

The Observer.

Moro City Official Paper.
OFFICIAL PAPER OF SHERMAN COUNTY
MORO, OREGON.

D. C. IRELAND & SON, Editors
C. L. IRELAND, Manager.

Send for advertising rates.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1907

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"I feel as young today as when I was twenty," declares Ella Wheeler Wilcox. What's the name of the tonic, Ella?

Boss Abe Ruef, of San Francisco, it is said, never drinks. The business he was in doubtless required a clear head.

A poet who recently died left an estate valued at nearly \$200,000. He must have inherited it from a rich uncle.

Illinois may dig the ship canal between Chicago and St. Louis, if Uncle Sam will dig up the money to pay for it.

Science has christened the green wheat bug toxoptera granivora, and the shooting bug will hereafter be classified as the dementia Americana.

A Yale professor has been lecturing on The Siff Kiss in Ancient India. This form of salute is little known in the world, and it sounds as if it might not be free from microbes.

In the city of Dalny, turned over by the Russians who built it, to Japan, a census shows a population of 22,000, all Japanese or Chinese, except 23. The open door is not working there practically to any extent.

Instead of burning so much midnight electricity in his efforts to make graphophones cheaper Wizard Edison could enhance his fame by inventing another attachment that would render the price prohibitive.

Russia declines to agree to the proposal of an American syndicate to build a tunnel under Bering strait, so as to give a continuous land passage from America to Asia and Europe. This measure can wait until freight congestion at home is relieved.

Chancellor Day of Syracuse university, addressing the New York M. E. conference, urged that college presidents of the country get together on some plan of excluding all students who are known to use intoxicating liquors or tobacco, or to indulge in vices. He said he would not mention names, but that they all knew of the depraved conditions and the scenes of debauchery in many of our universities. He, for one, believed that the first responsibility was not to fulfill the scholastic requirements, but was to attend to the morals of the students. He would have it so that no immoral student could matriculate, and that if he became immoral after entering college he should be dismissed. He told how in his own university students were made to feel that they signed their own dismissal when they entered a place of evil resort. He believes that one of the best ways of elevating the moral tone of college men is by introducing education, and says that in practice the influence of women students, who refuse to associate with men known to be intemperate or immoral, is found to have the very best results.

DesCHUTES A WORLD BREAKER

"It is not gold, silver, copper, nor diamonds; that will make the great fortunes of the future. It is the hidden power in the air, the water and the sunshine, which will build up the wealth of the next few centuries." This statement was made not long ago by a mining engineer of world wide reputation. The value of water power, wind power and sun power, as commercial factors, is indeed just beginning to be realized. It is estimated that throughout the world about 20,000,000 electrical horse power is generated daily now from waterfalls and streams. More than one quarter of this great horse power is generated in the United States, with Canada a good second, and Switzerland 3d. At the lowest estimate it would require 25,000,000 tons of coal to generate 2,000,000 horse power continuously by the ordinary steam engine, and allowing \$5 a ton for the cost of the coal this would represent a saving of \$125,000,000 on 2,000,000 horse power.

The DesChutes is one of the leading streams of the world for power, and so very few there are who see it daily that appreciate its worth, we are pleased to extend praise of it, for the value of a stream for power purposes depends upon the sum of water flowing and also upon its head; both of which are perfect in DesChutes river, with the additional great advantage of never overflowing its banks, but once in 100 years. Its one cubic foot of water a second may equal in energy the total stored energy of many million tons of coal. The railroad now in course of construction along its west bank to Central Oregon from the Columbia river, will require no fuel account in its operating expenses.

Prof. A. H. Perry, the venerable scientist, explorer and inventor, of St. Louis, has recently secured a patent on a mechanical device for operating an electrical dynamo by water power furnished by a running stream of water by which he can, as a ridiculously small cost harness the wasted energy of any flowing stream in the world and force it to do the work of manufacturers and turn the wheels of commerce so cheaply that coal will cease to be a necessity for that purpose.

His most recent invention, and one that is attracting the most attention is a device for raising water by hydro-pneumatic pump, so named from the fact that the pumping is done by forcing air into the water under high pressure. The principle is entirely new and original, and is based upon the well known scientific fact that every particle of atmosphere is equally electrified. By the introduction of a device in the form of a nozzle, through which he forces a stream of compressed air into a standpipe at the bottom the air becomes highly charged with electricity, expanding enormously, and rushes upward through the standpipe, lifting the water with it and converting it into a big spouting geyser, from which it may be piped any distance rated to the power. The new hydro pneumatic pump has been clearly tested, and is pronounced by mechanists who have investigated it, to be thoroughly practical. It is just the thing with which to settle the water and light and power question forever in the upland cities of Sherman county.

