

Polk County Observer

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Entered as second-class matter in the Postoffice at Dallas, Oregon.

Mr. Earl C. Brownlee, for nearly two years associated with the Spectator of Portland as city editor and special writer, has accepted a position with The Observer and will be on the job next Monday. Mr. Brownlee comes to Dallas with the very best of recommendations as a newspaper writer of seven years standing, during which time he has been connected principally with the metropolitan press. Five years ago he came to Oregon from Texas, expecting to return to the Lone Star state after a brief visit here, but so pleased was he with those things he found here that he concluded to become a permanent fixture, and took a position as "feature writer" for the Sunday Oregonian, later going to the Spectator. With this acquisition to its editorial force The Observer will be made better than ever before, which, in our opinion at least, is saying considerable. The publisher has carried this burden single handed during the past year and a half. He asks for Mr. Brownlee a cordial reception by the people of Dallas, believing they will find in him a man valuable to the community and its material interests.

WONDERFUL PROGRESS.

"The growth and development of the motion picture business is nothing short of wonderful," remarked a hoary haired individual to a representative of The Observer last Tuesday evening as both were witnessing the production of "Captain Macklin" at The Orpheum. Yes, indeed, mused the scribe. It is difficult to realize that only twenty-five years ago the moving picture, if it had then been invented, was scarcely more practical than the "zootrope" that preceded it. Even twenty years ago it was nothing more than a scientific experiment, or a toy. The blurred, scratchy, out-of-focus, unsatisfactory pictures of the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight, in 1897, will be remembered by men of an older generation as the greatest achievement in motion photography up to that time. Fifteen years ago there were fairly good pictures—moving train and ships, passing troops, athletic events, humorous bits in which the alleged comedian usually fell in to the water and made a terrific splash—but no photo-plays, in the sense that they are known today. In this year of grace there are 20,000 theaters in the United States which show nothing but motion pictures. They include some of the largest and best-known theaters in the country. A theater with a seating capacity of thousands has been erected in the heart of New York city to cater to nobody but "movie" patrons.

The daily attendance at motion picture theaters in the United States ranges from seven to twelve million persons. In 1914 the public in this country paid into the box offices of moving picture theaters over three hundred millions of dollars. Business organizations capitalized in the millions have come into being for the sole purpose of catering to this new industry. Whole towns are given up to making of pictures. The biggest actors do not sneer at the steady jobs and high salaries that the picture companies can afford to pay. Authors and dramatists of international repute are writing scenarios for the films. A new profession—that of "film-director"—has come into existence, and at least one of the geniuses in its receives something like \$100,000 a year. Producers stand ready to spend thousands of dollars to make a single picture. In fact, the most recent great film drama probably cost considerably more than \$150,000—(\$250,000 is the advertised figure)—and people are paying as much as \$2 a seat to see it, and buying their tickets days and even weeks ahead.

One extremely pretty and graceful young woman who was not earning \$25 a week two or three years ago has become such a "movie" favorite that the company for which she works recently signed a contract with her at one hundred times that figure. In reading these brief comments on a big industry, it is worth remembering that there was no such industry at all a generation ago. Who says there are no opportunities for original ideas any more—that all the chances to invent new ideas and make them pay were in "the good old times?"

DEFENSE AND THE DEFICIT.

The administration announces that it intends to lay before congress "an adequate program" of national defense. This will cost money. The treasury deficit at the end of the fiscal year—June 30—was around \$40,000,000. The deficit for the single month of July in the current fiscal year is close to half that sum. On the first of May, 1915, sugar goes upon the free list—which will entail a loss of revenue amounting to more than \$10,-

000,000. On the thirty-first of December, 1915, the so-called "war taxes" will expire by limitation, entailing a decrease of many more millions in revenue. Therefore it is plainly to be seen that, whether we provide for national defense or not, increased revenue must be had. The democratic leaders are considering this question. They plan to put a tax on tea, on coffee, on bananas, and on several other articles of common consumption. In other words they intend to tax every man's table. When the democrats took over the government they found a full treasury and ample revenues. They found, too, a steady program of naval construction and other items of national defense. In two short years they have emptied the treasury, have diminished the revenues, have crippled the navy and the army; until now, when the question of defense looms up they can deal with it only after they have dealt with a deficit. The real way to handle both questions, defense and the deficit, is to restore the republican party to power.

HUERTA'S COMPLAINT.

General Huerta complains that he is being guarded too closely and intimates he has been misled in believing this to be a land of personal liberty. The other day Huerta requested permission to visit his family in El Paso, which was granted by the federal authorities, who evidently are inclined to make things as pleasant and agreeable as possible for Huerta while he is retained in custody. To guard against any disagreeable incident, however, two agents of the department of justice went through the Huerta home to make sure it sheltered none but members of the family; and other agents remained on guard during the family conference.

