

Polk County Observer
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BY LEW CATES

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READY FOR COMMERCE.

The Panama canal will be opened to the world's commerce on August 15, according to orders which have been issued by Secretary of War Garrison. In a small way the canal already is in use, barges and other craft of light draught having been permitted to pass through its waters, an arrangement that was precipitated by the pressing necessity of relieving a freight blockade on the Panama railroad. But the big ships of commerce have been compelled to wait until everything was quite ready for them, and as this point now has practically been reached, official announcement is made that by the middle of the coming month commerce may commence to use the new short-cut between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

The opening of the canal to commerce will precede by several months the formal dedication of the great waterway, but of course will not in any way interfere with this latter plan. On the other hand, it will prove a most valuable preliminary test of the canal, and thereby furnish an opportunity to correct any minor defects in arrangement, if such are discovered through actual use of the canal. And even aside from that, there is merit in the plan of opening the canal to commerce as soon as possible, thereby to facilitate trade and commerce, and permit nations to commence to enjoy the benefits and advantages of this new water route. There could be no good reason for delaying the opening of the canal, after the latter was ready to serve commerce, and this evidently is the idea of the administration officials in charge of the canal.

Of course, the opening of the canal to commerce is really of far greater importance than the formal dedication of the new work. When the canal is turned over to the use of shipping interests it will mean that the dream of centuries has been fulfilled, and that through the enterprise of this nation there has been completed an improvement of the highest importance and significance, which will be of lasting benefit and advantage to every nation of the whole world. This is so for the reason that modern commerce and rapid communication have brought all nations into close relationship, to an extent that no nation today is independent, commercially speaking, while, on the other hand, there is a complicated and far reaching system of inter-dependence, similar to that which exists in the modern family, or the modern community.

Therefore, the opening of the Panama canal to the commerce of the world is a matter of world-wide interest and importance, and will speedily be followed by tangible evidences of the benefits expected to result from this new short-cut between the world's largest and most important oceans. Commerce, of course, will quickly improve the opportunity to utilize this new route, and international trade and exchange will thereby receive a fresh impetus that should stimulate business in all parts of the world. What the effect on the business of this nation may be remains to be seen, but that it will be a beneficial effect is not to be doubted. And in a very short time the people of this nation will commence to realize these benefits, and to appreciate the wisdom of this government when it decided to take over and complete the Panama canal project.

THE YELLOW PERIL.

It is the German kaiser who has taken the most sane view of what is called "the yellow peril," but which might more properly be called the Asiatic peril. The swarming in the hives of that continent is not confined to Mongolians. The Malay is feeling the pressure of want of space for multitudinous numbers, and the turning back at Vancouver of a ship load of Hindoos brought from India to find residence in the Dominion is ominous of future trouble, but less

for this continent than for Europe. While Wilhelm did not go into detail in saying why the yellow peril would have to be faced in Europe and not in the United States, his deeper meaning was reasonably clear to everybody with an understanding of the situation. Should there be an eruption of Asiatic hordes it could only be by land that they could even hope to make their great numerical preponderance felt. Europe they could reach by marches. No part of this continent could be reached by them without crossing oceans over which they could not transport enough men at one time to make an effective invasion.

The coming of the Hindoos to Vancouver is ominous as showing the growing spirit of restlessness which is now seen to be seizing and pushing out to world adventures the surplus millions of the Asiatic continent. There has been much profound but boring comment on the menace to the United States, and to Canada, involved in this attempted migration and its turning back to Hindustan. Both the United States and Canada need do little more than ordain laws for the restriction of immigration from any of the overpopulated countries of Asia. Should such exclusions be resented, and any attempt made by force or arms to force an entrance, neither Canada nor the United States would need fear an overrunning by the largest number of Asiatics it would be possible to get across the Pacific in one body. Visions of Armageddon on this continent are the wildest dreams.

