La Grande Evening Observer

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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UNION LABEL 1

WORLD'S BEST NEWS:—The angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.—Luke 2:10, 11.

"Out of Luck"

Man once had two sanctuaries into which woman feared to, or at least did not, tread. He was deprived of one of these—the saloon—by the Volstead act. These other—the barber shop—he has been compelled to share with the bobbed-hair flapper.

It used to be that a fellow could seek a few moments' rest from the daily grind by stepping into his favorite barber shop. All the shams of etiquette could be forgotten and cast aside without fear of someone being offended. If he so desired he was privileged to lower his "galluses" to half mast; lay aside the stiff white collar and tie, bare the grizzled chest, roll the shirt sleeves to the elbows and, if necessary, loosen the heavy pressure around his bread-basket. It was some relieving-like just to lounge back, basking in the cool breezes of the electric fans and listening to the trivial chatter.

There was a certain comradery within the confines of yesterday's tonsorial parlor that couldn't be had elsewhere. Doctors, lawyers, statesmen, ministers, business men and laborers intermingled on common ground. Any and all subjects were open for discussion and by all parties. Diplomas and degrees had a way of ducking their possessors and waiting outside the door.

If you love to fish, there was always some he-chap that would follow you along the rippling streams. Always ready with sympathy and consolation for the loss of the five-pounder that snapped the line short off, just as the net was brought into play. You didn't have to be afraid to stretch the size of your fish a notch or two, for the majority of chaps strong enough to grow whiskers are sufficiently considerate to overlook harmless enthusiasm. And, furthermore, they have been in the same tug themselves and know what it is to get a scientifically accurate measure and weight of a fish when the entire river is holding onto him.

The way most men think about the prohibition question is that prohibition should also prohibit women from barber shops.

Go Slow

Colleges are overcrowded. What are they going to do about it?

Wellesley, the woman's college, has taken a step in one direction by announcing that all youthful prodigies will be excluded. That is, no abnormally bright child under age can get in. President Schurman of Cornell has a suggestion at the other extreme. He thinks standards should be so raised that the lazy and stupid can not matriculate, even though they have passed the requisite number of birthdays.

There is no gainsaying that a college education does wonders for some people. It also ruins many. The old debate as to its usefulness goes on forever. But not many folk nowadays are unwilling to give the colleges full credit for a wonderful improvement in the general level of culture in the country.

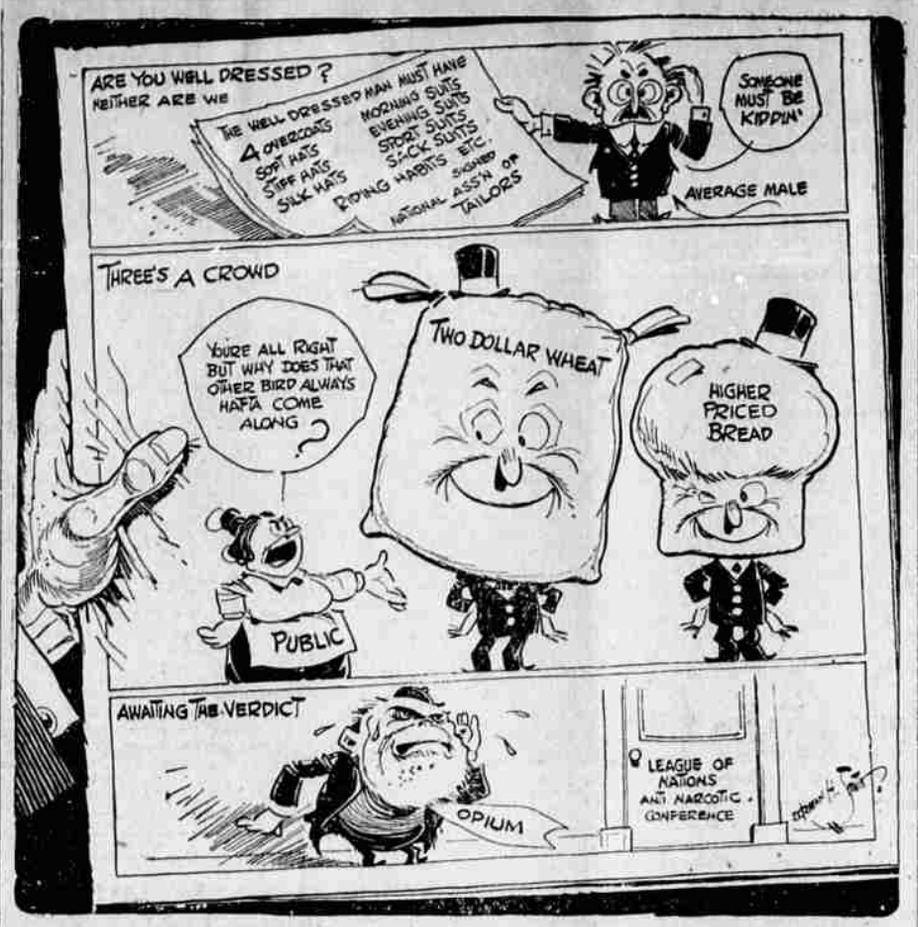
It has been our proud boast that almost any young man or woman, given grit and energy, could get a college education. This is a standard that we don't want to lose. Maybe it will be better to go slow in making changes. Higher education is greatly prized and widely distributed among us. We don't want to rob the many for the sake of the few.

