

The Observer

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BRUCE DENNIS, Editor

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Bible Thought For Today

Cutting Down County Expenses

The new budget committee, composed of Walter M. Pierce, George Benson and Frank Smith, has met with the county court and the findings of the committee are known to all. Apparently there will be little cut in the county's expenses.

According to the belief of many the county court as a body was in frame of mind to let the sharp edged ax fall on every department that could be done away with, thus answering the popular clamor for retrenchment, but the county court is composed of three human beings who feel disposed to listen to taxpayers and voters who wish to suggest. The suggestion came thick and fast. Petitions as long as the moral law were laid before the court for the retention of this and that. Everything was tabulated by the county clerk and when the budget committee met all information was laid before the body composed of good substantial men.

The subject of doing away with the county nurse's department because of financial depression was heard and Mr. Pierce thought in the face of conditions as they are the county could get along without the nurse. He also thought retrenchment could occur in the roadmaster's office. Then came the county agent. Petitions were on display both for and against retention of the agent and Mr. Pierce, a regent of O. A. C. and a believer in the good work the agents over the state are doing, did not want to part with the agent Mr. Benson and Mr. Smith felt if the agent be retained the grounds were just as strong and the need as great to retain the nurse and the roadmaster, the result being that probably all will be retained, although the court seems determined to make some cuts in salaries and expenses of each of the departments.

And that's the way the world goes. Economy in public office is only accomplished by a fellow like Roosevelt or Frank Lowden who sets the knife firmly between his teeth and wades through listening to no one and heeding no argument to turn him from the sole purpose in his mind.

Plainly speaking, if Oregon of any political unit of Oregon is going to do anything to lower taxes the only way to do it is to cease spending so much money. On the other hand members of a county court realize they are elected by the people and the people should have something to say about public matters therefore petitions and letters must carry weight with officers.

And so it goes.

But How About Work?

The writer met a man not long ago who is a wonderful man. He is prominent in the work of the Boy Scouts, a leader in Y. M. C. A. activities and a genuine fine fellow. We admire him very much and as he told of the wonderful work being done among the boys of the country our heart beat in complete harmony with his.

We ventured one question that caused his head to drop and his eye to roam the sidewalk. Here is the question:

"Your work is just grand and you hand your enthusiasm on to every boy, but tell us, with all this enter-



tainment and these fine things you are teaching, what is being done to encourage boys to work so that they can take care of themselves?"

He paused several moments and then he replied: "Your question hits upon one weak link in present-day organization. I have laid awake nights brooding over it; I don't know what the country is coming to regarding this thing called work. On every hand we are all making the path easy, taking the load from the back of the young and if not directly we are at least indirectly teaching them to rush through what little labors they may have in order to enjoy our program of athletics and pastimes. The great problem now before every Y. M. C. A. and every young men's organization is to answer that question and re-dignify work so that the finished boy will be able to keep his place in the sun and stand squarely upon his own resources."

We Can Get Along With The Old One

Since the agitation for the new railroad station has taken hold in La Grande naturally we all have visions of a station of considerable size and beautiful proportions. But the sober second thought always comes along in everything, and here it is regarding the railroad station: Mr. O'Brien's letter gave the total amount expended by the railroad company in La Grande for one year of over two million dollars, and with that information everyone who was vigorously working for the new station began to contemplate what the huge sum meant to the business of this city. And with that contemplation came the thought that the railroad company is more deeply interested in having a station sufficient to take care of its business properly than anything else, and that the company will build such a station when it can afford to do so.

We can get along with the old structure for a while, just as Portland and every other important division city did, and when the company does build a station here it will likely be one of considerable size and be a modern structure in every way.

Hair Oil and Neckties

Every boy owes it to himself and to society to be clean in person and look well, but when a boy goes to extremes and uses too much oil and wears too many neckties, look out for his reliability has been decreased materially.

