

The Observer

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IN THE OLD HOME TOWN



THE CHIEF WAS DETAINED AND DID NOT ATTEND THE FIRE IN ED WURGLER'S WOOD SHED TODAY.

No Dealing from the Bottom

There is one thing about President Harding—he has the welcome faculty of appointing good men to fill important positions. Look at the recent appointments to the Disarmament Conference—Root, Hughes, Lodge and Underwood—strongable Americans. Not an entirely Republican commission, for Mr. Underwood still insists he is a product of the solid south, but he is a big man.

There will be no dealing from the bottom of the deck in that conference. There will be no international juggling when Elihu Root or Charles E. Hughes is on the job.

America is slated for a square deal this time and all the diplomats of England cannot change it.

This is starting in, says an old timer, very much like that winter when ice and snow were the daily program around Summerville for about nine months without a break.

But think of Russia when the cold wave hits. She has no fuel either.

The grain in the shock will get along all right.

Hard Times Profiteers

A competent organization of charities and relief work will be needed everywhere this winter. This is partly because there will be more suffering than for many seasons, and partly to insure that relief goes where it is merited and not to the unworthy.

Hard times have their profiteers no less than boom times. There are at ways those who systematically exploit trouble and prey upon the public sympathy in times of stress. Of the cases which come begging to the door in residence sections in times like these, telling hard luck tales, trying to sell inferior articles for superior prices or to raise funds for pretended worthy objects, the chances are that only a small percentage will be either needy or deserving.

No decent individual enjoys the idea of turning actual suffering away unrelieved, yet as a rule private charity is a doubtful blessing. Where there are well-organized relief associations it should seldom be accorded.

It is better to give all possible financial support to the accredited charitable bodies and turn over all cases to them for aid. They have means for investigation which the private citizen lacks, and while prompt to relieve distress they seldom are in giving help where police authority is needed in stand.

Those Martian Messages

It may be, as Marconi suggests, that the people of Mars have been sending us messages. If wireless waves 20 times as long as any produced by any existing mechanism on this earth are pulsating through the ether, they must be coming from somewhere, and it is natural to infer that there is intelligence behind them. They may be from Mars, and they may be efforts on the part of that planet to establish communication with us. Wireless messages might conceivably come that far.

But we needn't be hasty in adopting such a hypothesis. In the first place, nobody knows whether there is life on Mars at all. In the second place, if there are intelligent beings there, it is a pretty big assumption that they are farther advanced than we are, and have more power over natural forces. And if it is granted that Mars supports life, and that the greater age of the planet has probably given that life a long start in the race, there remains the question whether, in conscious life on the two planets, a responsibility which rests upon the Earth-folk to understand each other.

Ecologist man tends to assume, rashly, that he is the universal standard, and that consciousness in Mars Grande would be as old and as clear as his own. A naturalist points out that for all we know, if there are intelligent beings on Mars they may be shaped like birds or hippogriffs, and may be larger than mammoths or smaller than tadpoles. Their world may be as big as ours, or it may be as small as a bug's. It really is.

or as either is from ours. And if it be granted that real truth is the same everywhere, and that man sees the world as it really is, and that beings in Mars may do likewise, there remains the baffling problem of mutual understanding. How are we to interpret their language or code, or their ours?

All of which considerations make Mars no less fascinating, to people of a speculative turn of mind. The red planet will long continue an alluring problem. And perhaps it's just as well. Anything that gets people's minds out of ruts, away from themselves and oblivious of their own troubles, is a good thing.

The World Owners

The idea that the world belongs to the young is mostly cherished by the young themselves. But there are, here and there, older souls who feel their hope for setting a mark upon life is over. For both classes we record a few laurel wreaths won within recent years by people who had passed middle life.

In the year 1920 the Pulitzer prize for notable achievement in literature was awarded to five individuals. The average age of these five was 59.25 years. The awardees follow.

For the best example of a reporter's work, winner over 60.

For the highest standard of manners and manhood—winner 69.

For the play which best raises the standard of morals, good taste and good manners—winner 47.

For the best book of the year, life, torridly speaking—winner 63.

For the best "real" book on Americanizing a foreigner—winner 68.

In other realms than those of literature the record of accomplishment for men and women long past their youth is just as high. For there the world is just as full of opportunity. From which it may be said that age is a state of mind, and the world belongs to those who have the courage to grasp it.

West Virginia Justice

The "war" in West Virginia has collapsed. As soon as federal troops appeared and took charge of the situation, the armed resistance of the miners melted away. There was more in this than mere fear of the federal power. The insurrectionists seem to have secretly welcomed the coming of the government forces.

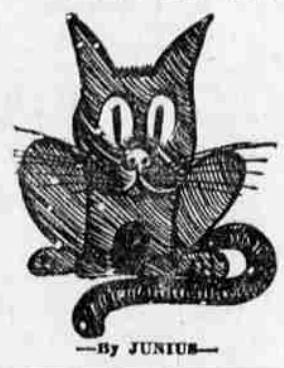
There is no mystery about it. To those miners, the presence of federal troops meant a disinterested reign of law. While it meant that they themselves must obey the law, it meant also that the operators and their armed representatives must obey the law. That appears to have been what the miners really wanted. There was foolish and evil leadership among these miners, and there were bad men among them who welcomed a chance to use guns; but it would be rash to assume that the rank and file of them were much different from workmen elsewhere, or much different from average citizens.

