

# La Grande Evening Observer

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SPIRITUAL WEAPONS.—For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.—2 Corinthians 10:4.

## Vigorous Old Age

Cato, the celebrated censor of Rome, was 80 years old before he began to learn Greek, and it has been insinuated that at that advanced age he undertook the study only through a desire to avoid awkward contretemps in the next life, for, as Sir Philip Sidney suggests, he feared that Pluto, the ruler of Hades, did not understand Latin. The old man probably had more intelligible and practical reasons, but, whatever his motive, he is always considered as the stock illustration of the truth of the old adage "it is never too late to mend."

Cato, however, will have to look to his laurels, or he may lose them to denizens of a country which was unknown to the Roman world and did not come into the ken of the nations of Europe for several centuries after the rugged old censor was stopped by death from plending, in season and out of season, for the destruction of Carthage. In a university of the West a woman of 72 is at the present moment enrolled as a student in a belated but earnest effort to acquire that knowledge from which circumstances barred her at any earlier stage of her career, but even she is outdone by the undergraduate of 81 who is a candidate for the baccalaureate in engineering at Kansas university and hopes to receive his sheepskin next June. It appears that this particular enthusiast is now resuming studies which he interrupted 50 years ago and even then he was of maturer age than is usually to be found in undergraduate ranks. His perseverance is certainly to be commended.

These two instances stand out prominently because of the peculiarities attending them, but, of course, the world is full of accomplishments wrought by men and women of advanced years. Look at the average run of the ages of the great generals on each side in the recent war. Look at what the septuagenarian Balfour did for his country in her hour of peril. Or take the case of Daniel Defoe, who was in his sixtieth year when he produced "Robinson Crusoe," which has been a perennial delight to successive generations of readers for more than 200 years. Similarly Richardson was more than 50 before he even thought of writing "Pamela" and thereby starting the modern novel on its checkered course. Verily the race is not always to the swift, nor do all the palms invariably go to the young.

## He Asks the Impossible

A motion picture director is looking for the homeliest girl in town and a nice fat purse is awaiting her when she is found. It will be interesting to observe the large crowds of aspirants who will assemble outside his office. Generally when the word is passed around that an opportunity is awaiting some unknown in the world of films the street company has to put on extra cars to Hollywood to handle the crush. But if this director has an applicant it will be because feminine nature has undergone a rapid change very recently.

As if the requirement of ugliness were not sufficient, he specifies that the damsel should be at least 30 years of age or more. The idea of admitting to 30 years is peculiarly repugnant to any female person, but to none is it more abhorrent than those seeking or having careers in the film. Every one knows that cinema queens are always 17 years old when they first achieve distinction. That is the favored age of filmdom, and the lady will unblushingly look you in the eye and recount her past experiences extending over a protracted period of years and wind up with the information that she has "only but just" celebrated her seventeenth birthday.

Sometimes those who have been public favorites for many years move up to 25, but never beyond this mark.

## A Nation-Wide Evil

When the news reaches London editors that Kentucky university students have been asked by their president to "check" their firearms, turning them in to the authorities and getting receipts in exchange, there will ensue some interesting comments on life and customs in wildest America. The educational leaders of Kentucky have no wish to "teach the young idea how to shoot" in this literal manner and their ban on the possession of lethal weapons is the direct result of a recent shooting tragedy in which a student and a night watchman figured.

Foreign commentators will not be justified in regarding the carrying of pistols by college students as a common custom in this country, for Kentuckians are especially prone to this habit, but they are warranted in criticizing this country for permitting any person who has the price to go about with these death-dealing implements. Granting that the evil is more rife in Kentucky, the region of family feuds, and in a few other states than in the rest of the Union, the fact remains that this is about the only great civilized country where there is no general official regulation of pistol-carrying.

It is rather surprising to find some opponents of the proposal to restrict the carrying of deadly weapons appealing to the federal constitution for support. They are citing the provision that "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." They do not quote the significant preceding words, "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state," which explains the reason for the guarantee. It grants no right to the private individual to go about armed.

In view of the fact that 90 per cent of the homicides in this country are committed through the use of pistols, legislative action in this matter cannot be must longer delayed.

Sometimes a man is known by the kind of lawyers he employs to get him out of trouble.

## CLUB PROGRAM IS PLEASING

### University of Oregon Glee Club Meeting With Much Favor on Eastern Oregon Concert Journey.

Considerable interest in the appearance of the University of Oregon glee club assures a big crowd, according to Art Ridd, advance man for the singers, who was here making in plans for the entertainment of the 25 men with the club. While the club is here local people are entertaining the singers whose appearance is the occasion for considerable interest in social circles.

A program featuring both light and heavy numbers, said to be one of the best glee club productions ever put out by an Oregon club, is being well received all along the line. The men sang last night in Baker to a large crowd and were in Pendleton shortly before. The Pendleton Tribune highly lauds the club, extracts from their story being as follows:

A wonderful program of the best music, lightened by a touch of good comedy, with three soloists of exceptional merit to add the most artistic touch, was presented by the men's glee club of the University of Oregon last night at the high school auditorium to a filled house.

With an ease of presentation seldom seen in any musical organization and with perfect execution and enunciation the entire club gave the best of music in a varied program. Director John Stark Evans shows himself a most able leader, and his arrangement of the club was good.

The program justified the reputation of the club heralded in advance. This advance man reported that a better program is being given this year by the club than the one which was presented at another part of the state last year, for a dollar a seat. Prices are considerably under that here and indications are that the high school assembly will be packed with La Grande music lovers.

A university program will be held at the high school tomorrow afternoon, when the glee club will sing several numbers. All former university students and friends of the school are asked to be present, according to Ernest Watkins, head of the local human association.

Reserved tickets are on sale at Glass Drugs. Women with well trained hands, rather than those with well massaged faces, will be most courted this year, says an astrologer. Women with well massaged faces should worry; they can do their own courting.

You'll notice that books of etiquette didn't become popular until people got the habit of staying home.

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