

La Grande Evening Observer

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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

THE OFFICE CAT

ROUGH AND NOISY
Ford would make just about as good a president as he does an automobile.

Dangerous Combination
Gwendolyn—"What caused Marica to divorce her husband?"
Genevieve—"A blue serge coat and a blonde haired stenographer."

Money talks but nowadays the dollar sorely needs an amplifier.

BARNEO'S NUTOLIGY
His girl goes to the opera house, Mine goes to the movie show; His girl wears silks and satins, Mine wears calico. His girl is gay and frivolous, Mine's demure and good; You think I'd change with him, Yes, the 'ell I would.

THE CUT DIRECT
No man can afford to look shabby, because most people cut their friends according to their cloth.

FORUM

EARLY AMERICANS
Editor La Grande Evening Observer: Dear Sir:—Under the heading "Ancient Cities Found," an article appeared in last Sunday's Oregonian regarding the archaeological discoveries made by Prof. William Niven in the Mexican Valley in the last 14 years. This article tells of a pre-Columbian civilization in Mexico and I have a little information which will shed more light on these discoveries.

The Book of Mormon, the only book in existence that gives a true history of the ancient inhabitants of America, contains the Divine declaration that this land is "choice above all other lands," and that it was his design that it should be reserved for the habitation of righteous people. Certain it is that this choice land was kept hid from the nations of the eastern continent until a few centuries ago, and chosen people only were permitted to occupy it after the flood, until recent times.

This sacred record informs us that a small colony of people, under the leadership of a prophet of the Lord, and by Divine direction, departed from the land of Babylon, at the time their language was confused by the Lord because they impiously sought to build a tower to ascend to Heaven. The little company referred to was favored by the Lord by having their language preserved, so that they all spoke alike; God talked with His prophet and instructed him to lead the little band of faithful men and women, descendants of Shem (who held the priesthood), on a long journey to a choice land, where he would make of them a great nation. At first they traveled northward, subsequently traveling east and across Asia to the Pacific ocean. They remained four years preparing for a voyage to the promised land. They built eight barges, according to inspired instructions given, in which they placed a supply of provisions for themselves and their domestic animals and fowls; also seeds of grain and fruits, and other things they might need. The vessels were made water-tight, except that openings were made for the admission of air. There were no windows to give light. That they might not be in darkness during the voyage, the prophet prepared sixteen small stones, and asked the Lord to touch them that they might shine and give light in the vessels. This the Lord did.

Preserved and guided by the power of God, their vessel drifted 244 days across the Pacific ocean to the coast of Central America where they disembarked and, after giving thanks to God, they commenced to till the earth, and prepared to take possession of the goodly land to which they had been so providentially brought. This was about 2,200 B. C.

For about 1600 years thereafter, this race of people occupied the American continent, principally north of the Isthmus of Panama. They became a great nation, numbering millions of people, and they were exceedingly rich. They erected great buildings, made roads leading to numerous cities, towns and villages; and they had an abundance of gold, silver and precious things, as well as cattle, sheep, horses, elephants and other animals.

Prosperity, however, produced pride and selfishness, class distinction, jealousy, ambition, with all the train of evils that result therefrom. They could not agree upon their rulers; party strife ensued, and became frequent, although their prophets, inspired of God, sought to bring them to a condition of peace and righteous living, they became corrupt and blood-thirsty; finally waging fratricidal wars to such an extent that complete annihilation resulted toward the close of the fifth century B. C. At last only two men remained alive, the prophet-historian Ether, and the last of the Kings Coriantumr.

Thus we see that this choice land was polluted by the unrighteous conduct of the people, to whom God had given it, while they were worthy in his sight. He therefore, suffered them to destroy each other, and the land was again left without inhabitants. He had ceased to revere the loving Heavenly Father who had brought them to that most choice land, and had sought to guide them in the way of peace and happiness. They exercised their God-given agency, rebelled against Him and



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Edison's Middle Age

At 76 Thomas A. Edison says he feels that he is in middle age. He regards "three and ten" as unimportant and four score as by no means the limit. Yet he does admit that he has slowed down a bit. He even goes to sleep instead of staying all night at the plant and resting a few hours on a couch. Because Edison has been possessed of remarkably rapid recuperative powers so that he could get along with little sleep has been due much of his accomplishment. He was able to work so many hours a day that he lived at least twice his years, gauged by the time devoted to work by the average individual. His physique has matched his mental equipment. The ideal of ancient Greeks was a sound mind in a sound body. Edison has given us an example of a superior mind in an unusually strong body and the physical equipment was not subordinate to the mental. It provided a perfect combination. But Edison has had more than either of these. He has had industry and persistence. No matter how great the brain or strong the body, unless these are used they are of no account. They are but instruments for a purpose and the purpose is achieved only by the expenditure of effort.