The miners are convinced that they were driven to armed resistance. Most of them unquestionably took up arms in the belief, however mistaken, that there was no other way to insure their rights as human beings.

It is merely the latest manifestation of a trouble which developed a few years ago in Colorado and which has become chronic in West Virginia. The miners felt that they were oppressed by an industrial system which gave their employers almost absolute power over them and their families, over work and pay and life itself. They revolted against the oppression of such a hypothesis. In the first place, nobody knows whether there is life on Mars at all. In the second place, if there are intelligent beings there, it is a pretty big assumption that they are farther advanced than we are, and have more power over natural forces. And if it is granted that Mars supports life, and that the greater age of the planet has probably given that life a long start in the race, there remains the question whether, in conscious life on the two planets, a responsibility which rests upon the Earth-folk to understand each other.

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THE OFFICE CAT



Dear Folks and All: What has become of the old-fashioned brewery float that used to be the feature of all the parades.

When a St. Louis woman applied for a divorce from her sixth husband it was discovered that the divorce from her first husband was illegal and that made the whole flock of weddings phony.

When one gets a divorce it's a good thing to have it fitted on so there will be no wrinkles. Just think of all the outlaws that lady has been guilty of.

A La Grande young man says: "Well, I have at least one consolation. I know where my cigarette ashes are going to fall."

ALARMING POSSIBILITY

(Paducah Son)
Is there any possibility that yeast eating might start something in violation of the Volstead act?

I think a policeman ought to be allowed time off to get her hair washed.

NOT UP ON SPORT STUFF.
Billy—"You should have seen Lil. ly run the quarter mile."
Milly—"What did she run it in?"
Billy—"I'll be darned if I knew what you call 'em."

There are Three Exclusive Features in "La Camille"

FRONT LACED CORSETS.
VENTILO BACK, the VENTILO FRONT SHIELD and LOX-IT NON-TILTING CLASP.

Judged by Fit, Workmanship, Wearing Qualities and Style, LA CAMILLE is always found the CORSET of greatest value. A complete line of new models now on hand.

MRS. ROBERT PATTISON, Corsetiere.
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This monument, erected to the memory of Joseph Bradford Carr, in Oakwood Cemetery, New York, is a combination of classic and modern ideas in monument work.

Gen. Carr's Memorial, Troy, N.Y.



—We have made a profound study of monument building, and an order placed in our hands is sure to receive faithful, intelligent execution.

We Will Gladly Furnish Estimates

Blue Mountain Marble & Granite Company.

1502 S. Ave., La Grande, Or.

Clothing Prices Show Greatest Decline

That ought to be good news for men; you have to wear clothes; probably have to buy some.

The Department of Labor showed recently that the average cost of living had dropped 18 per cent, the item of foodstuffs had dropped 22 per cent and clothing 24 per cent; the greatest decline of all the necessities.

Hart Shaffner & Marx
Clothes

We are showing for Fall our good examples of extreme values. The prices are stabilized; they are as low as they can be made. You can't get more for your money.

WE'LL SHOW YOU

Hart Shaffner & Marx
THE QUALITY STORE

The Home of Hart, Shaffner & Marx Clothes



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C O L D !

Cold weather is at hand—Fuel is still high. For the next few months your heating stove is your best friend.

Keep your home comfortable and your fuel bill low with a HOWARD HEATING STOVE. We have them at the lowest possible price.

W. H. Bohnenkamp Co.

PUBLIC SALE

There will be a Public Sale at the Arthur Herrmann farm, two miles east of Island City, on—

Wednesday, September 14th, 1921

Beginning at 10 o'clock, A. M., at which time the following property will be offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder:

- 1 Seven-foot McCormick Binder
- 1 Five-foot Deering Mower
- 1 Ten-foot Deering Rake
- 1 Superior Grain Drill, with press wheels
- 1 Three-section Harrow
- 1 Seven-foot John Deere Double Disc
- 1 Three-bottom Rock Island Traction Plow
- 1 Two-bottom John Deere Gang Plow
- 1 Sixteen-inch Moline Good Enough Sulkey.
- 1 Sixteen-inch P. & O. Walking Plow
- 1 Hay Frame
- 1 Bulk Grain Bed
- 1 one and a fourth Studebaker Wagon, with hog rack
- 1 Standard Farming Mill
- 1 Grind Stone
- 1 Happy Farmer Tractor
- 2 Milch Cows, 1 Heifer
- 6 Head Horses, 2 mares seven years old
- 1 Gelding, seven years old, 1 mare five years old.
- 2 Geldings, coming four years old
- 2 Purebred Chester White Brood Sows
- About 15 tons of Alfalfa Hay

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

- 1 Dining Room Suite
- 1 Kitchen Range
- 1 Ice Chest
- 1 Bedstead and Spring
- 1 Parlor Set

And many articles too numerous to mention.

Terms of Sale

All sums of Ten Dollars and under, Cash; on sums over that amount, Six Months credit will be given, purchaser giving bankable note drawing eight per cent interest. Sale begins promptly at 10 o'clock a.m. Free lunch at noon.

ARTHUR HERRMANN, Owner

J. E. REYNOLDS, Clerk

T. B. JOHNSON, Auctioneer