Not long ago we had occasion to experience such an instance. A fine young fellow, popular with all who know him, wanted a job. He got it and he was delighted. He was to go to work a certain time. He did not show up, although he was as pleased with the offer of the job as a dog with a new collar. Days passed and he did not show up, yet the job was held open for him. Finally he was called in to explain the matter, and it was then that the fact became apparent that too much hair oil and too many neckties make unreliable boys.

Big Orders Make Business

Scraps of recent news relative to lumber orders are indicative of a brighter business in that line. Recently France is said to have placed an order for over two hundred million feet of Pacific coast lumber.

THE OFFICE CAT



WINDOWS

Grandmother dear, God bless her soul,
Held to this theory fast,
That you could judge housekeepers by
Their windows, as you passed.
And so she washed her windows clean,
Her curtains hung with care,
That passers-by might know the sort
Of people living there.
I thought it but her notion once,
But now I know 'tis right:
The Christmas Spirit of our stores,
Glow through their windows bright.

For blue-eyed dolls with curling hair,
Books, sleds and countless toys,
Bespeak a loving thought to cheer
The little girls and boys.

But when you see a window
That would make you blush for shame,
If you should be caught gazing there
When decent people came,
Then you can judge the one who
Trimmed
That window with such care,
And I, for one, and you, I trust,
Won't be found trading there.

Also wouldn't it be awful if a girl's
doll made as much noise as a boy's
dog.

UNDOUBTEDLY

All sandwiches cut in half!
Big reduction on all steaks!
—Advertisement of a local cafe.

Our position simply is that the
kind of young woman who keeps a
valet needs a guardian.

"When Marshal Foch visited this
city," says the Detroit Free Press,
"he took a look at one of the best
things his fellow countrymen ever
started." How's that—did Detroit
let him look at a bottle of real com-

mac?

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For Your Last Week of Shopping!

This week will be for all the rush packages—the last minute gifts and the things that are ready and waiting to be put on the tree. Be careful, in your hasty selections—not to fall away from the spirit of the times, in frivolous giving. Gifts of worth and usefulness are remembered and sincerely appreciated long after Christmas. Shopping here this week will be "fast and furious" so shop early and shop in the morning when possible.

DJER KISS TOILET SETS

Lovely Christmas Gifts

—Every woman loves the wondrous fragrance of Djer Kiss. A Christmas gift of her favorite articles in this brand would be most acceptable and appreciated. You will find here in this department, beautiful sets, especially made for holiday gifts. They are in attractive cases, lined with bright silks—and are in any size to correspond to the price you wish to pay. They contain any or all of the following articles: Toilet water, perfume, face powder, talcum powder, sacket powder, soap and sponge.
See them on display.
Prices are \$4.00 to \$8.00 set.
Any article separately.

HOLLY RIBBONS

For Tying Christmas Packages

5 YDS. IN BOLT

15c, 18c and 20c BOLT

—Always the most attractive for tying Christmas packages are dainty ribbons of holly designs. They are very narrow and come 5 yards on a bolt. Three different widths are priced at 15c, 18c, and 20c.

—Phone the number of these desirable and we will deliver them. Include postage in your mail order.

STAMPED AND HEMSTITCHED

PILLOW SLIPS

\$1.75 pair

—A most pleasing gift, inexpensively made in a short time. These are stamped in pretty designs, and hemstitched in a scalloped edge. Of fine quality, linen finished tubing, and full sized.

—Here is a gift that any woman would greatly appreciate, and one that can be easily made up in the odd moments.
Price per pair \$1.75.

"SILTEX"

A new Material For Undergarments

—As fine and soft as silk, but in appearance it resembles an extra fine, sheer nainsook. In white only and 45 inches wide. A delightful new material, made especially for us. Price 75c yard.

MEN

SHOP HERE

FOR HER

GIFT SUGGESTION

More

SILK VESTS AND

STEP-INS

—Perhaps some have been waiting for more of these dainty silk vests and step-ins; the first large shipment of which did not stay here long. New ones arrived this morning to replenish the lots and aid in saving.
—They are priced at \$4.50 each.
—Our silk underwear department is overflowing with beautiful things for gifts. Ask about them.