Such treatment appears to have considerably incensed the erstwhile dictator of Mexico, who immediately prepared and dispatched a bitter protest to Chief Justice White of the federal supreme court, adding a request for "guarantees of justice" to himself and family. "My home has been violated by agents of American justice without scruple," declared the message, "and I want to know if my family can live in the United States with the guarantee which the law grants to everybody?"

The annoyance of the doughty old Mexican leader evidently falls in the category of cases where the shoe is said to "pinch" when placed on the other foot. There was a time when Huerta signally failed in his respect for American law and justice, and when he little thought he would ever be placed in a position of appealing to American authorities for personal privileges or even fair treatment. The tables have since been turned, and today Huerta is ready to seek the protection of the laws of the country he once scorned. It would seem, moreover, that he wants just a little bit more than the law allows or the authorities feel they reasonably can permit. For while the authorities are inclined to treat Huerta with the greatest consideration, prudence compels them to take no chances—hence the guardianship which so exasperates the former dictator.

There is no especial animosity toward Huerta in this country, and even the authorities have no disposition to humiliate him or treat him with harshness. He is charged with conspiracy to violate the neutrality of this nation, but all that is actually required of him is that he shall stay away from Mexico and behave himself until the troubles in that country have been straightened out. As for his complaint that American liberty is an empty boast, he should remember that it is only his abuse of this liberty that got him into his present trouble. And it is simply to make sure he will not further abuse this country's hospitality that he is kept under a friendly espionage.

THE BRITISH EMBARGO.

Next to the settlement of the dispute between this nation and Germany over the use of submarines, interest in this country centers on what course of procedure will be adopted by the Washington administration to induce Great Britain to modify its present policy of interference with commerce between neutral ports. England has already filed with this government a note defending her course in carrying out the so-called orders in council, and has given notice that she will file a supplemental statement further elucidating her contention. Until this communication is complete it is anticipated the Washington administration will withhold its note of renewed protest against interference with neutral commerce. But there is a widespread feeling that England's offense in this respect is secondary only to that of the Germans in their submarine operations, and when the issue is joined between this country and Britain it may develop a situation almost as critical as the one precipitated by the sinking of the Lusitania.

There are some Americans who believe that if Great Britain does not lift the embargo against cotton going to Germany this country should lay an embargo against foodstuffs and war munitions going to Great Britain. This would, they believe, speedily alter the situation, and in this opinion they are undoubtedly correct. Whether it would alter it for the better or for the worse is the question to be considered. It must be remembered that in all wars it is the right of a fighting nation to declare contraband such articles as it believes will assist its opponent. It is also its right to stop the shipments of such articles as it has declared contraband, by all means in its power—it being always understood that the principles of international law existing at the open-

ing of the conflict are to be observed. Moreover, it must not be forgotten that economic conditions are constantly changing, and that an article which may not have been contraband twelve months ago may be declared contraband tomorrow. Gasoline is contraband today, but had not the automobile proved so effective and necessary a part of national military equipment gasoline would never have been listed.

A neutral nation is not violating neutrality if its citizens, as individuals ship contraband, but those citizens must act on their own responsibility and without the knowledge and consent of their government. Moreover they must always make their shipments at their own risk. If their cargo is captured, and their government protests against the seizure of the contraband cargo, it thereby becomes party to the shipment and violates neutrality. It is not bound to prevent the shipments, but it is bound not to protect them.

Great Britain is at war with Germany. If, therefore, the United States should lay an embargo on food stuffs going to Great Britain it would be taking sides with Germany, and violating its neutrality with Great Britain. It would be impossible for the United States to lay an embargo on any commodity now being shipped to any of the warring nations without becoming a party to the war.

The United States has the right, however, to insist strongly that her shipments to all neutral ports be not delayed by Great Britain or by any other party to the war. A shipment from a neutral port to a neutral port is no affair of a belligerent unless it is satisfied that the shipment may reach its enemy from the port at which it is discharged. If it does so, its procedure lies against the neutral nation controlling the port, and not against the neutral nation from which the shipment was made.

If Great Britain holds up our shipments to Rotterdam, or Copenhagen, or Lisbon it is our duty to tell her to mend her ways, and to see that she does so. She has no more right to stop our commerce on the high seas than has Germany to kill American citizens on the high seas. However, while the principles governing neutrality are apparently simple, their application and maintenance seem to be extremely difficult.

Mr. Bryan says that he does not deal with subjects until they are capable of solution. That is why he delayed the slaughter of Champ Clark in the Baltimore convention; and that, too, signifies his delay in going after Mr. Wilson. He is waiting for Wilson to get thoroughly ripe before picking him.

