

The Observer

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To Remind Us of Old Times

Editor I. B. Bowen of the Baker Democrat, fearful that the present generation will forget how newspapers were run thirty years ago, is printing some clippings from the Democrat's files back more than a quarter of a century.

One of the items is very interesting for it shows how newspapers used to fight. Here it is:

"The licentious old reprobate, irregular practitioner and general all-around two-legged piece of irresponsibility that is undertaking to palm himself off as an editor, continues his old tactics of lying in the face of truth but it profits him nothing. If the people were not well acquainted with him his practices might have some weight."

Dude Ranching

It may be news to many to learn that the Boise independent school district has a farm, remarks the Boise Statesman with quite a little sarcasm in its tone of voice. The object of this farm is to teach city boys how easy it is to lose money on a ranch. Last year it made a fine demonstration—enough, at least, to stop any "back to the farm" movement. It lost \$50 an acre last year—or, to be exact—\$1923.77 on 40 acres.

The school district built a residence on this farm, at a cost of \$6897. This modest home adds \$175 an acre to the investment, which seems quite a load of overhead to put on a 40-acre tract. The board has had a hard time trying to find a use for the house; last year one floor was occupied. The idea originally, we are told, was to reside part of the house for class rooms, but that didn't work for some reason or other so another building was erected for that purpose.

Then followed a great concrete barn. Report has it that the board filled it with a heterogeneous collection of tail-end livestock. When confirmation of this was sought, the secretary of the board of education could supply no facts; he has no inventory of the farm's livestock; he doesn't know what's out there, he said.

The ranch is one and a half miles from town and a truck carries the

children to the vocational agricultural picnic which is held daily. There are three other vocational courses that our students can steer to avoid the study of the three R's. They are auto mechanics, printing and home economics.

Steel Gives Way to Wheat

Let no one be fooled longer by the time-worn statement that steel is the barometer of trade.

Wheat is essentially the barometer, not only nation-wide, but locally. When Grande Ronde wheat sells for less than a dollar a bushel all lines of business sag and begin to take on the low prices and dullness. When it goes above a dollar there is a brisk tendency and tone to business.

According to press dispatches steel is about to take a drop. But steel has not dropped in company with wheat and other commodities. It has remained high, so high in fact that it has hampered all lines of business that use steel. It has helped block the building program, curtailed railroad improvement, put a damper on development of many kinds.

Its price has been held high arbitrarily—because the steel trust had the power to hold up the price.

Now, however, the production of steel products is large and the demand is small because of the exhibition prices charged and we are told that steel is due for a drop.

No product can be the barometer of business that is held up as steel has been. On the contrary, wheat hit the toboggan the first thing and she has been rising and falling, steadily falling, until wheat is priced now at pre-war prices.

Plainly wheat is the barometer of business of this country.

Silesia and the League

Americans may be glad that their country has nothing to do with Silesia and nothing to do with the League of Nations, and that at the same time glad that the Silesian dispute is referred to the League. It offers a way out of a dangerous situation, menacing the friendship of the allied powers and to the peace of Europe, and therefore the United States stands to benefit by it indirectly.

That is exactly the sort of thing for which the League was intended. Representatives of eight nations, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Belgium, Spain, Brazil and China, will undertake to settle a problem which representatives of the first-named four have been unable to settle. The larger body, having a broader view, and consisting of altogether different membership, and having less direct interest in the matter, may find a way out.

Action by the League Council, too, may be regarded as more authoritative than action by the four allied premiers would have been. The Council represents a group of 48 nations, banded together by formal covenant, whereas the Supreme Council has no legal standing whatever, but is merely an informal super-government set up by the Allies for purposes of practical expediency.

Poor old Senator Jimmie Reed. His mouth has got him into trouble ever since he was mayor of Kansas City. Now he has called down the wrath of the House of Representatives at Washington because he made some remarks concerning Congressman Volstead and his dry bill. Jimmie is very liable to be ostracized from good Washington society if he keeps up his outspoken manner.