As far as wealth or achievement are concerned, Edison might have retired long ago. Many take that step long before the age of 76. Few persist longer. That he has worked on may be the very reason that he feels he is only in middle age. Breaking habits long established may be attended with serious results, and many a man has shortened his life by quitting too soon the employment in which his active years were spent. Most people, however, cannot travel at the pace set by Edison. They have not the facility in recuperation and must sleep longer. They have not the physical strength to labor such long hours. They are not Edisons, but that does not argue that they do not fill a useful place in the world.

The Radio Lecturer

Life seems to be capable of providing new sensations as they are needed for even the most astute individuals. The latest diversion is broadcasting on the wireless. "To get used to be human," says Christopher Morley; "now it is international."

A writer in a recent magazine tells of his sensations when broadcasting a report of an interview with a well-known man. His description of the contrast between ordinary lecturing and the process of broadcasting to an audience from all over the world is remarkable from the very uniqueness of its theme, and is humorous as well. "Not a hand, not a laugh. Bad enough, this; but what overwhelmed me with horror was the spectacle I clearly beheld. Night! Illimitable black mountains, alive with people! All hating me! From a sickening altitude I gazed down upon them." The writer concludes that the process of "listening in" is yet novel enough to absorb entertainers from severe literary criticism.

The time is not far off, however, when the glare of public censure or the light of its approval will shine as relentlessly upon the radio broadcaster as upon the author of books and the writer of verse. The fact that his production will go around the world should be an incentive for the highest effort toward perfection. It is a certainty that the increased use of the wireless will mean a corresponding development toward perfection of the art of public speaking.

XX Century Supermen

The charge has been made that this is a generation lacking in supermen. No Shakespeare, no Goethe, no Keats, no Michael Angelo has appeared to make the present age go down in history as golden. This is a sordid age of commercialism.

There is this to be said in view of such criticism: No contemporary generation needed the warm approval to these men that the following centuries have. Their fame has grown with the years, as the appreciation of their art has grown. There is the possibility that another age will recognize genius in the 20th century which men today are too near to acknowledge.

Moreover, this criticism is purely a literary one. What may be said in future generations of such men as Thomas Edison, Charles Steinmetz, the Wright brothers, Marconi, and an increasing number of others? Though their gift has not been literary, they have opened the door to fine music, literature, and a knowledge of what the world is doing to countless thousands. They have helped to bring to pass what Shakespeare could only dream when he made Puck say, "I'll put a girdle round about the earth in 40 minutes."

New York is again excited over a bicycle race. More Main Street stuff.

The old-fashioned girl liked to make up; the modern one dukes up to sleep.

Editorials From Over the Nation

MRS. HARDING

Detroit News: One of the finest things about President Harding is his wife. Indeed, probably the strongest hold he has on the American affiance of two people devoted to a common end. There is nothing erotic about the Hardings, nothing temperamental. From the front-porch to the White House they go arm in arm, she a half step behind him, but never farther away.

Mrs. Harding's quiet loyalty, her self-effacing devotion to her husband's career made an impression on Washington and thence on the nation. As president's wives go, she represents American womanhood of the home variety perhaps more real than most. At least the affection between the two has been a grateful and wholesome example in an age left a trifle hysterical and unbalanced after abnormal living conditions over a space of years.

The wife of the president believes her recovery is due in part to the intercessions of the American people. That is a sound old American trait, the homely belief in prayer. Prayer is faith, and it appears that Mrs. Harding's faith received the impetus of that national petition and so conquered her sickness. It is true that the American people did feel a deep and substantial interest in Mrs. Harding and would have suffered a national sorrow if such a brave, loyal woman had been taken from life in the very hour of achievement.

Political issues may divide men in thought and purpose, but there are certain human qualities which unite all people, because touching all. Such are the qualities possessed by the lady of the White House and there is no voice of congratulation absent from her apparent recovery.

A preacher says religion by radio is damnable. He is right as is also everything else one can hear that way.



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