

# The Observer

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## REPUTATION.

This is Reputation week for La Grande. Reputation comes in just two varieties—Good and Bad. A Good Reputation is the hardest thing to get and the easiest thing to lose. A Bad Reputation is the easiest thing to get, and the hardest thing to lose. Reputation can be the most exalting or the most damning thing in life. Reputation is the right hand of Fate—that points out the road to Success or Failure. Reputation is an invisible pedestal, on which we stand like statues, marked Famous or Infamous. Reputation is priceless and yet, it is within the reach of everybody. Reputation is the most precious thing to a woman and the most valuable thing to a man. Every human being is a peddler of Reputation—His own and the other fellow's—Why deal in Bad ones when plenty of Good are to be had.

## ON IMMIGRANT RATIONS.

The United States may now be said to be on immigrant rations. Immigrants are apportioned to this country at the rate of so many a month. The total number admissible for the year is estimated at about 300,000, and the actual total will probably be less, because none of the nationality can exceed its quota and some may fall short of it. The law became effective June 3. For the month of June one-thirteenth of the theoretical total will be accepted. After that, beginning in July with the fiscal year, any of the foreign countries may send 20 per cent of its quota in any month until its total is made up. Each is limited to 3 per cent of the number of nationals it had in this country when the census was taken in 1910. The quotas for the various countries have been carefully worked out, and the figures announced so far are interesting. In the present month the United Kingdom (Great Britain and Ireland) is entitled to send us 5,923, the largest number permitted to any country. Germany comes next with a possible 5,219. Sweden is entitled to 1,531, Norway to 930, Denmark 433, Finland 298, Switzerland 297, Holland 276, and "Africa", whatever that may mean, 9. The bulk of entrants will be from northwestern Europe. So far, good. The next step is to work out a permanent rationing system whereby the United States will receive from year to year and month to month only such recruits as it can assimilate, operating under a trained commission, without the past peril of "dumping" or the need of enacting new emergency laws from time to time to protect the country from unexpected human deluges.

## THE DEADLY SHAVING BRUSH

There is something so guileless about a shaving brush, something so innocuous and so matter-of-fact, it is a little startling to find it listed as the villain in the piece, a thing of agony and lurking death. Yet such it may prove if made of horsehair. Anthrax, it seems, is sometimes carried by horsehair brushes. Enough deaths from it have been traced to the use of such brushes to lead Secretary Mellon to urge upon Congress the passing of legislation to prevent their sale. He says that manufacturers agree with him that use of horsehair should be prohibited. Doubtless Congress will pass the measure when it gets around to it, but in the meantime father had better make sure for himself what kind of brush he is using or buying. Of course anybody who has watched him plaster his face with lather, tie it up into knots and start to shave, swearing mildly as he swings his blade, has wondered why he did not cut his throat and realized that his chances of heaven would be slim if he did. It seems that with a horsehair shaving brush his death average runs up rapidly, whatever may be true of his celestial batting average.

And because of that showing the wage of common labor on the railroad was cut 18 per cent. "Just how much can a man on a wage of \$1.50 a day spend for clothing, shoes, food, rent, gas, coal, street car fare? Just how much can he spend in sending his children to school? Just how much can he spend on the movies, the theatres and newspapers and magazines and books and library fees? "Business was brisk, sales heavy and money in circulation abundant when the Portland shipyards were active. There was then an example of what good wages do for business and trade and general prosperity. The worker had buying power then, lots of buying power, and he bought generously as long as his money held out. "Business men who demand reductions in the wages of the railroad workers or any other workers are striking at their own business. Professional men who clamor for cuts in wages are aiming blow on blow at their own incomes. It is past finding out how the great crowd goes through life oblivious to the fact that the lower the wage the weaker the general buying power and the less there is of prosperity. "Ninety-eight per cent of the American...

## THE WAGE CUT.

The railroads have managed to get a cut in the wages of their employees. But are we all sure that it is a good thing for the public that it marks Frank Irvine's editorial page of the Portland Journal. "Certainly the railroad employee will have less money to spend with his grocer, his butcher, his baker and the candlestick maker. Every cut in wage means less money for those who buy things of those who will. It means less money for the grocer, the dentist, the lawyer and every other professional man. "The railroad managers produce figures to show that some common laborer is receiving but \$1.50 a day...

## POLITICAL HISTORY

U. S. POLITICAL HISTORY.  
June 7, 1776—The resolution for Independence was introduced in congress.  
June 7, 1862—Andrews, a federal spy was hanged. He attempted to capture the Georgia state railroad.  
June 7, 1863—Battle of Milliken's Bend, La.  
NINETEENTH PRESIDENT.  
Rutherford B. Hayes, republican, inaugurated March 3, 1877. Age 54. Term of office, four years. Residence Fremont, Ohio. Born October 4, 1822, Delaware, Ohio. Died January 17, 1893. Age 70. Buried in Fremont, Ohio. Graduate, Kenyon College. Parlor is receiving but \$1.50 a day...

erican people, according to government reports, are living on their wages. If those wages are low, then particularly all the American people have small power to buy. If those wages are good, practically all the American people are good buyers and good spenders, and good buyers and good spenders make prosperity. "In view of the true facts, should the railroad managers have used the \$1.50 a day wage as a reason for beating down the wages of common labor on their lines? Should, they not, instead, have used the higher wage among their workers as reason for raising the \$1.50 wage to a decent living wage?"

