

LaGrande Evening Observer

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AND HE ANSWERED, Fear not; for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.—II Kings 6:16.

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE THING.

Of course it's "the principle of the thing" that causes the department of justice to contemplate appealing against a judgment for \$1.50 against the government by the court of claims. A clerk of the government in Washington was sent to Alexandria, across the Potomac, on an errand. While he was there lunch-time came around and he ate to the extent of \$1.50.

Possibly he may have been more generous than usual in indulging himself because he expected Uncle Sam to pay for it and the old gentleman is supposed to be rich. When the expense account was turned in it was turned down. The clerk brought suit and received a judgment. Now it is proposed to appeal the case for the purpose of settling definitely the issue whether clerks sent on errands may lunch at federal expense or to such an extent. It is not the amount but the principle involved that is the issue.

The case is not greatly in contrast with the line fence lawsuits which years ago so often occupied the attention of courts. Land owners would expend hundreds of dollars in fighting over strips of fence worth at most but a few dollars. It was "the principle of the thing" that made them persist regardless of the cost. It was not sensible but it was adherence to "principle."

OUR NATION'S GREATNESS.

There are five things which make a nation great. Five things, tested and proved in time of war and peace, which makes the United States a great nation. Mark them well. That nation is greatest which does most for its people. America qualifies here. Her Declaration of Independence underwrote the privilege of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Her history has been the story of abundant life for her citizens. Her course has been laid true to the ancient couplet, "It fares the land, to hastening ills a prey, where wealth accumulates and men decay."

That nation is greatest which gives the world greatest men. America qualifies here. Only one other people, ancient Greece, gave birth to more great men. Washington alone, stands head and shoulders above any other great genius the world has produced, for he was an empire builder whose work has stood for 149 years, growing from thirteen weak states to forty-eight strong ones. Besides that record, the work of other empire builders looks insignificant.

That nation is greatest which teaches the world some great truth. America qualifies here. She has taught the world the truth of self-government. Democracy can no longer be termed an iridescent dream.

That nation is greatest which dares to trust in justice rather than in force. America has always placed her trust in justice rather than in force. America has always placed her trust in justice. Her whole system of government has been moral instead of military. Her system of state, literally sovereign nations, dwelling side by side in peace, is the envy and hope of every other nation.

That nation is greatest which leads the world toward a new and better order of affairs. America is striving mightily to qualify here. Independence Day 1925 will mark a new and increased devotion to that mission of universal peace and an international fraternity. A republic must needs move slowly. But America is moving. Her public opinion is slowly solidifying. Her hand is set to the plow and there is no turning back. Independence from kings and tyrants means the greater dependence on the very human endowments of truth, loyalty and righteousness. America's history shows the increasing fortifications for such endowments. They are the things by which men and nations live.



Marriage will give you a liberal education but it provides no honorary degrees.

Most of the big jobs are held down by men who never won a prize for oratory.

There are some girls in La Grande who are simply perfect and some who are perfectly simple.

The smaller the town the more the jobs about the new hat.

No love affair is real love affair until you've seen her in perspective. Hey, it's all right to be moody and all that, but, by gosh, I'm still decent!

Chickens may come out to roost but there's a growing disposition on the part of some of them to get in late.

Brainlessness is the ability to smile when another fellow puts the girl you brought to the party!

She: I've invented a face powder that can't be kissed off.

He: who has charge of your proving grounds?

A kitchen is a small place where the wife opens cans.

GETTING WARMER

"Nigger," warned one, "don't mess with me, 'cause when you do you're in a fixin' to be hoarse." "Don't peesterate wid me, nigger," replied the other, shaking his fist. "Don't faze me to mess dis on you, I'll separate you' ideas from you' habits, I'll just knock you' opinion' arse to a floathin' opportunity."

"If you mess wid me, nigger," continued the other, "I'll just make one pass an' dere'll be a man partin' you' in de face wid a spade tomorrow mornin'."

Female: Why do you make that sneering noise?

Male: I'm trying to swallow that line you're throwing.

Some men are known by their deeds and others by their mortgages.

Heaven to a ivay man is a place where he can fish all the time and never have to stop to dig bait.

