

The Observer

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Bible Thought For Today

THE ONLY WAY:—I am the way, the truth, and the life.—John 14:6.

Feeding La Grande Birds

The residents of South La Grande have a mighty fine habit. Yes, they have a number of fine habits, but the Observer wants to emphasize this one.

When the heavy snows come it is a custom with the people to put out feed for the birds. Every year this is done and as a result the little feathered treasures, knowing who their friends are, stay in South La Grande in winter as well as summer and the people have the joy of their company.

The humane side of this appeals to all. And it is highly commendable that South La Grande people can stop in the turmoil of life long enough to think of the little bird whose food supply has been cut off by the snow and put out something for it to eat.

There are a lot of good things left in people if we only hunt them out, aren't there?

Emergency Funds

In making up budgets the need of having an emergency fund is so great that every political unit should not hesitate to endorse the action of officials who insist on having it.

For instance, La Grande had extraordinary expense in cleaning the streets and in keeping sidewalks in the business district so they were passable during the recent snow.

Other things come along which require expense that none contemplated. The emergency fund is always necessary.

Nature Has Her Own Way

How small is man, after all. Years have been spent building and perfecting a railroad to Portland; years have been spent building a paved highway from The Dalles to Portland. But in two days time nature comes along with little tiny snowflakes and upsets this work of man. She renders our railroads of steel and concrete useless, she renders our highway of stone and concrete useless.

And yet man will strut around thinking he is "some pumpkins." That old poem comes before us, "A flash of the lightning; a break of the wave; a man passes from life to his rest in the grave." Uncertainty of living and certainty of death; uncertainty of making plans mature, of perfecting transportation, of making buildings stand, uncertainty of anything.

Yes, it is an uncertainty. Nature has her own way. Usually it is a fine way, and perhaps in the end it is always a good way, even though we cannot see it that way at times.

Nevertheless the snow came, the railroad went out of business, the highway slipped off the mountain into the river, and man proud strutting man is forced to rebuild.

It has been said nature does nothing without compensatory features. It is true. While roads and highways were wrecked look at the blanket of snow which has covered Oregon—the fertilizer and the very life for the next year's crop which will feed the people.

Perhaps that "golden glow" Portland people saw in the exposition electric railway when the snow of the "big snow" came only.

IN THE OLD HOME TOWN



HARLEY CROCKETT IS HUSTLED ABOUT GETTING THE OPERA HOUSE CLEANED UP READY FOR SOME TRAVELING SHOW TROUPE THAT'S COMING HERE NEXT MONTH.

Competitive Spirit in School

Mrs. E. R. Hanford in the Boise Statesman, has handled this subject so well that the Observer herewith reprints it for the benefit of the public in general:

In the September number of the Ladies Home Journal, Mary Roberts Rinehart has an editorial, "Freedom and Our Changing Standards," with the sub-title, "Our Children Are Being Exploited by Profiteers in Sin." A quotation from this says: "It is this competitive showing which makes us the easy prey of the profiteers and which gives the younger generation its ideas of money, dress, pleasure and what constitutes success."

Parents today have this problem of competitive showing. The little first grade daughter whose father is supporting a large family demands that her hair bow be just as big as that of the little girl who is an only child. A little girl waited into my kitchen last week wearing a new apron cut from a plain pattern with big pockets. Her face beamed as she said, "See! Mother just finished this apron, and she's making more to wear to school. Won't you make your girls some, too?"

Then I reflected that a few years ago we wore plain aprons to school, and that a yard of ribbon was quite enough to tie the locks of the average girl. In those days we spelled, or if we didn't, hung our heads in shame. We learned our tables before the public opinion approved of us. We knew geography facts, or were chastened when we had to admit we had not been diligent enough to learn them. I believe facts are still being taught in the grades.

It is natural for all nature to take the course of least resistance. Youth resists applying the will that masters the multiplication tables, states with their capitals, or history dates. For that reason I would be sorry to have one of my children hear the city superintendent discourage the effort which causes one to learn facts. It would be embarrassing to have had a child hear the minister of our Congregational church boast that he had forgotten his Greek verbs and did not know his multiplication tables or how to spell. He was not expected to remember his Greek verbs, but how any professional man may aspire to a high school position who does not know the fundamentals of the grades is a question to be answered by our "changing standards."

The ambition of modern superintendents to make a competitive showing is causing them to plan a system of education that is as top-heavy and useless as the modern hair bow of the first grade. If too much stress is put upon the high school with visions of a junior high school that crowds the grades in cubbyholes the time will come when the high school will be just a tower of babel. I hope that after our children have finished the grades, gone to high school and college, they may have the right to place most of the letters of the alphabet after the family name, and that those letters will stand as proof of the knowledge of related facts. A heavy course of study requiring long hours of hard study at night is preferable to having high school children spend time and money in the pool halls and dancing.