For The Ladies' Boudoir

BREAKFAST COATS

KIMONAS

BATH AND

CORDUROY ROBES

—Those who saw the beautiful champagne tulle breakfast coat, breakfast cap and slippers, in one of our recent window displays, and but one of the many beautiful garments we are showing, that are especially women's gifts.
—Breakfast coats are priced from \$14 up to \$20. Corduroy robes from \$11.50 to \$15.00, and bath robes from \$6.50 to \$10, including the "Oregon City" blanket robes.
—Our showing is extensive of this sort of things. Men—shop here for her gift.

HAND BAGS

of Rare

Beauty—For Her Gift

A hand bag will surely please her, especially if she knows it comes from this store, and from this beautiful assortment of new bags of fine quality. At almost any price from \$2.50 up to \$25.00, you may find a bag that will please. All are silk lined, real leather and fitted with toilet requisites.

MEN!

SHOP HERE

FOR HER GIFT

Ladies' Wool

GOLF HOSE

Made In England

\$2.25 pair

—Heavily ribbed, and woven of the pure fleece yarns, in green heather mixtures. They are made in England, and especially for a golf hose. They are soft, do not scratch, and are long enough for a good roll. To be worn over the silk ones. A pleasing gift for her.

BOYS' ACE CAPS

—Are a big attraction here for the boys. They are knit in bright colors, and in a shape similar to the aviator's helmet, hence the "Ace" cap. They cover the ears too, so they're undeniably warm and comfy. The boys would like a gift like this. They're priced at 75c.

SEVERAL DOZEN NEW

KNIT TIES

—By Friday's parcel post came several dozen new silk knit ties to fill out our fast depleting stocks. They sold faster than we anticipated, but these will fill the gap now. They are priced at \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.75 and up to \$3.00.

Couldn't Stand for That

"Why are you leaving Bridget?" asked the lady of the house.
"You are too good at keeping your word, mum," replied Bridget.
"Well, what do you mean?"
"Well, mum, when I came you promised to treat me like one of the family, but sure 'n I didn't now what that meant, but I do now. I ain't never been used to such treatment."

One of the features of the forty-third anniversary of Charity Grange, held recently near Harrisburg, was the hanging of the pictures of two charter members.

LUMBER MARKET STRENGTHENED

ENTERPRISE, Dec. 17.—On his arrival from Kansas City on Tuesday President Duval Jackson of the East Oregon Lumber company found the reconstruction of its steam plant nearly finished. When the mill closed the first of October it was hoped this work could be done in 30 days, but there was a world of detail and it did not go rapidly. However, Mr. Jackson was persuaded it had to be done to enable the mill to run through the cold weather of winter. In the last sixty days the lumber market has strengthened materially, and the trade hopes for a demand that will keep mills busy. This improved tone is so new, on the other hand, that some operators hesitate to bank on it too strongly. Mr. Jackson said building has been resumed in the large cities but in all parts of the country in close touch with farming depression still rules. Stocks of lumber in yards are low and many inquiries have come in for future delivery. But it is not easy to get money to meet bills and the trade has not reached a definitely stable condition.

Hood River county delinquent taxes reach the record sum of approximately \$59,000 this year. Last year's delinquent list was only \$26,000.

YOUR GIRL

Will Appreciate Such Gifts as These

Manicure Files	15c
Manicure Scissors	\$1.40 to \$1.50
Barber Hole Scissors	\$1.25
Scissors	\$1.00 to \$1.35
Shears	50c to \$2.10
Scissor Sets in Leather Case	\$7.60 to \$10.35
Manicure Sets	\$6.50 to \$10.50
Electric Irons	\$7.00
Electric Grills	\$12.50

OREGON HARDWARE AND IMPLEMENT CO.

Remember, We Give 5% Discount for Cash

Home Independent Telephone Co.

—The American people are a great people whose passion is to get results. Therefore, we have installed one of the best equipped switchboards obtainable for the express purpose of giving you the best telephone service.