David S. Rose, several times mayor of wet Milwaukee, Wisconsin, says he supported Mr. Bryan in three presidential campaigns, but has stood it as long as he can. For when Mr. Bryan came out for nation-wide prohibition, this was the last straw, and now Dave and "the shade of Thomas Jefferson" are weeping in unison over this horrible state of affairs.

Munitions are not the only things that are being shipped from this country to Europe on account of the war. During the past year we have sent nearly \$26,000,000 worth of drugs and surgical supplies, this being more than double the amount exported during the preceding year.

New York financiers have taken care of \$40,000,000 in notes issued by the dominion of Canada. Uncle Sam is fast becoming the world's banker, even though he is not financing any of the actual war loans.

An Oregon boy has beat the girls in a domestic science contest. Good! If the girls are to invade our lines, let us retaliate and invade theirs.

The war has not yet reached a point, however, where it may be said there are any visible betting odds in favor of either side.

Stock Must Be Kept Up.

During the past few months the district attorney's office has received many inquiries concerning the stock laws, and for the information of these and other placards will be posted in various places throughout the county by the sheriff showing that it is unlawful for any owner of stock of any kind to permit such stock to run at large. Section 5575 of the Oregon laws provides that any person violating provisions of the act shall be fined in a sum not exceeding \$10 for the first offense and \$20 for each subsequent offense.

Ford Prices Are Lower.

The Ford automobile agency has announced its prices for the season of 1915-16. For the runabout, the factory price will be \$290, equal to a delivered price here of \$445. The touring car is announced for \$440, which, with freight added, will bring the Dallas price to \$485. Last season a rebate of \$50 was offered, provided the sales exceed 300,000. This year, with the reduced price, there will be no offer of a conditional rebate. The style of the cars has not been changed.

No Meeting Saturday.

Because farmers and orchardists are now busy with their summer work there will be no meeting of the Polk County Fruit Growers' association tomorrow. The association meets the first Saturday of each month. There is no important business to come up for discussion at this time, and hence a meeting is not deemed necessary.

Change of Date.

The date for holding a session of the fair board, called for August 12, has been changed to Saturday, August 14. At this time arrangements will be made for attractions at the county fair this fall.

RABID RUDOLPH SAYS—

CAST YOUR
BREAD ON THE
WATERS BUT
BUTTER'S
TOO HIGH!



ANY ALIENIST WILL
TESTIFY THAT THE
GIANTS ARE BADLY
CRIPPLED—

FURTHER TIME GRANTED.

Assessments Due Horticultural Fire Relief Extended to September 1.

Judge Galloway of the circuit court of Marion county, granted an extension of time from August 1 to September 1 in which the assessments due from policy holders of the defunct Horticultural Fire Relief of Oregon might be paid. This extension was granted at the request of Claude McCulloch and Oswald West, attorneys of Portland, who represent a committee of the policy holders from Portland. The policy holders committee consists of J. C. Lukel, C. L. McKenna and Louisa Blair. It is stated that they propose to investigate the records of the company with a view of taking actions of the directors of the company whom they claim assumed obligations not justified by their assets.

The policy holders' committee also claims that there is a possibility of there being an earned premium due and time is given to investigate these rumors by the 30 day extension granted by Judge Galloway. By this order the policy holders are not declared in default if they have not paid their assessments which were due August 1. Insurance Commissioner Wells has assets on hand which would net the creditors of the company about 37 cents on the dollar at present but with the present litigation pending there is no possibility of such action being taken.

"In addition to the cash on hand," said Mr. Wells, "I have collateral in the form of mortgages drawing 7 per cent interest amounting to \$3,917. With the interest due therefrom, it would total about \$4,191. There is also real estate at a conservative estimated value of \$2,500, making in all \$6,691. With this collateral and real estate I could pay about 15 cents more on the dollar to the policy holders. Therefore I have in sight about 37 cents on the dollar."

"However, as there are over 3,000 policy holders who have not yet paid their assessments, amounting to in the neighborhood of \$15,000, I should realize, if these assessments are all paid in, at least 75 cents on the dollar. As long as the policy holders do not pay their assessments I cannot offer encouragement for more than as stated above."—Capital Journal.

WINS MEDAL FOR MINERALS.

Exhibit Was Placed So Late That It Almost Failed.