La Grande is having a fine season for her city water. Somehow, Manager Garrett has managed to give us water even if his equipment is in bad shape, and for that he has the thanks of the people.

IN THE OLD HOME TOWN



THE OFFICE CAT



"The water came from the dam pool"—From the Seattle Star. Supposin' it did—why get mad about it?

No doubt there are majamas as well as pajamas.

A "DRY" RHYME

Whatever else may happen Now that the country's dry (?) The sailor still will have his port. The farmer has his rye; The cotton still has got its gin, The seacoast has its bar, And each of us will have a bier, No matter where we are.

Howdy, folks! Have you joined the Klu Klux Klan yet?

EXCEEDED THE SPEECH LIMIT

"So your car got into the police court. Were you exceeding the speed limit?" "On the contrary, the blamed flyer wouldn't budge and the policeman overheard what I said about it."

While we are complaining of hard times the other fellow is getting the business.

ARCADÉ

TONIGHT

Constance Binney

IN

SUCH A LITTLE QUEEN

AND

TOONERVILLE

COMEDY

WEDNESDAY

Harold Goodwin

IN

HEARTS OF YOUTH

A tale of Mystery and

Vengeance

ALSO

A COMEDY

"Dura Belle" HAIR NETS 2 for 25c

West & Co THE QUALITY STORE

"Carmen" HAIR NETS 2 for 25c

THE FIRST IN LA GRANDE

NEW GUMPE BLOUSES

\$4.25 to \$6.00

Being the first to show the new is a fact this store is proud to boast of—today we strengthened the proof of that statement with the arrival of a dozen new Guimpe Blouses. These are dainty and practical compliments to the slip-over dresses now selling faster throughout the country than anything in this line for years—the attractive and inexpensive net sleeved guimpe or blouse, to be worn with the slip-over or jumper dress.

These very new blouse creations are of fine nets and laces—they are exclusive models, and there are just a dozen this morning to select from. Remember the name and ask for

GUMPE BLOUSES

\$4.25 to \$6.00



WOOL

Remnants

An especially large number of Wool Remnants have been cut, and marked at greatly reduced prices and placed on a special bargain counter near the entrance.

You will find among them pieces suitable for any purpose, in a great variety of woolen materials. Inspection will show they are really bargains.

Striped

Woolens

For Plaited Skirts
The plaited skirt promises to be more popular than ever this season. Plaits are larger, however, and most all require the striped woolens—the stripes to be plaited under.

We are showing an unusual assortment of quality woolens at this time in attractive stripes. These are 54 inches wide and priced at \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50, and up to \$6.50 yd.

Exclusive New Models in

SUITS

FOR STOUT WOMEN

Sizes 42½ to 52½

Stout women need no longer find difficulty in finding stylish tailored looking suits.

We have given special attention to these for the first time this year, and a few days ago we received the first shipment.

The models are very conservative and tailored looking—fine materials and workmanship.

Women who are interested in these, we invite you to inspect the entire line now.



Don't figure out a vacation budget unless you are good at addition and multiplication.

TAKEN ON BLIND FAITH

There's one thing about poetry, music, love and cooking; on does not have to understand them to enjoy them.—El Paso Herald.

POEME

A sub-deb I hate is
Tillie Blotch;
She refuses to dance without
A shot of hooch.

Never say the war veterans aren't brave. They are going to act as judges at a baby show.

A thermos bottle is a convenient thing when on a long trip—even if it contains only water.

A real John Doe appeared in a Chicago court the other day and told of having been robbed of \$800. That's a lot of dough for John Doe.

FORETHOUGHT

"Did you ever stop to think what a wonderful invention the automobile is?"

"Yes, and I went to the hospital for three months for stopping in front of one."

We can remember when every young man to be properly dressed, wore a fancy vest.

THE LUNAR TODDLE

Prof. (lecturing to sleepy class in astronomy): "Because of the fact that the gravity force on the moon is only one-fourth as strong as that of the earth, any person could jump four times as high there as here—"

Prety co-ed (dreaming): "Professor do they dance the toddle on the moon?"

We know a woman who calls her divorce liberty bonds.

