The Observer

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It Looks That Way

The cotton men of the south seem to be more outspoken than the wheat men of the north in their chastisement of the Federal Reserve banking system, for they have come out boldly and charged that it is a system which is hostile to producers.

Perhaps those in charge of the Federal Reserve do not intend to be hostile, but as the Observer views things the directorate of the system is largely composed of men who have had their training in circles other than those of the producer, and as men are trained so they will be. There is no way to get by that old rule. It is but natural for these men to handle the great reservoir of credits to use their own measuring stick upon every application. If they have been in the middleman class all of their lives their measuring stick will be that of the middleman, whereas if they have followed the plow and stroked the horse on the back they will have the viewpoint of the producer.

As the rules of the reserve system tighten; as they make it imperative that liquid assets must show up in order to get credit, it is quite apparent that they are not of the class of man who have been taught that landed possessions consitute the bulwark for credit. Therefore in the Grande Ronde valley the man who owns a half section of the best land is prevented from using the Federal Reserve bank whereas the man who has a bunch of steers and no land is favored by the bank.

The word "liquid", as applied by the Federal Reserve system, is going to be a breaking point with many a good man. For land owners who have worked to acquire good holdings to find their credit is not good and the man who is speculating has his credit honored, seems to us a poor precedent to establish.

It is little wonder that the southern cotton men, having grown tired and exasperated at the methods, finally throw up their hands and begin talking out in meeting.

A Town Without a Good Band

Ever live in a town without a good band?

Well, there is something decidedly lacking. There is a vacancy which is almost a vacuum. The pep is gone and people have nothing to thrill them.

On the other hand when a community can boast of a band it subconsciously realizes it has leadership—some one thing around which general interest and intense approval centers. It's a town tonic; it is a builder; it makes the community complete in itself, and revives dropping spirits.

The free band concert is a great blessing to humanity for it relaxes everyone and brings forth commendatory remarks. Everyone feels better when he can say something good; when he can offer praise rather than censure.

La Grande has an excellent band. It grew up unawares. The members never asked for support but just got together and formed a first-class musical organization. They ask for nothing now, but it is only the graceful thing for La Grande to give such support as will enable the members to buy new music and pay incidental expenses. If we, as a community, do that cheerfully we will have one of the best bands in the state ready and willing to respond to calls of the city.

Plugging the leaks at Washington is getting a lot of newspaper space, but the fact is this government would go along fine with out half the government that it has. And to abolish that half would mean a fine little bunch of money saved every year. Of course, some of the boys would be hungry and dry, but a great many other people are hungry and dry just now.

There was only a difference of $7,000,000 in the appraisement of the estate of Henry Miller of the cattle firm of Miller & Lux, which for years had nearly all of Eastern Oregon for a range country. But the lowest estimate was thirty-two million, indicating that the dry grass on Oregon hills helped Mr. Miler amass quite a snug little fortune.

Sheriff Sharmer of Roseburg knew when he got the letter signed by the I. W. W., threatening death for the treatment he had been according Brumfield, that the fellow who wrote the letter did not have nerve enough to pull a trigger on the blackest night. Anonymous letter writers are about the smallest bits of human flesh who walk the earth.

Perhaps the drought and heat which has hit the corn crop will prevent new corn from going on the market at two-bits a bushel, a thing that middle states growers grently feared.

Sign up, Germany, sign up, and let's settle down to work on both sides of the ocean.

The Salvation Army in La Grande is developing some very good musicians and the religious concerts they give on the streets are well worth hearing, both from an entertainment and a spiritual point of view.

IN THE OLD HOME TOWN

That was some rule the government promulgated when it ordered all members of live-saving crews to cease spending their time with the ladies and do more practicing. What cold-hearted old clams we have in Washington.

The advent of Charles H. Keith, of the Central Coal & Coke company in Oregon, as a lumber manufacturer means just one thing—the time has finally arrived when the southern pine men are going to flock to this coast for the lumber supply of the nation.

