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WESTON GARAGE

LOCAL AGENTS

WESTON LEADER
CLARK WOOD, Publisher

MRS. H. GOODWIN, Assistant Editor

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Strictly in Advance

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THE PUT-IT-OFFS.

We have been waiting confidently for the past ten years for the re-appearance of the subjoined lines, which about every decade are circulated in the public prints from coast to coast. This time the East Oregonian has evidently started them off, and the Oregon Voter reprints them:

My friend, have you heard of the town of Yawn,
On the banks of the river Slow,
Where blooms the Wait-a-while flower fair,
Where the Sometime-or-Other scents the air,
And the soft Go-easys grow?
It lies in the valley of What's-the-use,
In the province of Let-'er-slide;
That tired feeling is native there,
It's the home of the listless I-don't-care,
Where the Put-it-offs abide.

The Put-it-offs smile when asked to work,
And say they will do it tomorrow;
And so they delay from day unto day
Till death cycles up and takes them away,
And their families starve, beg or borrow.

It is not difficult to fathom the recurring popularity of these lines. They not only possess a peculiarly fetching lilt, but contain an entire sermon which happily never applies to one's own characteristics or environment, but always to the other fellow's.

They are credited by the East Oregonian and the Voter to "Old Clipping," but if we remember rightly they were written by Ben King, a Chicago scribbler who flourished, we think, contemporaneously with Eugene Field.

And speaking of the genial "Gene" reminds us of his witticism at the expense of the old-time printer—a jest at one time current in every composing room in the country. In the old days the devotee of the art preservative was ever a convivial cuss. He generally worked at night, which left only the daytime for the gratification of his sporting instincts.

Said Field:
"A printer is a man who works all

night and shakes dice for the drinks all day. If it wasn't for the printer work, I would like to be a printer."

Statistics have just been assembled by an insurance men's paper, Safeguarding America Against Fire, for the fire losses in 1918. These reached the enormous total of \$283,000,000 recorded losses, while unrecorded losses are estimated to bring the staggering total of "burning dollars" up to \$350,000,000. It would be generally supposed that defective chimneys and flues would cause the greatest loss. This is not the case, however. The loss from this cause was a little under twelve millions, while electricity occasioned a loss of more than twenty millions. Matches and careless smokers were responsible for more than sixteen millions, while incendiaries destroyed property valued at less than ten millions. Exposure (including conflagrations) caused the greatest loss of all, given at nearly sixty-four millions. Petroleum and sparks on roofs were about equally destructive factors each causing a loss of more than six million dollars. The electric flat-iron is regarded as largely responsible for electricity's dismal record. This and other similar losses could be avoided, of course, with a little more care.

We were surprised and gratified at learning that we attended the recent newspaper conference in Eugene. The esteemed East Oregonian caught us both a-going and a-coming. Perchance it was our astral body that journeyed to Eugene, while the busy fingers of our far too solid corporeal entity were pounding the keys of a Mergenthaler. So it must have been, since we found it impossible, much to our regret, to be at Eugene in the flesh and tell the rest of the boys how to run a country newspaper and sidestep the sheriff. Anything may happen to one's zura with Sir Oliver Lodge on this side of the pond.

German financiers are proposing an "Economic League of Nations," to include Russia, as the right way out. Sounds interesting, but does not convince. Old Man World is certain to reflect that he wouldn't have to get out if Germany hadn't got him in.

When troubled over our country's ills it may afford some comfort to realize that the United States is far better off than any other power mixed up in the late unpleasantness.

House cat pets are selling for \$1.24 each in New York, but we opine that most people will consider them worth more than that on the backs of purring pets.

Organized labor has so much black-letter to do that it will have to be careful not to smudge itself with the get-even ink.

Mr. Bryan has said that every democrat is entitled to his opinion; but we fancy he will make some effort

to convince the San Francisco convention that the Bryan opinion ought to carry more than average weight.

