is only one of a commission of three men in control of the state government and in many cases he is subject to the veto power of the other two men.

This is an evil of state government. If the people expect to carry out their will through the governor as the chief executive officer of the state they should give him ample power and hold him responsible. Minor state officers should not be allowed to veto the wishes of the people.

Altogether the message of the gov-

ernor makes good reading, and it merits the careful attention of every taxpayer and also of the legislature. Certainly we all can agree with the governor in his desires to promote economy and efficiency in state government.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Emporia Gazette Office Secret From The Kansas City Star

It may be interesting to Kansas exchange editors, as it was to us, to learn that a whole lot of the editorials from the Emporia Gazette commonly accredited to William Allen White were not written by Mr. White at all. Some wise ones who happen to know now and then, that Mr. White is out of town, will attribute certain Gazette editorials to Walt Mason. And there is a whole lot of that kind that Mr. Mason didn't write, either. It has come to light that those not written by either Mr. White or Mr. Mason were the products of Mr. Elbert Severance, a Gazette reporter with an unusual capacity for writing editorials. Practically all of the editorial matter which appeared in the Gazette during Mr. White's vacation in Estes Park last summer was furnished by this young writer, who now has developed a paragraph column of his own in that paper headed "Add Waste Basket," and signed "E. S." Besides his editorial and paragraph work, Mr. Severance "covers" the city hall and other important news "runs" and if he has any time left after that he reads telegraph copy and loafs.

Picked Up By The Stroller

The Stroller wandered into The Observer office this morning to call for his mail and there was a nice fat official letter which looked as if it might be from the President of the United States tendering him a diplomatic post as minister to Dahomey. But it was not. It was from the board of directors of the Navy League of the United States—all nicely engraved—it must have cost fifteen cents at least—and the letter said that the board of directors of the Navy League had carefully and soulfully considered the nomination of the board of directors of the Navy League and had elected him in. It thanked him for his patriotic interest in an adequate and well organized navy and told him that a monthly magazine "Sea Power" would be sent him.

All of which was quite interesting, until the Stroller turned over to the last page where was the dotted line: And right below it was: MEMBERSHIPS: CONTRIBUTING MEMBER, \$5; LIFE MEMBER, \$50; FOUNDER, \$100. The Stroller was so overcome with the honor thrust upon him that he could read no further. His eyes grew dim with tenderness as he wondered which one of his friends had nominated him.

An African frog sounds a call under water that can be heard for several miles.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

Examinations for the first semester will begin next Friday morning and will extend over four days. Thursday at 2:30 all students will report at the high school for their cards and on Friday morning registration will begin for the second semester and will be conducted by the teachers in charge of the various assembly rooms.

On December 19th the Oregon Trail Girls, a branch of the Woman's Athletic association of the U. of O., was organized by Miss Tozier. The membership totalled sixty high school girls who work for points in folk dancing, basketball, hill climbing, swimming, walking and keeping hygienic rules. The university awards pins to the member according to the number of points which they have won.

Saturday, January 6th, Miss Tozier entertained the girls at her home. They were taught three kinds of bandaging and after these were learned a social time was enjoyed by all those present.

The second game of the season for the girls' basketball team is a return game with Pendleton to be played in the gymnasium Friday night. Details will be announced later.

The young men on the debating team have been studying rebuttal in their work and on Friday afternoon will give the rebuttal of the question which they gave a short time ago. The question was, "Resolved, that Oregon should adopt a health insurance law embodying the essential features of the standard bill of the American association for labor legislation"

The Mimir will go to print during examinations and will be published immediately after. This will be the second edition this year and will be a mid-winter number. The plan of publication this year differs from the preceding ones. All the cuts are to be reserved until the last number which will be in the nature of an annual. The advertisers have supported the issues liberally and the total of the advertising money was enough to guarantee the cost of printing before the first number was published. Following is the staff: Editor, Genevieve Stoddard; assistant editor, Amy Miller; business manager, Harry Moon; assistant, Ralph Paston; advertising manager, Howard Pierson; assistant, Leal Russell; senior reporter, Faye McKinnis; junior, Dewey Glaze; sophomore, Milton Roberts; freshman, Faye Wilcox. Other departments are in the hands of various seniors.

Coach Niles' basketball boys have entered the Y. M. C. A. league and will begin playing Wednesday. The practice has been regular and thorough and the work is progressing well. The team has been shifted since the Union game though the exact line-up has not yet been stated. Five games have been scheduled—a return game with Union, two with Elgin and two with Pendleton. Walla Walla has asked for a game but the expenses are heavy and it is not fully decided whether the game can be arranged. The following are trying out: Center, MacDonald, Roberts and Collier, forwards, Stoddard, Larsen, Rosenbaum, R. Lyman, M. Lyman; guards, Ash, D. Johnson, Reynolds and Chenaunt.

The business department of the high school has been doing excellent work this semester and two stenographers are working part time in downtown officers. The classes have also been doing special work for business men this semester. A Burroughs adding machine is part of the equipment recently added to the department.

The number of cafeteria visitors has now been increased to over a hundred a day. The class of domestic science girls has been divided into two groups working an alternate week. Each girl is assigned a week during which she manages the cafeteria. She plans the menus, buys all the material, oversees the preparation of the meal and keeps all the accounts. This new plan has been in force for two weeks and is working splendidly. The girls get a better idea of economical management, ideas of prices and materials and the importance of this work can hardly be over-estimated.

Mr. Mason's carpentry class composed of eight juniors and sophomores are working on a large cabinet for the domestic science rooms.

Two new bulletin boards have been added to the library. The following books were recently purchased for the library: "Public School Administration," Cubberly; "Schools of Tomorrow," Dewey; "Types of Teaching," Earhart; "How to Teach the Fundamental Subject," Kenedall and Merrick.

Miss MacMillan's elocution class composed of seniors, will give a short program this afternoon, assisted by the boys' quintet and the German classes. Following is the program: Music—"Heidenroslein," "Die Lorelei"; German Class Reading—"Aunt Tabitha"; Gladys Black Reading—"The Ups and Downs of Married Life"; Renwick Clark Reading—"Croquet"; Helen Ransom

Reading—"Hats"; Vinton Forbes Reading—"The Maiden and the Weather-Cock"; Marie Love Reading—"From a Far Country"; Amy Miller Music—"Loch Lomond," "Love's Old Sweet Song"; Boys' Quintet

In Italian canneries tomato seeds are pressed into cakes for feeding stock.

Five different ovens meet about all the possible requirements of a new gas range.

HARTRIDGE WHIPP

Song Recital

Tuesday Evening, Jan. 30th

at Methodist Episcopal Church

8:15 P. M.

Admission 50c.

Tickets on Sale at Van Buren's

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