The change of Federal officers at Portland, it is said, will not be marked by any special celebration. But it will be marked by a change in the name of government pay checks, which, after all, is what all the boys are interested in.

Everybody is happy when there is a fight that brings them a cheap article. Look at the rate war to the beach and notice how the people are flocking thither—not to enjoy the beach, but to take advantage of cheap rates.

A rancher in Aberdeen became ill and hanged himself. This is a time when a rancher don't have to get very ill to wish some one would hang him and get him out of his financial misery.

The Oregonian is going to hire an expert to tell the people what is the matter with business in America. Congress had better employ that fellow first so we can get kuicker action.

THE OFFICE CAT

—By JUNIUS—

THREE CENT STAMPS

The government is planning to boost the price of postage stamps for ordinary letters to three cents, and we hope that it does. There is altogether too much letter writing in this world, and if another cent will have a deterrent effect it will relieve us just that much.

Most of the letters are rather painful. They beg to state, they enclose herewith, they refer to our invoice No. 633,221, your order No. 47,896, they urge us to find enclosed, or warn us that they are sending under separate cover. They beg to acknowledge, or regret to inform; they take pleasure in quoting, they trust that we have received in good order this thing or that. They are as alike as a dime's worth of gum drops.

Far be it from us to tell the government its business, but the method of selling stamps has been all wrong. Let the recipient, and not the sender pay the postage. Each morning when the postman brings you, say a half dozen envelopes, sealed but without stamps. You look through 'em. Some you reject, of course, and on these the government would sustain the loss, but on others you are willing to pay quite a tariff. Like this:

For single men letter from girl	$1.00
Married man, letter from wife	.01
Letter selling oil stock	.00
Letter enclosing check	5.00
Letter with stock dividends	6.00
Letter notifying assessment	.00
Wedding announcements	.00
Dinner invitations	.65
Fishing invitations	9.00
Invitation to help in drive	.00

This gives a sketchy outline, but you can get the drift. Perhaps too, if attractive young women carried the mails, and were pursuasive enough even higher prices could be had.

We believe that higher postage would materially cut down the number of postcards one gets from various resorters and summer vacationists. "If my friend sends me a picture postcard, I know I am on his conscience but not on his heart." You know the kind of postcards everybody gets. Things like this:

"Having grand time; wish you were here.

Lovely people at this lake, wish you were here.

"Lovely bathing and wonderful beach, wish you were here.

"This is a view from our cottage, wish you were here.

"Dancing pavilion, lovely dances, every evening; wish you were here.

"Picture of four pounder Bob caught; lots of fish at this lake, wish you were here.

"The bunch in our bathing suits, wish you were here.

"Here is a picture of the lake in a storm, wish you were here.

"Wish you were here."

These are fairish samples of the average postcard. Of course one appreciates such little attentions. Yet equally of course one could live for several days, weeks, even, without them. A great many are sent for a penny. Few would be sent for two cents. One has few friends who think that much of one.

Years ago we invented the typewriting machine. It was hailed as considerable wheeze. Before that time business men had been wont to write their two or three letters a day by long hand. It took an hour or more. "Now," say they, "with the typewriting machine we can do this work in ten minutes."

But they didn't. They wrote more and more letters, and finally needed help, and the professional stenographer came into existence. Still the craze for letter writing grew, and Mr. Edison, ever alert, invented a thing that you talk into, called a dictaphone, so that a business man might sit up all hours of the night dictating letters for the stenographers next day.

And that wasn't enough. Machines were invented for turning out letters with wonderful rapidity—hundreds every minute, thousands every hour. A machine was invented so that a man could sign his name 300 times with one stroke of the pen.

What do all these millions of letters talk about? Oh, everything. The sale of merchandise, the state of the weather, of the market, of golf, of one's soul. No subject is overlooked none is slighted.. In starting three cent postage the government is on the right track. It will not raise the revenues, but it will lessen the accumulation of daily mail, and give a little time to attend to business. But three cents isn't enough. Ten would be vastly better.