For Europe the peril is much more real, if it be a real peril at all. Europe can be reached by marches, the marchers foraging and laying waste the land as they march. History has shown us such dreadful marches of Asiatic swarms, stung out of bursting hives, the fury and hunger of whom could not be stayed short of the Atlantic Ocean. It showed us, later, other armies of men driven out of an unproductive country to the North, who, while far less in numbers, were fully as hungry and thirsty as the Asiatic legions and did more terrible execution. Hunger is a mighty inspiration to valor, and if the "yellow peril" ever rises it will be hunger leading its van. But is there a good reason why it should ever come again rolling over the frontier between Asia and Europe? The world has made such immeasurable strides in the centuries since that eruption that there is no longer need that industry should starve in any part of the world. And so there is no need of talking of this growing problem in terms of war. It is not as it was when Timour rolled past Damascus or when Rollo waved a blood-stained ax before the walls of Rouen. The world has grown smaller. In its present state of civilization it will be an economic crime if the "yellow peril" bursts into flame. No matter about the Apocalypse, if a world battle is ever fought at Armageddon it will be a world crime in which those who sin the most against their light will be the greatest criminals.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

WHY EXTRAVAGANCE?

The great base of American life today is extravagance. We talk of sins and abuses, like drunkenness, immorality, dishonesty, divorce, and a dozen and one other evils, but as a fact they are all more or less comprehended by extravagance, a part or outgrowth of it. This failing is common to every walk of life. The poor are extravagant as well as the rich. The "have nots" offend as do the "haves," whatever difference there is being in degree and not in principle. Our national government is extravagant and so is our state government, our county governments, and city governments. Most of our railroads are extravagant, and all are heavily in debt, and corporations are extravagant and with rare exception in debt. Hence it is natural that the individual also should be extravagant and that debt should be a matter of course and insolvency not unusual.

If details were available we would not be long in discovering that extravagance is responsible for a considerable part of the high cost of living. Not for all of it, of course, since burdensome cost of living is a world-wide condition, the thrifty peoples of certain sections of Europe not being immune. But in this country we appear in the past ten or fifteen years to have surrendered abjectly to the temptation of extravagance until the mere suggestion of economy, whether in print or conversation, exposes one to the unpleasant suspicion

of being a "tight-wad." The expressed thought that the simpler ways of other days might be as well for this generation, and be equally capable of producing happiness and contentment, is greeted with sneers. Old luxuries, or the modern conveniences and gratifications which our parents did not even dream of, are the necessities of today. A little more expense is added here, and a little there, but how rarely is there a serious effort at retrenchment.

Now there is a difference between parsimony and economy, between being niggardly and being thrifty; and this is worthy of the attention of men and women of modest means or income. So also is there a difference between generous living and every conceivable comfort on the part of the rich man and the lavish wasteful exploitation of his millions. The great difficulty is for people to govern their pride, their love of pleasure, their delight in raiment beyond their means, their envy, their desire for easement of some sort, so that they may adjust their outlay to their condition in life. The personal service they once gladly performed for themselves they pay others to do for them now. It is not permissible to fetch and carry. There must be instant communication. What was once done by mail for two cents goes now by wire at greater cost. In the household, as in business and in going about socially, there are shoals of new and unnecessary expenditures, many of them trifling, but some of them heavy, which could be eliminated without sacrifice of real comfort or loss of dignity—but who so bold as to make the start and exercise independence of judgment and action.

As to the particular kinds of extravagance that might be dropped it would be invidious to attempt to catalogue. Array them for yourself. There are extravagances in liquor, in tobacco and in recognized follies that are notorious. The appetites and selfishness of men are to blame for these, the cost of which runs into hundreds of millions a year. The flippancy and inconsiderateness of thoughtless women, who have little regard for the man who earns and pays, and often does his best in the sweat of his face, are to blame for extravagances that wreck lives and homes and turn a beautiful world into a torture house. These, with the spectacular spending of the sordid rich and sudden rich and the rich who worship the golden calf—as distinguished from the modest wealthy—illustrate the grosser forms of extravagance. But in addition this land is sowing the wind in the shape of extravagances which are of a general nature, prevalent in every community and pervading every grade of society. It would be an excellent thing if by universal consent to slow up on these all along the line. That would help enormously to restore the balance, to re-establish prosperity.

"SPOILING THE FAIR."