The boys are losing out. Every girl now has a chance to be president, too.

It appears that "His Majesty, Cyril I, emperor of Russia" does not object to enacting a farce.

Hiram Johnson has been so silent of late that a suspicion is growing he wants to be the Coolidge of 1928.

News of the Week



Editorials From Over the Nation

THE ONION CAPITAL.

Salem, Ore., Statesman.—In the annual slogan numbers of The Statesman of a number of past years, the truth was stated that this was a good onion district; and in the 1923 number the writer was able to say: "Marion is the leading onion county of Oregon. Salem is already an onion center—but this city should be a great onion center."

This thing has come to pass. The Labish district alone sent to market more than half the car lot shipments of onions of Oregon in 1923, and nearly all the onion sets—sent 371 cars of onions and 2,000,000 pounds of onion sets to the outside markets.

And last year the Salem district sent to market about 500 of the whole 606 cars of onions shipped to outside markets.

Over 200 cars of onions were shipped from the Labish district alone to Chicago last year, helping to confirm the liking for the Oregon onion in that city.

"The Salem district is rapidly growing into the greatest onion section of the United States" says the "Come to Oregon" booklet of the Salem Chamber of Commerce.

And that is true—absolutely.

The Salem district furnished about 85 per cent of all the onion sets for this whole coast, and sent five cars of sets to the east last year.

Why is this a great onion district, and growing into the greatest onion section of the United States?

Because we grow the best onion; the onion that has the best flavor and shape and will keep the longest. And we have a real onion cult; men who know how to grow the best onions, and to do it at a profit. And to keep on improving their quality and making more certain their markets.

So that right now, our Labish onion is selling at 75 cents a hundred pounds above the price of the onions of our chief competitors in the big Eastern markets.

That surely settles it.

No one year doubt was cast upon the wisdom of keeping onions in the list of the 52 most important of our basic industries and interests, as outlined in the slogan campaign of The Statesman; doubt from an outside source—

But the wisdom of this is more amply justified now; and our Labish district alone will this year produce as great a tonnage as formerly was produced by all Oregon last year for car lot shipment.

There is money in onions here, taking average yields, and prices over a long period. This is a stable crop here, and larger profits will be obtained by improved methods: by better control of pests by fertilization the best methods of which will be found through experimentation; by better seed selection; by better methods of cultivation; by better merchandising methods in marketing, and by better handling and storage practices. And another thing that is important—

We have the onion men; growers who are intelligent and painstaking and hard working. E. A. and J. O. Hayes, publishers of the San Jose, Calif., Mercury, one of the outstanding newspapers of its class in all America, are among the pioneers of the onion and onion set industries here. They have developed a large tract of the central Labish section, investing large sums in clearing the land, erecting buildings, etc., and establishing there a veritable vegetable city.

These people are constantly experimenting. They are developing a white onion with the same keeping qualities and other points of high excellence as the yellow onion they grow. They are experimenting with asparagus, with promises of great success, and with other vegetables.

The present high prices of onions would make for our Labish growers a veritable bonanza. They have been selling of late at $4 a hundred pounds and better, but the Labish growers can make money with prices at less than half that figure, on the average.

Single-Handed Teams Helps Players Improve Their Game

BERKELEY, Cal. (AP) — The latest sport to be introduced at the University of California is "solitary tennis."

The court for this game consists of a green board wall, with a horizontal line painted three feet above the ground to represent the top of the net. The player stands behind another line drawn on the ground 28 feet from the board. From here the ball is served against the wall above the white line. When it bounces back, the racket wielder returns it trying to hit the wall above the white line. If the ball hits below it is counted as a net ball and served again.

The game is popular with coeds, who have found it increases the speediness of their strokes and develops accuracy in placing the ball and agility in following it around the court. Some of them use the stunt as practice for tournament play.

LUMBER TRADE VOLUME GOOD

Considering the restrictive influence which adverse weather is having on the lumber market in various important consuming sections, the trade is of good volume, and is in fact showing some quickening, according to the American Lumberman, Chicago. Mill stocks are as a rule low and broken, order files adequate and prices firm. As spring approaches, with its excellent building prospects, retail lumber dealers are beginning to show real interest in the market and to buy on a somewhat larger scale for stock purposes. However, they are still conservative, and are not likely to stock to anything like normal extent but will rather postpone their buying until they have orders actually in hand. This has been their policy for the last few years, and they will probably continue it, at least as long as the transportation situations remains as favorable as it was during 1924. This of course means a revolutionizing of the lumber industry, as it means that the retail trade will go along with minimum stocks and will not engage in heavy buying at set times during the year, but will regulate purchases entirely according to actual requirements of its customers.

