EDITORIAL PAGE

The Observer

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HOLDING ON IS BETTER THAN SMILING.

Just now when the financial winds are blowing; when the values are shrinking; when men who thought they were worth a million suddenly get the painful shock of poverty—ah, it is a time when the man who has the gizzard to hold on is the real man.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox says a man worth while is the man who can smile when everything goes dead wrong, but we read from the typewriter of that eminent blank verser, Walt Mason, that this smiling business is being overworked and we are about to take sides with Walt and against our old favorite, Ella.

Walt says the teaching to smile at everything and give no thought of the morrow is costing this country its birthright; that it is making of us a nation without responsibility.

Whoever coined the "Let George do it" stunt hit the American people in a soft spot. Right in La Grande and Union county, where the best people in the world live, there is a "Let George do it" spirit that is decidedly shocking. Duck the responsibility and get in the clear. Get by, the skin of the teeth if necessary, but get by. All these things are modern day stunts, and we are not entirely sure that Ella Wheeler did not bring on a lot of them with her smile propaganda.

With Ella on one side with her smiles, and Uncle Walt Mason on the other representing old safety first—a little glum but mighty secure—why can't we take middle ground and advocate the "hold on" man. By this we mean the man who has the courage to stick through adversity; the fellow who can see his granary, with wheat melt away in value like a piece of ice in Florida sun; who can see the interest rates advance and his principle go downward; who can see the days of blissful enjoyment turned at once into days of work, with a period of several years ahead of him in toil before he can expect to get even and pay up everything. That, readers, is the "hold on" man, and he is going to be worth his weight in pure gold to this nation. He is going to be the man who saves the country, who rises to the emergency, who makes the shrimps of nothingness scamper along and either go to work or sail for foreign lands.

The "hold on" man is the safe farmer, the safe merchant, the safe banker. To him these debts mean something of a serious nature and he takes the stand at once that they have to be paid but he demands time in which to pay them.

To him there is no such a thing as repudiation, there is no such a thing as bankruptcy. He is the man who shoulders the load and with weaving knees and stooped shoulders plods on his way while the dapper little cuckoos, and the dear boys of ease, fly like a band of butterflies when a wind storm arises.

The Observer doubts if the "hold on" man is much of a smiler. We think he is a serious chap, but, so safe and essential. We cannot imagine him a chattering, smiling, giggling monkey man, playing pranks like a jester for the king, but on the other hand, we see him in remarkable firmness, with teeth closed tightly, a kindly light of hope in his eye, trudging on, carrying civilization's load.

Just how many "hold on" men we are going to have in Wallowa and Union counties has not yet been determined; but there will be many of them—enough to save things. The other class had as well migrate, for sooner or later the fellow carrying the load is going to ask himself—"Why carry the other fellow's burden," and when that question once soaks in, no one dare guess results.

Be a "Hold On" man.

Headlines say, "Changes in Taxes Occupy Congress." We might add that paying taxes occupies the people of Eastern Oregon right now.

President Harding seems to treat the league of nations in the way it should be treated, but he has a firm conviction that this country should establish peace with the Central Powers—a very sensible idea.

America and Cuba have been joined by telephone and now the sports of this country can play the Cuban race course by phone.

It takes a Yap to start something between individuals, and the Island of Yap is filling that place between nations.

The Soviet government has decreed that no citizen of the United States shall enter Russia. That suits us. We had no trip planned to the land of the former Czar.

Astoria fishermen have accepted a cut in wages, but the fishing industry is still paralyzed just as the lumber industry is paralyzed.

Congressman Nick Sinnott has introduced a very sensible measure in congress combining the offices of register and receiver of land offices. It is understood the administration is behind the measure. This should have been done long ago, and in the interest of economy this session of congress should put it through.

The Best Firm.

A pretty good firm is Watch & Waite,
Another is Attit, Early & Late;
And still another is Doo & Dairet;
But the best is probably Grin & Barret. —Sherwood Music School News.

Says Runyan, the sign painter: "While cash is demanded by everyone for almost everything; while my pork chops must see the coin on the counter before they are mine; my groceries must hear the tinkling of coin, or fell the silken greenback, here I am painting a sign on Joe Carr's front window admonishing the general public that everybody's credit is good—use it. There is no telling what these golf fans will do, is there?"