The girl who has a talking machine in the home may break a record now and then, but even at that she's likely to break the record for staying at home.

Stage attendant (to manager of a traveling show): Shall I lower the curtain, sir? One of the living statues has got the hiccups.

Don't go away with a fixed sum of money and expect to GET away with it.

Banker Who Failed Comes Back to Old Town and is Met with Joyful Greeting

BLAIR, Neb., Aug. 30.—Fred H. Claridge, former president of the banking house of A. Castetter, of Blair, which failed following his disappearance last February 27, surrendered to Washington county authorities Monday and was released on bond. He is charged with taking funds from the bank and loaning them to himself.

After discovery of the bank's condition the state bank guarantee fund was called upon for about seven hundred thousand dollars to meet the losses.

Mr. Claridge, who is well liked in this community, was greeted by

shouts of jubilation by many citizens who had learned he was being brought to town in an automobile. Some of the stores were closed for the occasion. He told his friends that he had always intended to come back.

He revealed that he had gone from Blair to New York City, where he had worked as a janitor in a school building for \$1.25 a day, but that his health forced him to quit this job for one addressing envelopes in an office there for \$15 a week.

When Mr. Claridge left here he had \$200 in cash, but what was left after paying his railroad fare to New York was stolen from him in a hotel there. After waiting preliminary hearing in county court, he was bound over to the October term of district court, which convenes October 10.

Walla Walla is crying for more grain cars, which rather kindles the spirit to believe that the old-time traffic on railroads is coming back.

LABOR DAY THREE BIG BANDS

AFTERNOON OF SPORTS

At the baseball park during the afternoon there will be sports, horse racing, baseball games and music. Three solid hours of genuine fun and amusement.

TWO SPEAKERS

Affairs of the great labor movement, and topics of direct interest to the laboring classes will be discussed by prominent speakers immediately after the parade, which is provided for several thousand on the streets in front of the Elks' club and Eagle's hall.

FUN AT NIGHT

One and all are urged to participate in the evening fun and amusement. Three dances, a band concert on streets, prize fighting and a general good time.

Parade—Big Feature

The first formal number on the program will be the parade to which the public is invited to give its attention with commercial floats. Labor will be on parade in full strength.

General Chairman, Labor Day

La Grande, Oregon

COME!

People will flock from far and near to help labor celebrate this important day. Are you doing your part? If you are, you will be part of the big celebration.

For particulars, write

Heating The Home With A "HUMIDOR"

"Humidity for Health"

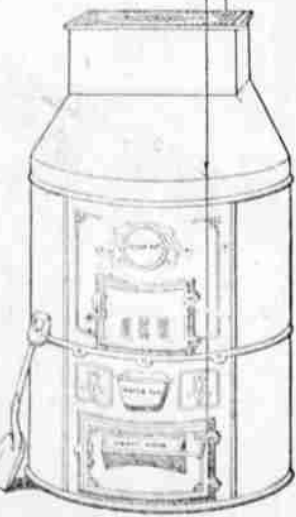
The best furnace on the market.

All HUMIDOR furnaces are equipped with ALL cast radiators and triangular clincker-rushing grates as regular equipment and no extra cost. Registers also are cast and EXTRA LARGE.

Fire bowl is in two sections, which prevent fire crack so common to the old style one-piece type. All joints are double-grooved and set in asbestos cement, making them gas tight.

Both outer and main inner casings are rust proof galvanized iron. Inner casing is lined with both asbestos and bright flined corrugated steel, making a triple wall of insulation.

Main front is full cast with cast offset, or wings, giving a rigid, substantial construction, which likewise is easily fitted to the casing. Each furnace is equipped with cast water pan located directly under the fire-door for convenience, and coming in close contact with the fire bowl itself to insure generous evaporation so essential to winter health. (It is a generally accepted fact among doctors that a large percentage of colds is due to lack of HUMIDITY in artificially heated rooms.) It is because of its wonderful humidifying qualities that our furnace has been named the HUMIDOR.



FURNITURE EXCHANGE

Phone, Black 1241

Fir & Jefferson

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.