The sun looks brighter and cheerier in the early morning. That is one of nature's ways of getting even with the lazy man.

Many legislators in Missouri go softly on the subject of taxing dogs, and they are usually the same who tinker at a game law and put in profits nothing but reckless pot-hunters and illicit dealers.

Robert E. Peary, the Arctic explorer, has applied to the navy department for a leave of absence of two years to enable him to make another dash for the north pole. He is said to have raised the \$200,000 needed to equip the expedition and intends to start in the summer of 1908. During his 26 years connection with the navy, Mr. Peary has been absent on leave over 13 years.

Spokane, as a city, might become the most energetic one in the entire scope of the Pacific Northwest by use of common sense in its daily affairs. But no. Look into whose hands she has entrusted her municipal affairs; and what should be expected to follow her fight against the railroads, especially Mr. Hill's project. Geographically Spokane is no better situated than Pasco for control of interior business, and its enormous water power can't figure in these days of modern transmitting of power.

Some New Legal Complications

Fads are becoming so numerous, and on the whole so general, that criminals, by the generous assistance of scientists and lawyers, have stereotyped fads. It is no uncommon nor untried fad among thieves to plead "paranoia" as an excuse for their crimes, and among greater scoundrels to play the dementia Americana, that the ends of justice may be defeated. If judges and officials confirm these fads by judicial processes through and by which the paranoia victim may be consigned to a paranoimania institution, with steel bars and heavy padlocks, and the dementia Americana criminal idiot to celled asylums, perhaps these afflictions may in a measure be checked before the disease becomes endemic. It is not so yet, having thus far been confined only to Spokane, Tacoma and Pittsburg, and we suggest that Americana be dropped and Spokaneacomaniapittsburghanna be substituted. The new name would be no longer than the new name affixed to the green bug that killed the wheat in Oklahoma, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska last month. Besides, alienists, expertists, scientists, and \$100,000 lawyers dote on big, long winded names.

Simple Remedy for Meningitis.

Baffling as spinal meningitis is to the medical profession in efforts to discover some effective treatment for the fatal malady, there are cases on record of the disease being cured by the most simple methods. In 1898, at Dyea, Alaska, when men were dying during the gold rush to Klondike, an effective cure was brought about by the use of turpentine. One of the nurses at the camp at the foot of the pass took a case in hand after the doctors had left a man to die. The patient's spine was bathed in turpentine, rubbed in very thoroughly, then a hot bran poultice, saturated with turpentine, was made, and the spine was packed in this, especially at the base of the brain. The man was doubled up with the affliction, but inside of a few hours he was on the road to recovery. Two days later he was up and around and the next day was doing his regular work. This constituted all of the treatment given him.

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Dangers from the Common Fly.

The Pullman college class in bacteriology have been preparing for the fly-season by conducting experiments which show, in a readily understandable manner how flies are agents in carrying bacterial germs from place to place. A fly was set upon a plate containing bacteria and allowed to walk over the plate, after which it was removed to another plate that contained a nutritive substance, upon which the bacteria would thrive. The plate was then set aside and in a few days light colored spots appeared, which soon grew until the entire course of the fly could be traced across the plate. This experiment is not entirely original, having been performed by prominent bacteriologists throughout the country. It serves, however to emphasize the fact that great care should be taken to prevent flies from coming into homes, hotels, restaurants, etc., because of the danger of contagion in food that might result.

Farewell to the Broom.

Womans Home Companion.

Problems of the housekeeper are receiving from the architects of houses something of the attention they have long claimed in vain. The solution of the sweeping problem is a case in point. In one of the newest apartment houses there is not a broom to be found from cellar to garret, or rather from the third sub cellar to the air cleaning chamber on the roof. Every suite throughout the building is equipped with a vacuum cleaning apparatus. There is a pipe connected with the vacuum chamber in the basement, in every suite, while a flexible hose, long enough to reach to the farthest corner of every room is supplied, which may be readily attached to a nozzle in this piping, just as you would connect a garden hose. The vacuum is controlled by a spiggott. It is only necessary to pass the nozzle of this vacuum hose over the carpet, rug or drapery, and every particle of dust is instantly drawn up into the hose. The dirt collected in this, way quickly passes through the hose into the pipe, and thence perhaps a matter of a dozen stories, to a chamber in a sub cellar, where an attendant shovels it up and carries it away. The nozzle which picks up the dust allows no particle to escape, so that in all this sweeping there is literally no dust. It removes more dust than the most persistent and vigorous broom. The entire operation might be carried on with the sweeper in evening dress, so far at least, as cleanliness is concerned. The work of hours is reduced to minutes.

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