

La Grande Observer

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Bible Thought. For Today

REFUGE, STRENGTH, HELP: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.—Psalm 46:1.

To Babe.

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust—If Landis don't get you, the aspirin must.—Halsey Statesman.

The Cost of High Living.

Again comes the proof positive of the cost of high living. At the Entomologist Live Stock convention the cost of meat was discussed. The producer had his side, which was very good and no one could find fault with his claims for his profits, for he has been making mighty few and those few have been light.

Then came O. M. Plummer of the Pacific International Live Stock Show, who contended the retailer is not to blame for the high price of meat, but laid it to the manner in which we live, the demand for delivery service, credit, etc. He was followed by Fred H. Bixby, who is a big cattle producer in California and also owns a retail store for meats in Long Beach. He said the retail end is a profitable end but he agreed that the demand of the people for getting the run the prices on retail meats upward. He advocated the packers entering the retail field, for the spread between the packer's price to the retailer and the price the consumer pays is large and Mr. Bixby thinks the big packers can handle the retail end of the business cheaper than can anyone else.

Right along this line comes Babson, the statistician who is recognized as a wizard on facts and here is what "Bab" says about the meat business: "My thoughts go back to boyhood days in Gloucester, Massachusetts. There was a butcher shop near my home where we used to buy our meat. I can see it now with the hams and bacon hanging up on the wall, a big block in the center of the store, behind which was a fat healthy butcher, the proprietor of the establishment and the sole employee. When my father wanted some beef he gave me the money and sent me to the market to get it. The butcher gave me the cut my father desired, wrapped it in a brown paper and I took it home, paying cash for the same. The price of good beef in those days was twenty to thirty cents a pound. There, however, were no deliveries and the butcher didn't spend anything on ice in the winter time, for I remember the frost there used to be on those butcher store windows, although the butcher was a healthy happy man.

"Today the same store is used for a butcher shop but it is steam heated and the proprietor buys nearly as much ice in the winter as he does in the summer. Moreover, the proprietor does not cut any meat himself. Mornings he is usually found in the store, but afterwards he is usually out automobile. He has a book keeper who keeps the accounts, a big cash register, two clerks, and a man who runs the delivery automobile. Owing to possible breakdowns he has two automobiles. Not only is everything run on a much more expensive basis but the clerks don't do more than a half day's work. They see the proprietor loafing and they loaf themselves. None of them have any interest in the business and each one is trying to get by with as little work as possible.

"The fundamental question is whether or not this store is selling any more pounds of beef and provisions than it did 20 years ago. I know the rent has doubled and other expenses have tripled and quadrupled, but I seriously doubt if this store is selling any more goods. Gloucester hasn't as much population as it had 20 years ago, and there are more butcher shops. It is probably true that people are eating more meat per capita now than in those days, but I am very sure that the output of the shop is no greater than it was 20 years ago. Today, however, when one of the neighbors wants steak she no longer sends her boy to get it. She is probably playing football or practicing for a high school musical, or perhaps he is at the movies. Today the mother telephones to the butcher shop, the bookkeeper enters the order on an elaborate filing system, this in turn is given to one of the clerks, who cuts the meat. The

meat is then wrapped in two or three pieces of paper, put in a special basket and delivered by an auto truck, costing two to three thousand dollars. Moreover the meat is charged, to be billed at the end of the month and paid for when, and if, the money is available.

"As a result, people today, under these conditions, must pay double or triple for their meat compared with what they paid 20 years ago. The truth is that today everyone from the boy of the home to the proprietor himself is lazy.

"No one wants to do anything himself which he can possibly avoid. Everyone is trying to spend as much of his time as he can on amusements, automobiles and movies. Telephones, high schools and credit systems are wonderful inventions; but they all tend to increase the cost of distribution. The retailer is up against fashions and customs which have bound him with ropes that are almost too strong to break. What the future will bring forth I don't know. It, however, is evident that the retailer is not to blame for present conditions. You and I, as fathers and mothers, are to blame. Our high schools are to blame. Retail prices can be reduced only as the spirit of work, thrift and usefulness again pervades the community.