It is certainly unfortunate that the Polk County Fair association did not consult the management of the Independence Monitor before concluding arrangements for entertainment at the approaching exhibit this fall, for that publication strenuously objects to a common carnival proposition in conjunction therewith. Our esteemed contemporary holds that people have tired of entertainment of this character, and avers that "Dallas has injured rather than benefited the county fair." The Monitor would have had "spent a little more money in adding extra attractions, which would have been more pleasing and would have drawn as large a crowd."

For the information of the Monitor let it be said that the association, in addition to the amusement features, has "added a little more money for extra attractions to the fair," as is shown by the premium list recently issued. The prizes are much larger than last year, while several new departments have been added. Take, for instance, the prizes offered for individual exhibits of agricultural products, the first of which is \$40, second \$25 and third \$15. These are sufficiently attractive to induce wide-spread attention of the farmers of Polk county, while in the horse and other departments there are strong cash prizes. The aggregate sum to be expended for premium awards is greater than ever before, while from an educational standpoint the fair association has expended a considerable amount of money in collecting exhibits from all sections of the county in order to create interest for the farmer, for whose benefit the fair is held.

In some particulars The Observer

agrees with the position taken by the Monitor, particularly wherein it states that "the people of Polk have seen enough carnivals this year," but attractions of some kind seemed necessary to entertain the crowds while attending the fair, and the association hit upon what appeared to be the best thing available. Arnold's attractions are of the highest order in this line, and will undoubtedly give the best of satisfaction.

HELP THE CAUSE ALONG.

The Observer desires to call attention to the advertisements in this paper, and invite the people of this community to carefully peruse them. There are money saving opportunities in these columns every week, offered by business men whose reputations are too well known to need a favorable word from this source, and it is to the advantage of the purchasing public to acquaint itself with these offerings. The merchants of Dallas often complain that their "special sales," made from time to time with a view to stimulate trade, are not sufficiently productive to warrant the expenditure necessary to make the announcements, and hence the newspaper whose advertising columns are its lifeblood, is up against a difficult proposition. The community is desirous of maintaining first-class newspapers, for it has been time and again demonstrated that such agencies are profitable in the upbuilding and advancement of towns, cities and their surrounding country, but it evidently forgets that after all the merchant and business man are the backbone of the publications, without which the papers could not exist. These facts should be borne in mind by contemplating purchasers of the public-spirited stripe.

It is the aim and ambition of The Observer to publish a newspaper in the true meaning of the word, one in advance of the town, and in order to accomplish this purpose it must have the co-operation of the community as a whole. We feel that if the newspaper is really appreciated by the community, and we have reason to believe that it is, the people should cooperate with its principal supporters in maintaining it at its present high standard. Therefore, we urge upon each and every reader to peruse the advertisements this week, next week, and every week, and patronize the men whose announcements are there found. The liberal advertiser will invariably be found the liberal dealer. It is so the world over, and Dallas is no exception.

NEEDS THE MONEY.

There is a movement under way to create a new county from the western portion of Lane, petitions with that end in view being in circulation, and while it is extremely doubtful that the proposition will carry under the 1913 law, which makes the creation of a new county dependent upon the territory affected, it should. The development of the state depends as largely upon the sub-division of the great counties as upon the sub-division of the great tracts of land. It is a well known fact that improvements naturally radiate from the county seat, and this being the case the smaller the county the better. In the instance at hand, those people residing within the proposed new county are obliged to travel seventy miles to reach the county seat. They are west of the Cascade mountain range, and have nothing in common with the eastern part of Lane county, except to feed Eugene with their tax money. What they are asking for is a logical county, but with her usual greed Eugene will doubtless put a quietus upon their ambition by beating the brush for votes to kill the measure. Eugene needs their money.

The Sheridan Sun, one of the best of our exchanges, takes The Observer to task for alluding to the Yamhill river as a babbling brook. Well, old stocking, we shall hereafter, when occasion requires, refer to this waterspout as a picturesque torrent, if that will be pleasing to your sensitive nature.

Beach tangoes are a form of social activity which is likely to lead to activity in other lines—courts, for instance. Dancing is the natural and commendable expression of mental impulse and rhythm. But a sandy beach and bathing suits are hardly the correct property and investiture for such expression.

