

The Observer.

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D. C. IRELAND, Editor. C. L. IRELAND, Manager. FRIDAY, JAN. 21, 1910

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Sand for advertising rates.

American philanthropists last year gave \$120,250,000.

Henry "hunts" don't go, in the factorial of Hon Binger Hermann.

Pinchot is out, but Pinchotism continues to do business at the old stand.

Roosevelt is said to have discovered a new animal in Africa. Is this a discovery to tell to the Danes?

One admirable thing about Lt. Shackleton's exploring trips is that nobody criticizes his conduct, or doubts his statements.

Again the experts say there is a limit to railway and steamship speed. But they prudently omit to fix it—for the reason that new records are a feature of the present era.

Once again it is officially stated that the Panama canal will be open January 1, 1915. Then watch the railway interests fall over one and another in their efforts to unload on Uncle Sam.

The population of this little ball called mother earth is estimated at 1,650,000,000. It would be a good idea for the man who thinks he is the whole world to paste these figures in his hat.

Navy officers report the presence of the hook worm in Samoa; that from 40 to 60 percent of the natives are infected. Five white men and several half breeds were found in advanced stages of the disease.

Within 1910 it is possible that scientists may be able to tell what wages are paid to workmen on the Martian canals, the kind of machinery they use, and whether or not they have any insurgents up there.

Kansas is interested in subterranean explosions in one of its counties. It would be just like the Kansas farmers to harness this phenomenon in time for their spring plowing. That's the Kansas way of doing things.

American people still own (for a short time) 731,000,000 acres of public lands, exclusive of 368,000,000 acres in Alaska. Every citizen can claim an equal share and if wise may say: Let the conservation work proceed.

The silly letters written by rich New York women show that no woman is justified in demanding damages for a breach of promise made by one of the parvenues; on the contrary she ought to be thankful that she escaped.

Russia has nearly completed a new 1,700-mile railway in Siberia which is intended to arrest the progress of Japan in Manchuria. If the old trouble should break out again Russia will be apt to avoid a trial of conclusions on the water.

According to an eastern market report the cranberry crop is the only one that has not been cornered or manipulated in the interest of high prices. There is relief in sight for those who can be satisfied with cranberries—the nicest of the table sauces when properly appreciated.

It seems that the distinguished servants of the Smithsonian Institute, hunting in Africa under pay of Uncle Sam, have failed to secure the giant hog expected. With hogs at the present record-breaking price the disappointment must be stunning.

EAST and SOUTH BUY our WHEAT

Not since 1894 has the movement of wheat eastward from Inland Empire points by rail been so great as this year. In ordinary years the rail movement of wheat has been in the neighborhood of 300,000 bushels from this locality, going principally to cereal mills, which find the hard wheat of the middle west unsuitable for exclusive use in the manufacture of breakfast foods. This year our Pacific New West has been called on by millers far east and south, Louisville, Ky., alone taking several hundred thousand bushels, and Atlanta, Ga., is also a heavy buyer. An unusual eastward movement is noted in flour also, large shipments having been sent from Portland as far east as Boston. It is estimated that rail shipments east this year of wheat have been in the neighborhood of 1,250,000 bushels, and that flour, equivalent to 500,000 bushels of wheat also, have gone east. Eastern flouring mills are buying red wheat from the New West for blending with their own No. 2 Red.

Mr. Pinchot probably knows pretty well what he is talking about and that is not the case with some of his mischievous detractors. He is not a mere theorist, nor an idle dreamer, but is a very practical, far sighted man. Whether he has been wise, and exactly right in every particular, is not the main question. His general idea and policy in respect of conservation and resources is right, and congress will omit a great and imperative duty if it does not adopt his recommendations in the main, and pursue his policies. Sane republicans see in the controversy that has arisen through the Ballinger unpleasantness, no peril for the party. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that republican supremacy will be endangered, no matter how the congressional inquiry into that dispute may result. The republican party was here before these disputants appeared on the scene. The party is greater and better than any of its present members, and will be here after all of them pass away.

The winter short courses opened at the Agricultural College January 4, with the largest and most representative body of students ever in attendance. There are men and women ranging in age from 16 to 65 years and representing almost every walk in life. Side by side with the girls and boys from the ninth and tenth grades of the public schools of the state are graduates of Brown, Yale, Lake Forest and many other universities and colleges. There are farmers and fruit growers who own or manage farms ranging from five to 2,500 acres. There are teachers and housewives, stock-dairymen, horticulturists, businessmen and capitalists. This representative attendance speaks well for the future of agriculture in Oregon.