A Spokane lady teacher's pay was cut in two because she went on teaching when "broken out" with smallpox, and yet it doesn't appear that there were any spots on her record.

Irving T. Bush of New York signs up the entire situation pretty well when he says: "The big trouble has been that the world has been trying to find a substitute for work."

If we know our old g. o. p. friend, Frank S., when he gets back to Chicago the Carl won't be in the elephant's tail. Frank leads while others follow.

The allied governments have decided to go easy with bolshevik Russia—perhaps for the same reason that one doesn't profit by disturbing a pole cat.

Poland's position as a buffer state might be more comfortable if she weren't so unpleasantly cognizant of what she is buffing against on either side.

Information comes from Washington that the senate is considering the peace pact, which will likely be disposed of before we write it 2000 A. D.

Spring would be especially welcome this year were it not for the fear that it will perminate an unusually abundant crop of candidates.

No tragedies resulted from the Dokie doings at Pendleton, but we are credibly informed that the tyros had a shocking experience.

The Federation of Labor may find the blunder in the blacklist blunderbus—and likewise a damaging recoil.

It is not surprising that the dry law enforcers have run up against a hard proposition in Iron county.

What is wanted is a railroad bill that the public won't have to pay.

"OVER THE HILL"

Work was commenced on the new bank building Monday of this week. John F. Herr has purchased a lot on Fourth street from Robert Coppock, and will build a residence thereon.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gerking are home from a visit of several weeks duration with friends and relatives in Tacoma.

Flint Johns is here this week from Vancouver, Wash. He contemplates buying a wheat ranch near La Crosse, Wash.

School resumed Monday after a two weeks' close down on account of the flu epidemic, with nearly normal attendance.

The Preston-Shaffer Milling Co. this week put in electrical installation for punning plants at the homes of Cass Cannon and Mrs. Lila Kiek, on South Third street.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. B. Woodward have landed on their return trip from a winter's visit to Honolulu. They are visiting friends at Seattle and Portland, and will be home in a few days.

Arthur Coppock, who has been seriously afflicted with rheumatism, has returned from Pendleton, where he has been taking treatment. Accompanied by Mrs. Coppock, he has gone to Hot Lake.

About twenty ladies of the Star club, and other invited guests, enjoyed the hospitality of Mrs. M. L. Watts Tuesday afternoon. A delightful spirit of sociability reigned and dainty refreshments were served.

The High school baseball team is out for practice on every occasion the weather will permit. Here's saying that the youngsters will give a good account of themselves in the conference games to be scheduled for the season.

The new steel pipe which will be laid under the hard surface of Main street has arrived. It is being given a coat of hot tar as a rust preventative. The alkali properties of the soil here have a tendency to rust water pipe.

Superintendent Hall of the Athena schools returned Sunday from Lostine, where he spent the two weeks during which school was closed because of influenza. While at Lostine, Mrs. Hall's father died, after a lingering illness.

Word has been received by Athena friends of the death week before last of Mrs. Grace Parker Hutchinson at her home in St. Johns, Wash., as the result of influenza. She leaves besides her husband and three small children, her father, mother and half brother.

Mr. and Mrs. George Banister arrived home Wednesday morning, after having spent the winter months at San Diego, Calif. They were accompanied by their daughter, Mrs. N. A. Miller, who went over from Athena



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Notice Friends

I will have a Carload of the Little OVERLANDS

These are hard to get and will go very fast. The first orders are filled first. You should have your order placed without delay.

Dr. S. L. Kennard, Dealer, Weston and Athena

companied home by their daughter, Helen, who has been attending St. Helen's academy at Portland. Miss Helen has been ill for some time and comes home to regain her health. Mr. Hinster reports cold raw weather, even in the sunny south.

The drive for new members of the American Legion under way this week is expected to add between 200 and 300 names to the different rosters throughout the county. Already Pendleton post has more than 75 new members. Membership cards are being mailed out as rapidly as applications are received, in order to give all the new legion men a chance to attend the big smoker tomorrow night at Pendleton.