One idea of a good time is a new Cadillac, a lovely mansion in the foothills of the Catskills, plenty of blooded stock, a cellar full of gin, a French chef, a crack pack of hounds, a good nearby hunting ground—or a kiss from a wonderful girl.

We find ourself envying Charles Schwab, because he is big enough and famous enough and powerful enough to wear a derby hat when he feels like it.

Love your work more than your pay envelope to succeed.

La Grande Theatres

Leading Lady Plays Dual Role in "Flashing Spurs."

In "Flashing Spurs" Bob Foster's leading lady, Mapporette Clayton, plays a dual role; she is simultaneously a country girl and a vampire.

Compliments arise, because of striking likeness of the vamp to the country girl, that eventually cause bloodshed and cries of horror in the lanky blackness of the night. Bob Foster in the role of Harry Stuart—the Texas hero—plunges into danger and comes out smiling with a battle won, to his credit.

Comedy "King Cotton" and the new sensation "Stereosopika."

Brilliant Array Of Talent on Hand For Sunday Vaudeville.

A combination of variety, another brilliant array of versatile entertainers will be seen at the popular Arcade theater on Sunday next.

The headline attraction on this auspicious occasion is the Sue Emerson Revue in "Hits of Variety," a combination of prologue, nonsense, dancing and harmony—a novelty study in black and white, full of pop, scenic effects, beautiful and costly costumes and a real flash metropolitan review. Paul Mix in "Inequality," a talented young man from the west enters singing you with his own tricks doing comedy singing, talking, vocalizing and musicals.

Their singing and comedy is of the melodic sort and never fails to win favor and applause. Doris & Mercedes, versatile pair of comedy delineators with a song, a dance, and material that fits the offering completely. Gene Fowler, the "Act Different" with tricks and bits that seem impossible, but not to him, so we will have to hand it to Gene. Orchestra and pictures also featured on the bill.

"Quo Vadis" Filmed as Super-Thriller With 20,000 in Cast.

A new and gigantic production of "Quo Vadis" has just been completed and is to be shown by First National at the Arcade theater next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

For stupendous size, both in cast and scenes; for super-dramatic and rare beauty of photography, this film version of the Sienkiewicz classic is proclaimed an unparalleled masterpiece of screen artistry.

Emil Jannings, noted for his work in "Passion," heads the cast, which is said to number more than 20,000 men, women and children. The scenes, staged in Rome on the actual site of Nero's tyrannies, are enormous. The Palatine, Circus Maximus and the Rome itself of Nero's time, half a century after

the birth of Christ, form the background for the drama. The historic debaucheries of Nero and his court and the terrible cruelties of the despot, as vividly pictured, are tempered by the tender love of the pagan Vinckius for the beautiful Christian girl, Lygia, and the unyielding faith of the followers of Peter, the Apostle, even when burned at the stake and thrown to the lions in the arena of the Circus.

Jannings, as Nero, has given an even more impressive characterization than was his in "Passion." Nero was cruel, lustful, blood-thirsty, always. Yet he was inordinately vain, foppish, childish in his self-admiration. It was this that Jannings has portrayed him. Nero, dead 1500 years, lives again—on the screen.

He causes beautiful slave girls to be tossed into his marble pool that his banquet guests may see how he fattens the fish for future banquets.

He burns Rome, secretly, that he may gain inspiration for verses which will excel Homer's "Burning of Troy."

He causes Christians to be burned at the stake, as "flowers" at his garden party; and hundreds of others to be thrown to the lions in the Circus Maximus to appease the populace for his crime of incendiarism.

Then, his dastardly secret exposed at last, he pleads with a servant to sink into his heart the blade which his own cowardly hand wishes to do.

Thus he dies, and upon the cross at his interminable rise the cross to bless the union of Vinckius, now a Christian, and Lygia.

Stage Success Now On Screen At Sherrys.

Broadway stage success of a few years back made into a photoplay under the direction of James Young, and released by Producers Distributing Corp., comes to the Sherry Theatre for a three day run.

As a stage play, "Welcome Stranger" gave George Sidney one of the greatest characterizations ever seen on the speaking stage. In the screen adaptation Dore Davidson, who made a distinct personal hit in "Humoresque," plays the role made famous by Sidney. Florence Vidor, who heads the cast, has one of the most appealing roles of her career.