Industrial demand meanwhile remains considerable. The railroads are still buying large quantities of both southern pine and Douglas fir. The southern oil fields are the source of good business, and the fir mills are doing a fair trade with the domestic cargo markets, which are expected to improve steadily as the spring building season nears. Exports of both woods are of about normal volume, and the outlook in foreign fields is generally considered good.

The minor woods are steadily improving their position. Western pines are in good demand for this time of year and prices are strong on account of considerably reduced stocks. The redwood mills are having a fair export and California trade and consider their prospects in the east to be encouraging. Trade is only moderate in white Carolina pine, but stocks of this wood are low and prices are advancing gradually. Cypress is firm and seems assured of a good spring trade.

The hardwood trade continues to decrease, with most of the important consumers actively in the market. Further orders are being received from the automobile industry, and agricultural implement makers are better buyers than they were. The furniture interests, the flooring and interior trim plants and box makers are still the principal hardwood buyers. Northern stocks are short of all popular items, and southern supplies also are more or less broken. Prices are holding firmly, with such items as red gum, FAS and No. 2 common sap gum and common grades of oak steadily tending upward.

O'SHEA TRIAL NEAR END

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. — The state's evidence against Johnn O'Shea, on trial here as one of the gambling house slayers, was practically completed. John Taylor, confessed leader of the quintet of reputed slayers, took the jury to O'Shea's small touring car and there pointed out to them a bullet hole in the back seat which had been made by an accidental discharge of a revolver, during the getaway, he testified.

Defense attorneys indicated by their cross-examination that they would attempt to prove an alibi for O'Shea but their attempts to shake Taylor in his testimony were unavailing. He denied that the loot had been divided at the home of Glenn Tracy where the masks were made, and he also denied that some person other than O'Shea had driven the auto to and from the scene of the robbery and slaying.

THE OLD HOME TOWN · · By Stanley

OFFICE CAT

TRADE MARK REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

By Junius

This crossword nightmare is making them brighter than ever. When our Steno. came in and remarked that they didn't hang a man in Siberia with a wooden leg, we naturally thought she was becoming intelligent, and asked "Why not?"

"They use a rope," was her haughty answer.

* * *

There is no more unfortunate thing on earth than a good girl marrying a man to reform him.

* * *

Too much lip stick will keep away the chaps.

* * *

It isn't so much that she wouldn't but she hates you to think that she would.

* * *

Static—a radio bug exterminator.

* * *

There is many a thing of beauty who is a jaw forever.

* * *

A man often tells a girl that he would wait a million years to marry her, but he never does it.

* * *

Salesman: "Sir, I would like to interest you in a new loud speaker."

Radio Fan: "I have a very good one. She's out to a club meeting just now."

* * *

Another reason so many modern kitcenette apartments appeal to so few old-fashioned families, is that there are so many built in features that there is no room for a barrel of apples.

* * *

TIGHT AS COULD BE

"Go son, and shut the shutter," A mother to her son one after. "The shutter's shut," the son did say, "And I can't shut it any shutter."

* * *

From the "For Sale" column of a newspaper: "Violin for sale by lady with inlaid scroll head."

* * *

"Aw see yo' is housecleaning," said Mrs. Snow White.

"Yes," replied Mrs. Marsh Green, "dey is nothin' like moving brings 'round once in a while. Why I des come across a pair of slippers under the baid Ah hadn't seen foah five yeahs."

* * *

She: "After all, what is home?"

He: "The place to stay when the car is laid up."

* * *

A hick town is a place where a prominent citizen can reveal his suspenders.

* * *

Patron: "Waiter, there is sand in this bread."

Waiter: "Yes, sir, that is to keep the butter from sliding off."

* * *

One swallow does not make a summer, but one swallow of the stuff you get nowadays may make an early fall.

* * *

There is the Irishman who disliked the dictionary because it changed the subject so often.

Obituary

EX-LA GRANDE LADY CALLED

PORTLAND, Ore. (Special).—News of the death of Mrs. Harriet B. Owen, 64, of Chicago, was received here recently by her brother, J. O. Kuhn. Mrs. Owen was a daughter of Oregon pioneers, Peter and Seleena Kuhn, and many years a resident in this state.

When a small child she came with her parents from Kangas to Oregon. She was graduated from the Blue Mountain university in La Grande and later taught school there. Later, with her husband, the late George E. Owen she engaged in educational work in Illinois.

Many La Grande people will remember Harriet Kuhn, who grew to young womanhood here, then teaching in La Grande public schools for several years before she left the Grande Ronde valley.

MURDOCK SALLEE

The funeral of Murdock Sallee who died early this morning at the home of his daughter Mrs. A. Simmons of Fruitdale will be held from the Smodgrass and Zimmerman chapel at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. Interment will be at Island City.

Mr. Sallee was 81 years old at the time of his death, caused by senile decay. He had lived at the home of his daughter here for about a year.

Attorney General Stone advised President Coolidge he will remain as head of the justice department until Charles B. Warren is confirmed to succeed him.

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