Jack Dempsey certainly fears to get licked. He came home wearing a monocle.

For Little Girl Graduates



Three suggestions for the grammar school girl's graduation frock. About three-fourths of them will be made in white organdie with ruffles and lace, but the severely tailored frock with almost no frills will claim attention.

"You would get six months in prison," he plied his father. "You wouldn't forget to feed it while I was away, would you, father?"

Why American families are getting smaller is explained by Herman Roe of the Northfield News: "The average man has all he can do to support a wife and a Ford."

Why go to Patagonia to hunt a prehistoric creature? We saw one the other day dolled up in an effort to resemble a flapper.

HOW IT IS AT COLLEGE. Youth's Companion: At one of the dormitories of a college for women two young housemaids were comparing notes on academic life. "Well," said Norah, dimpling, "the faculty has the brains, and the college girls has the clothes, but believe me, the maids has the looks!"

Lennie tells his countrymen that the relief shipments came from American Bolsheviks. That man may have his faults, but he's a darned good politician.

THE SIMPLER LIFE. Life: Infuriated Suburban (to neighbor)—"Well, I'm warning you! You keep your dashed beef out of my garden or, by thunder, I'll shoot them!"

Thought for the Day. "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

Receives Thanks for Stolen Apples. Opening an unstamped letter on which she was surcharged 8 cents, Mrs. Hearn, of Barnet, England, was astonished to find an anonymous note thanking her for some apples stolen from her orchard. The writer added that he had robbed her orchard for five years in succession. "The apples are still very good," he finished, "but I hope that you will use a good fertilizer before next year."

Jewels From the River Bed. Ceylon's great sport is the hunting of jewels which are often to be found in the beds of rivers. Sometimes these streams are dried up for a time and then the rewards are great for the hunter. Government permission must be granted before one may go gem hunting, and having obtained this permission, the hunter is allowed to keep all he finds. To the inexperienced eye, the precious pebbles, as it rests on the ground, looks like an ordinary stone, the expert can detect the valuable ones at once.

Gift of Good Literature. Don't forget that good literature will do for you the following things: "Give you an outlet, keep before you the vision of the ideal, supply a better knowledge of human nature, restore the past to you, show you the glory of the commonplace and give you a mastery of your own language."—C. Alphonso Smith.

RAGS Wanted at The Observer.

THE OFFICE CAT

By JAMES



We like a good ball game and we like boasting and rooting, that is, good, clean boasting, but when a donkey walks into the grand stand, (and give me an apology to a honest-to-God Senator and proceeds to bray the entire afternoon, we lose interest. The donkey referred to claimed that he came neither from Baker or La Grande, for which Baker and La Grande can give due thanks, so we conclude that he was one of those she-he-males who run around trying to mind other folk's business and the world in general. He has a good jolt coming to him, and the only thing that saves him is that he is such a little bit of a two-cent runt that it would be a shame to mass him up.

Well, which particular hive of mosquitoes and chiggers have you picked as the place to waste your money and vacation this year?

The office cat looks over the situation and remarks that if only the fit survive, those who fell by the wayside must have been a sorry lot.

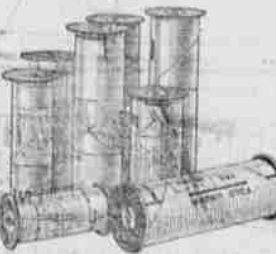
The editor of the Fogus Falls Journal doesn't go so far as to tell how to identify a Christian, but he seems to know who isn't one. He writes: "The fellow who spends the Sabbath fishing and then upon returning home leaves the mess of fish for his wife to clean while he goes up town to tell the boys how big they were, is 'n' is a—well, he isn't a Christian!"