Oregon's exhibits at the Panama-Pacific exposition continue to win prizes. This time it is the much coveted gold medal for the best collective exhibit of mineral resources, six silver medals for individual exhibits and four bronze medals. Considering the fact that Oregon provided a fund of but \$10,000 for this work, that as a matter of necessity the exhibit was installed so late that the original jury of awards had finished its work, and that no winnings were anticipated, this capture of the grand prize comes almost in the nature of a miracle. However, when the exhibit had been set up in anything but its perfection of today, the exposition people were asked if they could not do something. It being urged that the awards had not been announced, the officials agreed that they would send a sub-committee over to the mining building and size up the situation. This committee found such a complete and altogether satisfactory collective exhibit that in all fairness they could not ignore it, and in the final test Oregon won the big prize. That more individual prizes were not landed was due wholly to the lack of time for satisfactory preparation.

Peculiar Snake Killed.

While fishing on the La Creole river last Tuesday Elmer McKenny, Phillip Wilson and Roy Wiles of this city encountered and killed a snake, the like of which has never before been seen in these parts, according to the snake editor of The Observer. While the reptile has somewhat the appearance of a garter snake, its head is quite different and it has no stripe down the back. The "prize" was brought into town from the Halleck place and exhibited, but no one versed in snakeology seemed to be familiar with that breed.

Dies While Enjoying Sport.

While at the baseball game at that place Sunday afternoon, Adolph Nichols, for twenty years employed at the Salem Water works, fell from the bleachers, following a paralytic stroke and died Monday at the home of his aged mother, Mrs. Rachel E. Nichols. He was about 45 years old, unmarried, and made his home with his mother.

BULLETIN

ONE CENT A WORD, 'PHONE 19.
Observer want ads, do the biz.



The charge for advertisements under this head is one cent per word for each insertion. No discount for successive issues. If you have anything for sale or exchange; if you want to rent or lease a house or business building; if you want help or a job of work; if you have lost or found anything; if you want publicity of any kind, try this column. You are sure to get results—others do, why not you. Telephone your "want ad." or address all communications to The Observer, Dallas, Oregon. Count the number of words to remit with order. Telephone No. 19.

FOR SALE—Practically new 3 1/2 in. wide tire, Studebaker wagon; a bargain. J. D. Smith, Jr. Phone 1204. 227 Jefferson street, Dallas 35-tf

FOR SALE—Good sound team of work horses, seven and eight years old. Also harness, wagon, plow and harrow. 718 Shelton street, Dallas. 40-3t.

ABSOLUTELY FREE—We will furnish modern bungalow plans, according to your own idea, prepared by one of the foremost architects on the coast, free to all who purchase material at our mill. Come and let us talk it over. Dallas Planing Mill, Dallas, Oregon.

TO EXCHANGE—Five passenger Carter automobile in good condition, run only 7,000 miles, to trade for one or two milch cows and young stock. Car cost new \$1,500. Apply to this office. 37-tf.

WANTED—Machine, cast and stove plate iron, brass and copper, zinc and rubber, and rags of all kinds; in fact, junk of all kinds. A. N. Halleck, Monmouth, Oregon. 8-tf.

WANTED—Your lame horses to shoe. Williams, the horseshoer, Monmouth, Oregon. 8-tf.

WANTED—Carpet cleaning and window washing, both business and residence. Milo V. Woods, phone 1173 or 1092. 11-tf.

FOR SALE—Quick meal oil stove and oven, cheap. 124 Court street. 20-tx

FOR SALE—12 head good milk cows. Mrs. D. O. Bronson, Dallas. Phone 442, or White 52. Aug. 1-Sept. 1

FOR SALE—Ten acres of land, half cleared and half in oak timber; two miles east of Dallas, inquire of Andrew Heeb, Dallas, Oregon. 42-2t

FOR SALE OR RENT—Five acres of land, all under cultivation with new buildings, five miles north of Dallas, R. 1. Cow, heifer, horse and buggy for sale cheap. Wm. Riehl, Dallas. 42-2tx

WANTED—Position as cook or housekeeper on a ranch. Have one child ten years old. Address C. Noble, Medford, Oregon. 42-2t.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Five acres, well improved, inside limits of Falls City. Will trade for dairy stock or other suitable property. Apply to E. A. Sayre, Falls City, Oregon. 44-2t.

FOR RENT—450 acre farm, 275 acres cultivated, 50 acres bearing prune orchard, 20 acres clover, 7 room house, prune dryer, other buildings, running water, 7 miles from Salem. Long term lease for right party with enough horses and help to handle large farm. E. K. Riasackl, Dallas, Oregon. 42-tf.

FOR SALE—Second-hand grain sacks. Phone 19x15. Ewing Bros. 42-3tx

FOR SALE—Or trade for Dallas property, 25-acre ranch, with improvements, fine spring. Same rock on land as Portland Cement Co.'s holding. Phone Black 555. 42-4tx

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