Mrs. Charles Williams has been in a very alarming condition the past week as the result of a relapse, after recovering from the influenza Monday night. Dr. Guy Boyden was called in consultation with Dr. Smith and relatives were summoned, as her life was almost despaired of. At present, her condition is somewhat improved, although she is delirious at times.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Caton, who have spent the winter at Newman, California, passed through Wednesday on their way to Spokane, where they will visit their son, Tom. They will return to their home near town in a few days. The families of Leon and Max Kidder remained at Newman.

John Rothrock returned this week from an extended trip through the south. While in Oklahoma he invested extensively in oil lands, and has already realized a considerable sum from his investments. He visited California and Mexico points, as well to several other states.

Mrs. Jennie Stumpf Mills died recently at her home in Mill, Alberta, after a few days illness. She was 29 years of age and was born in Alberta, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Stumpf, having resided in this city for a number of years.

Athena friends are extending cordial welcome to Angus M. Gillis, who is here today from his Washtucum wheat ranch.

Mrs. E. A. Miller and infant daughter are ill with smallpox at their home in Walla Walla, which is under quarantine. They had just been discharged from the hospital after an attack of influenza, from which Mr. Miller is also convalescent. Rawla and his mother, Mrs. N. A. Miller, who went over from Athena

to attend the flu patients, are both at a hotel, compelled to wait there until the smallpox quarantine is lifted.

Cleanup time is here, and many of the alleys and vacant lots have already received necessary attention.

Mrs. G. Kopriva, wife of the pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, is in Spokane, where she sustained a surgical operation this week in a hospital in that city. Mrs. Kopriva has been in poor health for some time, necessitating finally an operation. Rev. Kopriva accompanied his wife to Spokane.

Next Wednesday evening, March 5, Taylor Holmes' great picture, "It's a Bear," will come to the Standard Theatre at regular prices. The picture was booked for the Standard last fall, but was cancelled on account of missing railroad connections because of a washout. This is the first opportunity presented for re-booking this splendid comedy drama. Two shows, remember—at 7:30 and 9:15. Come and laugh at the Bear.

Athena anglers have been successful this week in their quest for steelheads along the lower Umatilla. Bob

Proudfit landed five beauties, Omar Stephens three, Marion Hansell three and Wm. Pinkerton one. The fish ran from 18 to 30 1/2 inches in length and weighed from 5 to 8 1/2 pounds. Omar Stephens, who landed the 30 1/2 inch trout, has so far a good chance of winning the \$25 fishing rod put up by Watts & Rogers as a prize for the largest trout caught during the season.

Thousands of visitors are expected to view the beauties of the prune orchards surrounding Salem during blossom time. If plans made recently materialize, under these plans it is proposed to run special tourist trains from Portland and other points to Salem during the prune blossom period.

Mrs. Toby Riddle, descendant of a long line of Modoc chieftains, is dead at the Klamath reservation. She was official interpreter for the government during the Modoc rebellion and was at the conference on April 11, 1873, when General E. H. S. Canby and Dr. Thomas were treacherously slain by Captain Jack, the Modoc leader.

The Oregon State Retail Merchants' association is the name selected as the name of the consolidated body to succeed the Oregon State Retailers' association and the Oregon Retail Merchants' association, which held their consolidated convention at Astoria. Marshfield was selected by unanimous vote as the next convention city.

Bids for the construction of 20 bridges, two of which are designated as overhead railroad structures on the route of the Columbia river highway in eastern Oregon, and for the improvement of approximately 38 miles of road, will be opened at the next meeting of the state highway commission to be held in Portland on March 23.

A letter received by the tax department of Douglas county from the acting auditor of the United States treasury stated that Douglas county's claim for back taxes on the Coos Bay wagon road grant lands in the sum of \$55,079.27 had been allowed and that a treasury warrant for the amount had been forwarded to the county treasurer.

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