

THE OBSERVER

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1917

The following editorial from the Cottage Grove Sentinel succinctly gives the reasons for the publication of the delinquent tax list:

The greatest service performed by the publication of the delinquent tax list is to get before the public the fact that the property advertised is for sale. By these sales the county collects the money due it for taxes and which it needs in the conduct of its business. Not to advertise the sale publicly would result either in the necessity of the county going without a lot of its tax money or in the monopolization of the buying of tax titles by the few who are able to go to the expense of getting a list of delinquent property. This would not be fair to the taxpayers of the county.

Still another purpose served by the publication of the delinquent tax list that would not be served by the use of postal cards is that many who are delinquent hasten to pay before their delinquencies are made public through publication. Thus a large amount of money is put into the county treasury and the cost of publication saved.

The law requiring the publication of the delinquent tax list was repealed some year ago but was again put on the statute books through the protest of taxpayers whose property had been sold without their knowledge, so the post card system was not effective even to the extent of reaching those who were delinquent.—Cottage Grove Sentinel.

Halfway recently had a "mad dog" scare and now the city council has placed the dog license at \$5 for males and \$10 for females. A dog fancier in Halfway, we take it, would be about as welcome as a kicker in La Grande.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

The Delinquent Tax List.

When it comes to state affairs Portland has often been called the head and body and the rest of the state the tail of the animal. Just now the

wrangle among Portland newspapers over who shall print the delinquent tax list is likely to affect an entire state. To stop the Portland squabble an effort is being made to have a bill passed providing that the lists not be made public in newspapers but that notices be sent to the delinquents by postal.

In the tea-pot tempest in Portland it is brought out that the printing of lists in newspapers is a "graft" of newspapers whereas the truth is far from this. The idea has been that the printing of the lists in the newspapers caused many who did not want the publicity to pay ahead of publication time, that it helped find people by spreading the news to their friends who would tell them and would clean up the matter in a public, legal way. The expense for the publication of these lists is borne by the delinquent taxpayers and not by the public at large as some officials try to show. The possibility of postal cards getting lost and the delinquents thus not notified can readily be seen.

The plans for publication are clearly defined by the law now existing so that the matter is taken out of politics as newspapers want it to be. The present system of collecting has proven effective and should not be replaced by one that will be less effective and no cheaper, just because of a Portland argument.—Baker Herald.

THE FORUM

To the Editor: Of the birds which stay here in winter the grosbeaks and cedar waxwings are the most numerous. A number of robins are seen and many little Oregon juncos. (The little fellow with the black hood and collar.)

Occasionally a red shafted flicker is seen hammering away on a pole or tree, when the ground is bare, or hunting for grubs or ants in the ground. Some Harris' woodpeckers are regular visitors. A few long sparrows and chick-a-dees are also seen about town. The robin is well provided for as he eats the apples that are left on the numerous apple trees scattered over town and berries of Virginia creeper and rose haws.

The cedar waxwing also eats fruits. The grosbeak is fond of sunflower and hemp seeds (which may be procured at any drug store), apple seeds, pumpkin and melon seeds with an occasional bite of apple or other fruit.

The juncos are fond of bread crumbs and small seeds. The robins, which make fleeting visits to the bird shelves, are fond of sunflower seeds.

Suet, which most of the birds like so well, may be pressed into the cracks of trees and posts and a bacon rind tacked to a pole will have many visitors. Bits of cheese and crumbs of nuts are also relished.

The food should be placed where the cats cannot spring on the birds when they are feeding.

The English sparrows may be frightened away by throwing a stick at them or by clapping the hands which does not frighten the useful birds very much.

CARRIE A. PICKENS.

Imbler News Items

Imbler Looks Forward to Rebuilding of Flour Mill—I. H. S. Defeats Summerville H. S. in Basketball.

Imbler, Ore., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Patrons of the local show house were entertained and amused Wednesday evening by the added attraction of an illustrated lecture on American scenery and a set of slides showing local views and local people. For once, at least, we were permitted to "See ourselves as others see us."

Orrin Howell is here from Walla Walla visiting his brother, Oscar Howell.

William Wiggins is at present working at the Enterprise sawmill.

The family will probably move to the Wallowa metropolis in the spring.

Members of the local M. I. A. dramatic club are planning to stage the drama, "The Old New Hampshire Home." A more detailed announcement, including characters, will be given later.

Don Meyers is in Boise for a few weeks on business.

Imbler high defeated the Summerville high school team in a lively game of basketball ball on the local floor Tuesday evening, 48 to 22. One commendable feature of the game was the fact that not a single controversy occurred during the contest and neither captain objected to a decision. Summerville seemed unable to shoot baskets, although at a previous game they defeated the local boys mainly on excellent foul basket shooting. Dewey O'hair having shot 13 baskets out of 15 trials. Keown and Squire played forward for the I. H. S. McDowell and Connor refereed.