## NO STUDENT CARS

The University of Oklahoma has made a ruling that no student shall be permitted to maintain an automobile. Possession of motor cars by students, it is explained, is "detrimental to the individual student and to best interests of the university." There might be some exceptions to this ruling, but in the main it is one that could well be adopted by every institution of learning in the country. College years are the years for the greatest physical activity, not for seeking means to avoid it. They are the years for learning to associate freely with one's fellow men, without snobbery or emphasizing varying possessions. The individual who operates his own motor car may be quite free from these vices himself, but his automobile sets him apart from his less fortunate friends, a few things can do. Then, too, the car with its time and space defying possibilities is a mischief-brewer of no mean ability. It is better that the college boys and girls walk and run, and ride on the common carriers with their mates. And it is better that the school be known as the kind of place where young people of all classes do this cheerfully than that it be classed as a "rich man's school" and consequently avoided by the poor but ambitious student. Lo, the poor criminal! Before the public gets through applauding his conviction for his latest crime, he's usually out on bail again, pending a new trial. Strategists say that the next war will be in the air. Our military policy is there now. Is it possible that those red college students that people are getting so hot up over are the graduates of the little red schoolhouses? Lemme and Trotzky are reported as encouraging private capital now. Isn't that a capital offense in Russia? The British have unveiled a bust of Washington in Westminster Abbey. Will they put a bust of De Valera there a century from now? It cost every American \$61.88 to run the United States government last year. Now don't go and say it wasn't worth it.

## THE OFFICE CAT.



The Steno's Vacation.  
My typist is on her vacation  
My triptist is away for a week  
My Typudt is in hwr vscation  
Wgile thse damn keys ply hude  
and see!

C J O R A S :  
Oy, brung beej mung baeck.  
Breng bock mu b'Onnie ti my.  
tp mr;  
B'ing B'ixj, b-gng b'ix  
B'ing Bozk m' b'elnie -o mx,  
oh helk?

The Polite Bride.  
At a wedding recently, when the clergyman asked the bride, "Will you have the man to be thy wedded husband?" she, with a modesty which lent her beauty an additional grace, replied: "If you please."—Temple Topics.  
And, such is fate, when a bride is as nice as that, she invariably hooks up with a man who, when it comes his time to answer the clergyman's query, takes a quid of Scrap Tobacco out of his face, throws it in the corner of the church and says:  
"Hell, yes!"

A Chicago man who was suing for divorce testified that while he was driving an auto with his wife and another man in the back seat he heard the man kiss her. The agents for that car should use this testimony as a selling argument.

Pome.  
"Curfew must not ring tonight,"  
She cried with eyes aglow.

## HEALTH OF COLLEGE FRESHMEN WILL BE CAREFULLY STUDIED

HANOVER, N. H., June 7.—A study of the health of members of the freshman class, to be used as the basis of regulating their diet and activities, will be inaugurated by Dartmouth College next fall. The plan will be associated with the freshman compulsory athletic course. One of its aims will be to work out a proper balance between the height and weight of each man in order that he may do the best possible work in studies and athletics.

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### ARMSTRONG SHOES

SOLD HERE EXCLUSIVELY IN LA GRANDE.

"There's a Vampy picture at the movies, And I'm surely going to go."

"A newspaper columnist," says one of the tribe, "should be at one poet, philosopher, humorist and sage," to which we faintly would add "And either a diplomat or a darned good scraper."

The sum and substance of the Bergdoll question seems to be that everybody has been caught and punished except Grover, himself.

A Fable: Once Upon a Time there was a conductor of a would-be-funny column who did not try to write Something Funny about the Einstein Theory.

Prospects of a Bumper Crop. (Lake County (Ind.) Times). Mr. and Mrs. Norman Thilmont, a former resident of this town, are the happy parents of a 11-pound baby, born April 5. This makes three healthy boys for Mr. Thilmont's future farm.

Megaphones in Oil. We recently read of one of our newly rich paying \$250,000 for an old master and were reminded of a remark made by Robert Henri, the artist, on a similar case. "To a millionaire of that type, you know," said Henri, "an old master is merely a megaphone for his money to talk through."—Boston Transcript.

Curious reader asks a New York paper for a definition of the unwritten law. That's an easy one. The unwritten law is that which keeps one person from asking another for the two-bits the one lent the other.

Yes, Jasper, the artist is the only man who can draw a bottle of beer.

A surgeon has performed an operation to give a babe, born without ears, a pair of them. If it was only a girl instead of a boy, its mother could have done its hair up in "ear buns" and saved the expense of an operation.

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33-4	\$43.10	\$3.70
32-4 1/2	\$47.30	\$4.50
33-4 1/2	\$48.40	\$4.65
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