A crook who for years had led the life of a swindler and thief recently gave himself up to the authorities, giving as his reason that "the game was a losing one." He is not the first man who has discovered that, and probably will not be the last one. Yet how true his statement is. Apart from all moral questions and the unrest of conscience, dishonesty in the long run does not financially pay. Occasionally a dishonest man prospers, or seems to, but those very few exceptions serve to make the rule more prominent. To make a clever thief, brains and ingenuity are needed, and if those qualities were but used in right ways how much better off the man would be, financially and in other ways. But there will always be people who will not be convinced of this until they have learned by bitter experience.

A trunk railway in Alaska is asking congress for a government subsidy. As all Pacific railways have proven that they can and do pay their own way and declare big dividends, the proposed aid does not appear to be indispensable.

The number of fights reported between lawyers in open court because of insults, real or imagined, moves one to wonder how lawyers would appear on the witness stand under what is termed a grilling cross-examination.

Congressman Lord has introduced a bill to provide the necessary means for raising the battle ship Maine. King Alfonso will be glad to get this thorn out of his side.

General News and Notes.

So LaFollette has been raising a \$250,000 campaign fund. Reformer LaFollette, mind you. Society will have to stop this whiskey business. Edison says: "It is like throwing sand in the bearings of a steam engine."

The Illinois school ma'am who returned a borrowed watch after a lapse of fifty years must have been "winding up" her earthly affairs.

A Walla Walla paper publishes a long article to show that skunk raising pays. We've always heard it was a good way to pick up a few odd scents.

One of the joys of the political campaign in England, it is said, is the opportunity it gives to the meek and lowly viter to yell "Rats!" at peers of the realm.

Among the many problems which await solution in the future, one of the most important is to get the full value out of fuel. The wastefulness of our present methods of combustion is tremendous.

Championing woman suffrage and the acts of the suffragettes, Mrs T P O'Connor says "it is better to be a vulgar and successful woman than an unsuccessful lady." But wouldn't it be awful if the suffragettes turned out to be vulgar and unsuccessful women.

The mohair mill at Sellwood is a new institution that if successful will be of considerable importance to the New West. Oregon raises a large, and yearly increasing, quantity of mohair, and the industry should be encouraged and stimulated. May the Oregon goat and the Oregon mohair mill flourish together.

Representative Hitchcock of Nebraska, filed a sensational affidavit with the house committee on expenditures Saturday, alleging that Secretary Ballinger and others were guilty of improper use of public money to defray private traveling expenses of a nephew of the secretary. Hitchcock is a democrat and it was he who made the fiery speech in the house that in part precipitated the present crisis in the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy.

Farmers in twenty-five counties of North Missouri, acting under instructions from the state game and fish commissioners, are feeding the quail. Thousands of the birds have died since the cold spell. Millet hay and cane seed are scattered where the birds are, and will be kept up as long as necessary. This is the first instance in the history of the state when the game was fed. The expense of feeding will be paid from the state game protection fund.

Declaring that in another generation his lands, if left to heirs, would become the property of moneyed interests, George M Jackson, an elderly capitalist, today repeated his offer to take 4,000 acres of rich Arkansas lands from his heirs and give them to the people. Jackson's offer is contingent on the readiness of other landowners to do likewise. J Nolan Harvey, a socialist lecturer, has offered to add his Oklahoma ranch to Jackson's free distribution district. Explaining the motives of his offer, Jackson said there must be a redistribution of the lands of the country to effectively check the present battle between capital and the people. He declares he was old and not likely to live long, and that he feared that if he left the land to his nine heirs the moneyed interests would gobble it up within another generation. Jackson lives at Piggott, Ark., and is 75 years of age. His novel offer was made before 250 unemployed men in St. Louis, Mo., last Saturday.

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Saved at Death's Door. The door of death seemed ready to open for M W Ayers, of Train Bridge, N. Y., when his life was wonderfully saved. "I was in a dreadful condition," he writes, "my skin was almost yellow; eyes sunken; tongue coated; emanating from my mouth a stinking odor. I was unable to get up. My doctor pulled me down to death. My wife called in the Scandinavian countries Frigga was called the 'Queen of the North,' and the sixth day of the week was consecrated to her worship.

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