"He has lost his initiative because he has too much money at his command," remarked a La Grande daddy at the breakfast table in speaking of another person.

"If he has lost his initiative he must be using his referendum," chirped in a La Grande school pupil member of the family, who has been studying civil government up-to-date.

We love to sing the old songs best because they are best, and we love to dance the old dances because they give us rest.—Pat Powers.

No, nothing is more touching than the retailer story to the customer when he tries to explain why the prices do not decline.

The difference between poetry and verse, says a high school student, is that anybody can understand verse.

There is none so disagreeable as the fellow who almost agrees with you.

Wasted effort, i. e., a jet black colored citizen wearing a pair of horn-rimmed glasses.

Some time ago this col. inquired, "What has become of the old-fashioned feller who jingled his money in his pants pocket?"

It has finally dawned upon us that a feller is in luck to have a pair of pants these days, let alone anything to jingle in 'em.

Luther Burbank may yet be able to make a wallflower look like a perfect peach.

The crying need of the cities is not more blue laws but more bluecoats.

The law-abiding American is necessarily in his declining years.

A Final S. O. S.

WANTED—A nice long barrel, nicely upholstered, with running water and steam heat. Also a medium and a small size barrel of the same description for the members of my family, viz: Mrs. Colyum and the Little Colyum. Would prefer an extra barrel for any guest we may or may not entertain. However, this is not absolutely necessary. Address, the Office Cat, conductor of this Colyum.

Jack Oliver now rides in a new automobile. And Jack would have nothing but a sport model because he says he is just as he used to be when he took part in the county seat scrap in Union county.

Gordon Burns, who sells the burglar-proof electrical equipment for banks, believes he has opened a new avenue for business. After reading where local officers had been storming houses and capturing liquors, he scratched his Scotch forehead and pondered thusly: "If this burglar-proof layout will save banks from having their vaults entered, as I know it will, why would it not be a good equipment for the moonshiner." Just then a wire from a bank in Montana wanting his new system aroused him and he was off for the order.

Back To Nature.

No man with an ordinary amount of intelligence can doubt the truth of the old adage, "History repeats itself." If they do, let them stare for a few minutes on any corner of any street down town and be convinced that the women folks have returned to the costumes of Mother Eve.

Marriage used to be considered a gamble. Times have changed now. A man can see what he is getting nowadays—and so can everyone else.

No one can doubt the word of a woman today when she says, "I have nothing to wear".

Our fathers used to pay from fifty cents up to two dollars for a front row seat in a burlesque show and feel well satisfied with the bargain, but us young dudes have the old-timers beat to a frazzle. We can just sit down anywhere up town and see the same thing put on by home talent, free of charge.

Yours truly,
I'M WONDERING WILLIE.

"Now all you little boys who want to go to heaven lift up your right hands."

All hands went up except one in the school room.

"Why, Isidore, don't you want to go to Heaven?"

"No. My papa says business has gone to Hell, and I want to go where the Beeziness is."

But They Do.

Its hard to make the average seventeen year old girl believe that when she is forty those glorious dimples will turn to wrinkles.

Or A $1 Shirt.

If the average wife has thought of every imaginable way to spend her allowance, and has exhausted the entire reportoire, then she is almost sure to buy her husband a red necktie.

WAS ORDERED TO KILL MAJOR

ROLAND P. POTHIER GIVES ANOTHER CONFESSION.

Says Superior Officer, Captain Robert Rosenbluth Asked Him to Bring Out A "Loaded Gun."

TACOMA, Apr. 16.—Roland P. Pothier, charged with slaying Major Alexander Cronkhite at Camp Lewis in October 1918, confessed to the federal authorities that he was ordered by his superior officer, Captain Robert Rosenbluth, to bring out a loaded gun and "get" Cronkhite, it was announced today by Prosecutor J. W. Selden, who disclosed the five alleged confessions made by Potter.

New Source of Paper.

From a mixture of sugar cane refuse and bamboo fiber a Trinidad planter has succeeded in making a paper equal in quality to the best wood pulp product.

R. N. West & Co.
"THE COURTESY STORE"

3,000 YDS. FINE ZEPHYR GINGHAMS

25c

Over 100 beautiful new patterns to select from — Plaids, Checks and Stripes; and such an excellent quality as you will find these to be, is not common. They were never so beautiful, so gorgeously colored, so daintily designed, so altogether fascinating and fresh looking as now—and with this exceptionally large new shipment arriving yesterday, our stocks are most complete now.