"Fat cures" are fakes. That is the dictum of the federal department of agriculture. The intent of the announcement is to preserve the too-generously nourished members of the

Harold Bell Wright's New Novel,

"THE EYES OF THE WORLD"

Will be on sale at Hayter's Book Store

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

More than a million copies of "The Winning of Barbara Worth" have been sold to date. The sale of "The Eyes of the World" promises to eclipse this marvelous record. Your copy will be ready for you Saturday morning.

community from exploitation at the hands of quacks. One gets fat naturally or through carelessness and the only rational method of sloughing off all above "useful load" is by training. Incidentally, the department develops the pathetic fact that no class of preparations designed to humbug people has a wider sale than "anti-fat" remedies. Thus do we obtain a rather humorous high light on American and Americans.

OTHERS' OPINIONS.

***But Polk people are progressive in other than political lines. They have begun a system of road improvement which other counties would do well to follow. An auto ride from Salem to Dallas or Independence now is a pleasure, the roads being oiled and free from dust the entire distance. This certainly shows public spirit on the part of the citizens of Polk county and they are being well rewarded for their pains.—Oregon Messenger.

Last week in mentioning the meeting of the editors at Dallas, we stated that they met in the basement of the library building owing to the fact that the socialists and democrats had taken possession of the court house. A socialist objects to the wording, fearing that some would construe it to mean that the socialists and democrats met in a union meeting. It is presumed that each party met in separate rooms and had stationed guards armed with the proper implements of their office to guard against the approach of the enemy. So far the democrats have raised no howl about it.—Falls City News.

Democratic papers are beginning to fill their columns with tirades against republican candidate Booth for U. S. senator and republican candidate Withycombe for governor, while seldom or never do they have a word, good or bad, for democratic candidate Chamberlain for U. S. senator, or democratic candidate Smith for governor. There must be a spoke loose in the democratic fly wheel to create such a thumping and pounding on the outside rim.—Lebanon Criticon.

Attention, Hopgrowers. Examine the best hop stove on the market before you buy.—Dallas Iron Works. July 21—Sept. 1.

NO DIFFERENCE.

The Proof Is Here the Same As Everywhere.

For those who seek relief from kidney backache, weak kidneys, bladder relief and the proof is here in Dallas the same as everywhere. Dallas people have used Doan's and Dallas people recommend Doan's, the kidney remedy used in America for fifty years. Why suffer? Why run the risk of dangerous kidney ills—fatal Bright's disease. Here's a Dallas proof. Investigate it.

E. L. Sperry, carpenter, 318 Maple street, Dallas, Oregon, says: "My back and kidneys bothered me for quite awhile and I was advised to try Doan's Kidney Pills for relief. A short use of the pills rid me of the trouble and not a sign of it had ever returned. It is several years since I took Doan's Kidney Pills, but I haven't forgotten how greatly they helped me."

Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Sperry had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED.

The Observer wants a correspondent in every community in Polk county not now represented, and is desirous of getting in touch with some person in each locality who will send in the news of that locality. Write this office for particulars. Do it now.

Semi-weekly One Year, \$1.50

NOTICE TO ICE CONSUMERS

Those persons desiring ice in the residence districts are requested to display their "Ice Wanted" card the first thing in the morning, as only forenoon delivery is made in this territory.

Those customers not having cards are requested to call at the plant and get one, leaving their street and number.

DALLAS ICE CO.

YOU CAN OF COURSE?

And consequently you must be interested in fresh fruits. We can supply the housewife's wants in any quantity at JUST THE RIGHT TIME, and at lowest market prices. See us about it, or telephone for quotations. It will be to our mutual advantage.

Loughary Grocery DALLAS, OREGON



When We Hand You Our Estimates

of the cost of the lumber you require you can depend upon it that the figures will be as low as first-class, well seasoned lumber can be sold for honesty. If you pay more you pay too much. If you pay less you get less either quality or quantity.

Willamette Valley Lumber Co.

Semi-Weekly Observer \$1.50 a year.