The story is clean comedy of the "Potash and Perimeter" type, with an undercurrent of humanity that throws the humorous situations into high relief.

Its leading character is a shopkeeper who, by sheer force of kindness and humanity, melts every prejudice and leaves every character with whom he comes in contact better than he found him.

The play is essentially a comedy melodrama of race prejudice, and the ironic title refers to the cold shoulder given to the Jewish shopkeeper when he comes to establish himself in a small New England town one bitter New Year's Eve.

How he melts this prejudice by his humility, his kindness and his generosity makes for an entertaining picture as has come to the screen in many a year. The production was made by Biograph Productions, Inc., and adapted for the screen by James Young and Willard Mark. Besides Miss Vidor and Dore Davidson, the cast includes such notable names as Virginia Brown Faire, Noah Beery, Lloyd Hughes, Robert Edison, William V. Mong and Otis Harlan. Comedy showing "Fox Hunt."

WHITE HOUSE IS OVERHAULED

(Continued from Page One.)

cook, departed Saturday for the summer capital. The Coolidges didn't go until Monday. That leaves seven meals unaccounted for—breakfast and dinner Saturday, breakfast, dinner and supper Sunday, breakfast and luncheon Monday. Rome has it that Mrs. Coolidge put on an apron and did the cooking herself. She has and she could. The Coolidges spent many years without a maid.

But the anomalous truth in this instance is that the executive mansion's entire kitchen personnel didn't go to Swampscott when Mrs. Jougholoff did. Enough stayed behind to cook and serve. Those final meals may have been a little sketchy—it's noteworthy that the Coolidges had no company at any of them—but such as they were, there's high authority for the statement that they were prepared by professional hands.

Another burning question—Why have the Coolidges four cooks in about three months? Careful investigation proves that there's no mystery as to two of them. Mrs. Jougholoff's still on the job and seems to be giving satisfaction. So much for her. Mrs. Martha Mulvey, the incumbent when the Coolidges moved in and a survivor in her position from away back in President Roosevelt's day, quite because she was greasier old, had saved some money and wanted to rest.

Two, however, intervened between Mrs. Mulvey and Mrs. Jougholoff. Why was their tenure so brief? According to insiders, those two cooks were too "fancy" for President Coolidge's taste. He likes simple food. He's a man of the world, can stand for some little on special occasions, but eating alone with his family, plain stuff is what he craves. The two unaccounted-for cooks, it seems, considered it beneath their art to fuss over such plebeian dishes as he insisted on. Whether they were fired or quit in disgust is the Coolidge's own secret. They won't even tell who the so-called "mechanics" were, not wishing, it's explained, to make it harder for them to get fresh jobs. But there's no question that they retired, by request or otherwise, for the White House Service's own good.

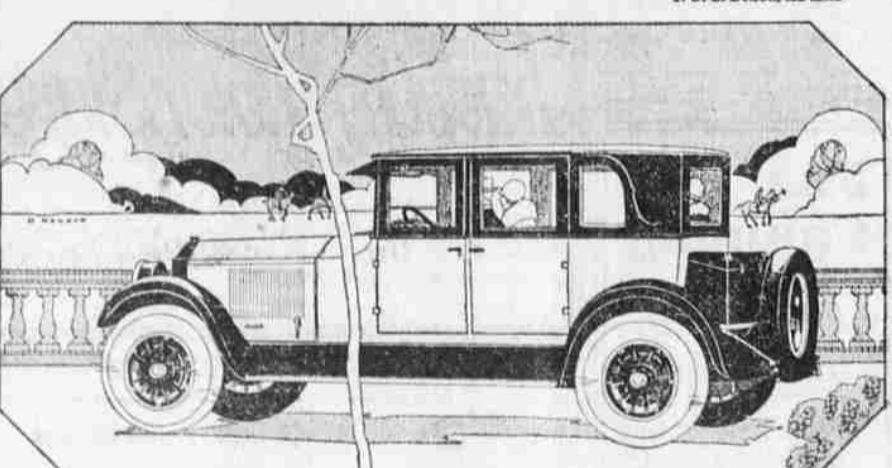
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