Town chickens are just like those on the farm. If you allow them to run around too much they get tough.

If you can't bring an enemy to his knees, by fair means, just bring on him and let Nature take its course.

Bobby wanted a donkey—and he had seen the donkey in a near-by field. "What would happen if I stole that donkey?" he asked his father.

Bring Us Your FILMS



You want them developed correctly, printed properly and returned promptly. That is the kind of Kodak finishing service we render. Have us develop a roll and you'll know. Finishing that's right and right on time is our specialty.

RED CROSS DRUG STORE

SPECIAL---

We have on hand a few Electric Washing Machines of standard make which we will sell at reduced prices.

These are new machines in perfect working condition which have become shopworn.

Sold on easy payments with a liberal discount for cash.

Eastern Oregon Light & Power Company

AN INCOME OF \$100.00 A WEEK

amounts to no more than \$100.00 a week in the end if it is all spent as you go. Sound business judgment dictates that a portion of your earnings be set aside as a reserve against possible future misfortune or sickness and as a means of gaining financial independence. A savings account in this bank is a sound investment. It will work for you every day in the year and always be available in the hour of need.

La Grande National Bank

Capital and Surplus, \$265,000.00 SOUND — RELIABLE — PROGRESSIVE



The New Soft SHIRTS



With Low Attached Collar

The coming of the soft shirt with the low attached collar is sure to be a comfort during the summer.

So much are these in vogue that they are now coming in colors and stripes as well as plain white and tan. Our showing at the present time is surely extensive for it contains many new fabrics—some colored materials, stripes, soft colored shirtings and aeroplane cloth and pongee. These are all with the very new low soft collar.

Come in and see them. Prices \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 and up to \$5.00 in pongee.

Insist on Style And Fine Quality This Summer

Style alone isn't enough; you've got to have the tailoring and the fabrics that hold the style in place. We know we have the clothes that will give you real service—they're guaranteed to do it.

Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes

are carefully tailored by hand to make them last longer. All the new smart models for summer wear, in two and three button suits; sport models; lively summer colorings. Priced from \$25 to \$60.

Seven Years Selling "INTERWOVEN" Hosiery For Men, Without A Single Complaint Is This Stores Record!

"Edwin Clapp" Shoes



"Florsheim" Shoes

Whooping Cough.

This is a very dangerous disease, particularly to children under five years of age, but when no paracetamol, codone or other opiate is given, as easily cured by giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Most people believe that it must run its course, not knowing that the time is very much shortened, and that there is little danger from the disease when this remedy is given. It has been used in many epidemics

of whooping cough, with pronounced success. It is safe and pleasant to take.—Adv.

Just So.

"Ah," said the professor at a football match. "I can see that success at this sport can be attained only by perfect co-operation among the players, each subordinating his own individuality to that of the organization of which he is a part." "You may be right, but the main thing is teamwork," replied a football enthusiast.

Useful Cigar Ash. Stains may be removed from polished oak very easily. Sometimes we find, to our dismay, a blue stain on our table or buffet top, made from water or some other moisture. Save cigar ashes until you have what you know will be sufficient, when moist, to cover the stain. Do not use any more water than enough to make a thick paste. Spread over stain and allow to become perfectly dry, then brush off with a soft cloth. You will find the surface restored.

Change Made In The Palace Confectionery

Mr. Albert Cain, who for the past year and a half has been connected with the Palace Confectionery has voiced his wish to sever his connections with that place. Mr. J. T. Richardson, who recently purchased the Palace has complied with this request and has associated Mr. George Young of La Grande with him in the Candy and Ice Cream Business. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Young will now operate both the Palace and the Young's Candy Shop under the one management.

The many friends of George Young will be pleased to again see him back in the old stand where he delivered the goods to the public for a number of years.

Mr. Richardson wishes to thank the public for their support in the two months that he has had the Palace and announces that he shall now permanently locate here and with Mr. Young will feed the folks good home made candies and cold drinks.