An applicant for a position with Silverthorn's Family Drug store answered the following questions as noted and as follows:

Q.—Born? A.—Yes; once.
Q.—Married or single? A.—Have been both.
Q.—Parents alive yet? A.—Not yet.
Q.—Nativity? A.—Baptist.
Q.—Hair? A.—Thin.
Q.—Voice? A.—Weak.
Q.—Healthy? A.—Sometimes.
Q.—Previous experience? A.—No.
Q.—Where? A.—Difference places.
Q.—Business? A.—Rotten.
Q.—Salary expected? A.—More.
Q.—Drink? A.—Not in dry states.
Q.—Why do you want a job? A.—Wife won't work any more.

Mr. Silverthorn says this is some applicant and a fair sample of what one may expect quite often during these peculiar times.

You know what Mark Twain said about fools. Mark admitted that there were a lot of fools in the world, but advised the wise men not to complain, because it was only by comparison with fools that there were any wise men.

An ounce of push is worth a pound of pull.

A Real Hot Lunch.

That is what happens at Al Cains Palace Confectionery every day from 11:30 to 1:30 p. m. Chicken sandwiches, beef sandwiches, salads, hot coffee and chocolate that are as fine as it is possible to get at your home and very often better. They are serving home-made pies fresh every day with their lunches. 8-25-tf

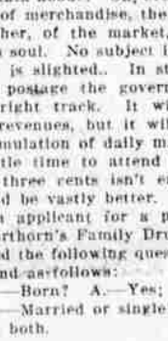
N. K. West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

Getting Together One of the Greatest Stocks We Have Ever Shown!

The experience, the best judgment and painstaking care of every one connected with this store have been constantly brought into play in securing a stock of fall merchandise that will far surpass anything we have ever shown before.

No worthwhile line has been overlooked, none forgotten, no stone was left unturned in fact, that the merchandise for opening this great season should be the best procurable.

Every line shown is therefore authoritatively correct as to style, etc.—absolutely dependable as to quality, and may be bought with perfect confidence. Something new arrives every day.



THE NEW FALL
Coats And Suits
Are Beautiful

Richest in fabrics, colors, and trimmings, etc.—beautiful in style, these new coats and suits, we believe surpass even the pretty models of the spring season.

But a few of the richer garments were produced by the makers and their distribution spotted over widely separated areas. So much to ensure exclusiveness. You will delight in going through our ready to wear department now—and you are invited to do so. Above all see these coats and suits.

SUITS $30 to $75
COATS $21 to $100

A Host of BEAUTIFUL NEW TRIMMINGS

Perhaps you have noticed one of our display windows, showing beautiful wide gold and silver laces, gold and silver cloth, beaded ornaments, jet laces, tassels, etc.

These are but a few of the wonderful array of trimmings we received this week—a stock such as we have never shown since before the war.

When you are shopping here, don't fail to visit this department—just as you enter.

SILK FRINGE

Dresses, blouses and skirts all call for long, silk fringe this season—To make over the old garments, and for those who are making the new, these beautiful new silk fringes offer wondrous opportunities. There are all colors and they vary in width from 2 inches to 12 inches, at quite a range of prices. See window.

DRESS CORDS

With long waving tassels, are quite the thing to set off an old garment—or add to the attractiveness of the new one. In a variety of color combinations and plain colors. Price $2.65.

Worthy

We have proven that we are worthy of the public's confidence. Our equipment is dignified and genteel. We plan our services carefully and execute them conscientiously.

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Phone Main 62
CLYDE E. ZIMMERMAN, Manager.

THE TELEPHONE

—is a servant always at command, that never tires; night or day, hot or cold, snow or rain, it is always ready to quickly, cheaply and cheerfully perform tasks that otherwise require time, expense, exposure and in cases every day, by its celerity, it saves lives and property of value almost beyond computation.

Home Independent Telephone Co.

USED CARS

1920 Baby Overland	$500.00
1917 Dodge	$500.00
1918 Dodge	$575.00
1919 Dodge	$700.00
1918 Buick Touring	$500.00
1917 Studebaker Six	$250.00

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Union Motor Co.	Clyde Kiddle
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