Most of the wheat stored in local warehouses has been sold and is being shipped out, a few cars each day. The only reason it hasn't moved more rapidly being the fact that cars are difficult to secure. The wheat is going out bulk shipment, this being the only way purchasers in St. Louis, Kansas City and other destinations of cars shipped from Imbler and Alice, will receive the grain. The days of the wheat sack are numbered.

Grande Ronde ranchers will be compelled to adopt methods of handling their wheat in the bulk. Under the present system each wheat sack is handled from two to five times to get it from the thresher to freight car.

Plans are being made for a new mill and elevator to replace the one destroyed by fire two years ago and no doubt construction work will begin early in the spring in order to have the new building ready for the 1917 wheat crop. The burned structure was immediately replaced by a metal warehouse and a feed chopper was installed. The mill foreman, Clay Fox, has been in charge of the two warehouses and has handled the Kiddle Bros. interests since the destruction of the flour mill. This firm has not only sold practically all the wheat stored in their own buildings but have also purchased most of the grain from the farmers' warehouse.

Walter Wade, Miss Anna Brooks and others who were planning a trip to the Hawaiian Islands, will have to postpone their pleasure trip. On wiring to San Francisco for berths, Mr. Wade was informed that all berths were sold and no more passengers could be accommodated.

Friday afternoon a few friends gathered at the home of Mrs. E. E. Hurley to aid her mother, Mrs. Nora Balch, celebrate the sixty-third anniversary of her birth. Supper and games helped to pass away the evening.

Sherwood Williams, Mrs. G. L. Cleaver, Mrs. James Woodel and daughter were La Grande visitors Saturday.

William Henry and wife are here from Harney county, visiting friends and relatives.

Louis Jensen and wife were down from La Grande Sunday.

George Perry, of La Grande, was a visitor in Imbler Sunday.

Only one pupil in this district wrote on the state examination Thursday and Friday, Leo Doering, who came here from Hood River county.

A half car of logs was lost near the depot as Saturday's logger passed passed through Imbler. Looks as if the O-W. were trying to help relieve our demand for fuel.

A short but lively debate on national woman suffrage was enjoyed by the seventh and eighth grades Friday. Six members of the two classes participated. A recitation by Anna Courser and a piano solo by Rhoda Childers were the other numbers in the K. I. D. program.

Mrs. A. F. Wilson and daughter and son, Cleve, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fox in Union.

SMALL HATS THE THING FOR FEBRUARY



This perky bit of early spring millinery is a charming frame for a youthful face.

It is navy blue satin, polka dotted with wide "dots" of many colored straw—brck, gold, green and red. The quill is dull bronze satin.

One Formality. "Oh, joy! She has written a letter saying she will marry me." "Congratulations. When?" "Well—er—you see her father has to endorse this promissory note before it's good."

A SERIOUS LOSS is loss of appetite.



TONIC DIGESTIVE

sharpens your appetite, aids digestion, improves the health, and gives strength and vigor. Sold only by us \$1.00.

LEVY-VOGEL DRUG CO. La Grande, Oregon.

BOY'S TEARS BRING KIDDIE KAR INTO EXISTENCE AND MAKE HIS FATHER A MILLIONAIRE!



THE FIRST AND ORIGINAL KAR BEING RIDDEN BY THE YOUNGSTER WHOSE CRYING SPELL BROUGHT IT INTO EXISTENCE.

Clarence White of Bennington, Vt., is a millionaire today and the Kiddie Kar is one of the most popular children's toys ever produced in this country because White's little son, Freddie, had a crying spell one day. To stop the boy's tears he made a three-wheeled contrivance for him to ride on. Neighbor children saw it, cried for it and in a year White had sold a million and a half dollars worth of them. There is hardly a sidewalk in the country today without its Kiddie Kar.

Tact. "How shall I close this letter to Slowpay—'Yours truly' or 'respectfully'?" "Say 'respectfully,' but add, in parentheses, 'for the last time.'"—Fliegende Blaetter. "You can't sell me a good brick. I've bought twenty or more in my time." "Exactly, and you therefore need a container. I'm selling elegant mahogany hods with gilt nails. You sign here."—Pittsburgh Post. Three Wives. "Well, of all the impudence—asking me to help you because you have three wives to support!" "They don't belong to me, mister; they belong to me sons-in-law."—Boston Transcript. "You'd think the hero and the heroine were really in love with each other, but I'm told they quarrel dreadfully off the stage." "Oh, well, I dare say they make up easily!"

BARGAINS— We have only 10 more Coats left—Will close out at \$3.00 Each Jones & Rabone West New Building

Dead or Alive! A dead dollar is the one which is hidden away; which earns you nothing, and which is liable to turn up missing without a moment's notice; or the kind you carelessly push across the counter, for this and that; things you really don't need—then wonder in a week's time where they have gone. A live dollar is the one which you place in this bank, where it is always safe. They will call for company; the result is, more saving; then when opportunity arrives, you are financially able to meet it with open arms, and a bank account. La Grande National Bank