To quote Mrs. Rinehart again, "the fundamental good sense of our people may save us yet, must save us if we are to advance and not go back."

Now is the time to get a good ranch and start in the live stock business. It is having its bump now and other things may have them later. So get a few milk cows and be happy.

When a snow plow has to dig The Dalles out of a snow bank and Baker people have no snow at all, what do you suppose happened to the fellow who works the levers on this weather machine?

Roscoe Wink still looks as if he got well water in his nose for La Grande. What was that? The water, said Mr. Wink, was not in his nose, but in his leg.

We believe Manager George Garratt in his orders should be explicit for here is what happened: When George spoke through the Observer in an official way ordering all sidewalks cleaned of snow by a certain hour, Dr. A. L. Richardson and Geo. Currey grabbed their shovels and shoveled snow from the walks around their residences. When they came down town they found the order meant for the district in the fire units only. Such errors are understandable according to both the doctor and Mr. Currey.

The Catholic bazaar receipts would not indicate a period of financial depression, but the Catholic ladies have a faculty of making patrons understand the need of raising funds, which is a decidedly important feature in all public work.

Three Fingered Jack says he is not dealing from the bottom of the deck when he openly states that the home must be redesigned or there is going to be the blackest cloud come over the world that has happened since Rome fell.

Living within ourselves is all right for a little while, but the American likes to stretch out and visit other communities. This was shown by the unrest on the part of people who were held up here during the storm.

That little Grande Ronde blizzard was worth its weight in future hopes, all right, judging by the way the ranchers have commended it.

Baker has a full fledged Kiwanis club now and its motto is "we build." Got to it, Baker.

And it means a special session of the legislature — more troubles ahead.

Did your roof leak during the snow storm?

THE OFFICE CAT

—BY JUNIOR—



AUTOMATIC
"Personally, I don't believe grocers ever put sand in their sugar." "They don't have to around here," answered old Mr. Putterby. "What with automobiles an' one thing an' another appin through Chignereville from sunup to dark, all a groceryman's gotta do is to leave the cover off his sugar barrel an' let it accumulate."

Darwin be hanged. The closest animal to man is the bed bug.

Saturday, payday; bath night (don't step on the soap and spoil your complexion); get up early to Sunday School and church tomorrow. Attie Boy! Then you won't be ashamed to look at yourself in the glass. There's an old saw that says: "Every dog has his day," and adjust your spectacles and read this little story from Indianapolis:

The time was Saturday, 5:30 p. m., the place a local movie house, the girl, a large robust middle aged woman.

minutes and he ain't out here. Don't want to buy a ticket; how can I get him?"
"We aren't allowed to page any one," replied the usher, "but if you describe him perhaps I can find him."
The woman apparently did not hear a word he said.
"Do you care if I whistle for him?" she asked.
Thinking she was only joking he said, "Go to it."
Immediately a shrill and weird whistle startled the quiet audience. A meek little man sitting well toward the front jumped as though shot, bolted up the aisle, appeared in the foyer and quickly ran in the wake of the robust woman who was rapidly making tracks for the interurban station.

"Life ain't in holdin' a good hand, but in playin' a pore hand well."
Plumbers have it on coppers—it's easier to wipe a joint that pull one.

NOT HIS BOSS

The Judge was evidently getting a bit fed up with the jury, and at last he announced:
"I discharge this jury!"
A tall, lean member of the 12 then rose.

"Say, judge, you can't discharge me."
"Can't discharge you, Why not?" thundered the other.
"Well," replied the jurymen, pointing to counsel for defense, "I was hired by that guy over there."

The next day after John D. Rockefeller gave a little girl 20 cents after hearing her sing the price of gasoline went up a cent a gallon.

Henry Ford has hunted all over Chicago for a copy of McGuffey's First Reader. Does Henry expect to be cross-questioned again sometime.

The French propose an automobile line across the Sahara Desert. And we propose American trained chauffeurs for same. Next to the camel, they ought to be the most able candidates for the job.

THE PRESIDENT STUTTERS
The president sent to the senate the names of Captain Julian L. Latimer to be JUDGEJAGJADVOICAT-IEJ general of the navy. — New York Evening Globe.

She (to fair friend)—"I'm not going with Harry any more."
Fair friend—"Why not?"
"He knows too many naughty songs."
"Did he sing them to you?"
"No, but he's always whistling the tunes."

There are always showers for the bride, but the groom catches thunder.