There are others at 18c, and 32-inch ginghams at 35c—these new 27-inch Zephyrs are priced at 25c.

NEW

So much that is new, and so much that is wanted just now has arrived during the past few days that we have been unable to unpack and mark all of it as readily as we would like. However, here are several little news items of interest to all, and which will all be ready Monday:

18-inch Dew Bleached IRISH LINEN

—For table runners, scarfs, etc. Price $1.25 yd. Same in 36-inch wide, $2.50 yd.

WHITE SKIRTINGS.

—Fancy checked and striped white wash skirtings, 36 inches wide. Prices $1.00 and $1.50.

BABY FLANNEL

—An extra heavy grade white Outing, 27 inches wide. Priced at 25c.

"AGATHA" PERCALE

—Several new pieces of this famous brand arrived Friday, and are on sale now; 36 inches wide. Price 25c yd.

ROUND PILLOWS

—Both large and small sizes; also long tube-shaped, and square shapes. All floss filled. Pices, 75c, $1.15 and $1.50.

New Madras

Shirtings

—Mothers who make their boys blouses and shirts, and women who make their husband's shirts, will find several new patterns in fine shirtings. Priced at 40c and 60c. Mostly striped patterns.

SALE OF

Neckwear 50c

—An exceptionally fine lot of new collars, all of lace and net, very new shapes and in both cream and white.

—A purchase of an exceptionally large quantity enables us to offer them at this low price. See window.

New Grey "La France" SILK HOSE

—We are pleased to announce for the first time in several months that we are again showing this famous Silk Hose, so popular with many of our patrons.

—At present we have it in shades of grey, and zinc. Price $2.50.

THE SEASON FOR SKIRTS!

New Plaids Arrive

TODAY!

—How many times a separate skirt has "saved the day." With sweater, middy or blouse, a good fitting skirt is quite advantageous.

—You may choose one right away and from an entirely new lot that were put on sale for the first time this morning. They are very favorably priced, from $9.00 to $21.50.

IMMIGRATION BILL IS NEXT

WASHINGTON, Apr. 16.—After the passage of the emergency tariff and anti-dumping bill late yesterday, the leaders planned to report out the immigration restriction bill next week.

Ancient "Chapman."

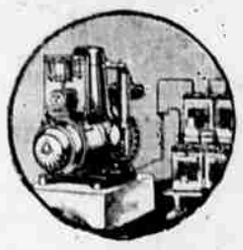
In olden days there was a merchant who would buy his stores in the cheapest market, load them into a wagon and drive about the country, selling where he could. He was known as a chapman and the modern name is derived from that word. As the merchant's chief stock in trade was a jovial personality the word chap has long meant a jolly fellow.

No Advocate but Itself.

Do not waste a minute, not a second, in trying to demonstrate to others the merit of your own performance. If your work does not vindicate itself, you cannot vindicate it, but you can labor steadily on to the something which needs no advocate but itself.—Thomas Wentworth Higginson, "A Letter to a Young Contributor."

It Pays For Itself

DELCO-LIGHT
"Electricity for every Farm"



Delco-Light really costs you nothing. It pays for itself by doing work—running the washer—pumping the water and doing many other odd jobs. This is the opinion of the vast army of Delco-Light users.

Write for Catalog.

NATE ZWEIFEL
—Distributor—

TO AUTO AND TRUCK DRIVERS

WE SUBMIT A FEW PRICES FOR YOUR APPROVAL.

MONOGRAM OIL—
One Quart 35c
Half Gallon 65c
One Gallon $1.25
Five Gallons $5.70
STANDARD OIL or ZEROLENE—
One Quart 25c
Half Gallon 50c
One Gallon 90c
Five Gallons $4.00
Fifteen Gallons Oil, in steel drums, with faucet $12.77

—NEW HIGHWAY SERVICE STATION—

Howard F. Richardson

Prop.

1709 ADAMS AVE.

THE REASON FOR OUR SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH IS OUR SUBSTANTIAL SERVICE

Earning Your Income--

is but half the battle; the other is managing it lest it manage you.

People of all incomes and in all walks of life save themselves a lot of needless worry through the use of the Checking Account.

An Account here will solve the problem effectively for you.

United States National Bank