Uses Tail to Sound Alarm.
Although the beaver's chief use for its fat, trow 3-shaped tail is for swimming, it has another purpose. When beaten on the water it becomes an alarm signal.

TRADES

140 acres east of Imbler. 130 acres of this in best state of cultivation. Improvements only fair. Some equipment goes with the place. The owner is operating other land and unable to give his attention to this. The indebtedness is easy and owner will take a small piece of town property for his equity.

Residence property in Walla Walla worth \$5,000.00. Will apply as first payment on farm in this country.

Some splendid farms in Williamette valley. Will trade for property here.

Have property to trade for a good business in town.

We have a buyer for small residence property. Party wishes to make small payment down and monthly payments.

Some good propositions for Soldiers' Bonus, Arrerage and city lots.

We have money to loan on city property.

We have good exchanges everywhere, Oregon, Washington, Idaho.

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Napkins and Luncheon Sets

To be sold in La Grande for the first time—a limited supply only. People who know "Madiera" will want these of course. Others should see them.

Genuine hand embroidered on the finest of pure linens, these pieces are imported from France. 13 piece luncheon sets are priced at \$10.00 and \$12.00. The napkins at \$12.50 dozen.

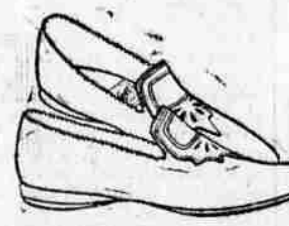


150 Beautiful New
HANDBAGS

for the Holidays

Arrived by express this morning. These are the very latest in handbags, in the season's shades. There are colored, printed and tooled leathers—some handmade and equipped with lock and key. Also there are bags for the little Miss of 6, 8 and 10 years.

Each bag is fitted with necessary toilet articles, mirror, etc. Prices range from \$3 up to \$27.50



Materials Are Plentiful For Making Gifts

It's nearing the time when every woman must begin her gift making, her sewing, knitting, embroidering and crocheting, and this store was never better prepared to take care of those needs. A few things we will list here each day, but spaces could not permit us to tell you of the hundreds of helps you will find in visiting here.

Beautiful Linen
For Handkerchiefs

In white and colors, cut into thread-drawn squares already ready for hemming and embroidery; 12 inches square. Priced at 25c square. Also by the yard, 36 inches wide, priced at \$1.50 yd. Colors are pink, rose, green, blue, yellow, tan and lavender.

GENUINE PURE WOOL BATS

What a lovely gift a wool filled comfort would be, and how easy to make. The materials we are showing here now are beautifully adapted to their purpose—especially these lovely pure fleece wool bats, rolled in a solid sheet measuring 72x84, already ready for covering. Weight 2 lbs. and priced at \$2.00. They are "Made in Oregon" from Oregon wool.

White and Natural
PONGEE

This popular underwear material is in all desired qualities in natural color, 32 inches wide, priced at \$1.15 and \$1.35 yd. The white is priced at \$1.65 yd.

"MINERVA" YARNS

Our stocks embrace every desired kind, quality and shade. Minerva yarns are soft; they retain their luster and loftiness. There are silks, mixes, flaked yarns, golf yarns, two and four fold, Angora yarns and Germantown—Yarns for every purpose. New stocks just in—all prices from 25c to \$1.00 ball.

D. W. G.
Embroidery and
Crochet Cottons

For the first Christmas since 1915, we can claim our share of D. M. C. threads. All who are making gifts will want them. We have the choicest cotton, the six stranded floss and the Luster cotton in genuine D. M. C.

"LINNO CLOTH"
A material of superior quality to be used as a linen substitute—for luncheon cloths, napkins, sets, scarfs, pillow slips, center pieces—and for any purpose for which you would use linen. "Linno Cloth" is our own brand, sold only at this store. We want you to know this material. It comes in 36, 44 and 54 inch widths. Priced at 25c, 37 1/2c and 45c yard.

SILK TUBING For Underwear

Flesh and white, silk knit tubing, for making vests. Three-quarters of a yard makes a vest and only requires a hem and shoulder straps. Soft, elastic and durable. Priced at \$2.00 yd.

PURE LINEN TOWELING

New stocks of this material at Christmas time is always necessary. They're here now—all pure linen, white toweling, suitable for guest towels, to be crocheted and embroidered. Priced at \$1 yd.

CHRISTMAS COULDN'T BE CHRISTMAS WITHOUT "COMFY'S"

Comfy's for some one—comfy's for all—large stocks are here for men, women and children. All colors and various styles. Also there are satin quilted comfy's for women in blue and rose only.

Priced this year, start at \$2.00 for men's and women's, and range up to \$2.75. Childrens are from \$1.00 to \$2.00.

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