

The Observer.

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

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C. L. IRELAND, Manager.
FRIDAY, JAN. 28, 1910

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North Yakima has a bantam hen 22 years old. When it sees how wonderfully the town has grown in that time it ought to be ashamed of its littleness.

The annual meeting of the Ohio state league of republican clubs, which is to be held in Dayton on Lincoln's birthday, will be made the occasion for a big "harmony conference" in which party leaders of every shade of opinion will be asked to take part.

Any one who wishes to retain consciousness while the surgeons are removing his appendix, or his stomach, or patching up his broken vertebrae, is welcome to the new anesthetic. To most persons, having some imagination and some capacity for nervous excitement, the most valuable function of an anesthetic is to suspend consciousness during an operation and not to prevent pain, of which the surgeon's instruments may cause no more than the injury which necessitates the operation.

The assembly idea; the idea that dazed republicans permitted tricker democrats to crowd to the wall when they buncoed the Grand Old Party with their stink pots in Oregon, is again gaining popularity, and the idea now has a very hearty outlook. Why so many republicans allowed themselves to be humbugged in such manner, in full view of the fact that the democrats were then holding conventions and nominating candidates in nearly every precinct in the state, is one of the most mysterious political moves that has happened in a century of politics in this United States.

Capt Stanley is expecting a new book, "With Walker in Nicaragua," written by Gen J C Jamison, who, with Capt Stanley, was in active participation in the events of that memorable campaign. One thing Gen Jamison's book will do that is very much needed—it will correct scores of stupid blundering by amateur writers penciling history with black lead sketches at 50 much per—, as see the work of Richard Spillane (obscure), page 9 Spokesman-Review, Sunday November 21, 1909—a batch of inaccuracies actually criminal to historians. We hope that Gen Jamison's book may meet with ready sale for his personal welfare, and that the Historical Societies of the United States may adopt and recommend it, as history can only be based upon fact.

The epidemic makes great jumps, due probably to the migration of rats and fleas in merchandise. San Francisco is the only American city which has fortified itself against rats. In its present visitation the plague has been knocking for admittance at the seaports of South America, passing down the west coast and up the east, and our own eastern coast cities, are likely to find it ensconced in their flums at any moment. In the past year there have been nine or ten human cases of the plague just east of San Francisco bay, and the tendency of the disease is to spread south and east. The Bureau has recently found 300 infected squirrels. It is characteristic of the disease that for a number of years only a few cases develop and then, as if it had been gathering strength, it breaks into a great epidemic costing thousands of lives. Starting in 1334 it killed 25,000,000 people in Europe, or one-fourth the population. In Italy the mortality was one-half the population. It killed 150,000 people in Constantinople in 1803 and 110,000 more at the same place in 1815.

COMET "A" ON EXHIBITION.

The comet that was rapidly disappearing over the south west coast of this planet as we stepped into our home on Hood street Monday evening, was not the anticipated Halley, and nobody appears to be able to identify this eccentric stranger of the solar system, nor from whence it came nor whither it goeth. The observer at Flagstaff classifies it "Comet "A," of 1910." The Observer at Moro will leave that part of the subject to "scientists" to fight out amongst themselves.

This new comet was reported by Dr. Inness, of the observatory at Johannesburg, South Africa, Jan. 16th. His name was given to it at first, but as the same comet is said to have been observed in the Orange Free State prior to that date scientists prefer to call it Comet A. The stranger has excited keen interest among astronomers, who are making close observations, but it has not yet been determined whether the comet will ever again reappear. Analysis of photographic observations show that the new body differs greatly from comets in general. The usual comet spectrum consists of a very bright series of hydro-carbon bands, but the comet now visible shows very bright sodium lines. The striking orange color of the comet head, as observed in various parts of the world, is said to be due to the incandescent sodium vapor. Reports of this comet have been received from many points, and all agree in the main as to description of it.

Owing to the latitude and clear atmosphere it was plainly visible here Monday evening, the clearly defined tail giving its final flit at 6:30 as it sank beneath the horizon piercing the sky with a bright column akin to Jack Dalies cupola at the Moro foundry when taking off a heat. It will reappear every evening for several weeks, according to some scientists, and then may be visible during the hours of daylight.

President Taft believes that the gulf between the regulars and insurgents can be bridged as soon as the weather moderates.

Again it is said that the man higher up has been sighted in the sugar frauds. This elusive individual will get caught some day.

Mr. Taft has been declared to be descended from Mayflower forbears. The insurgents are less interested in May flowers than in plums.

In placing the blame for the high cost of living, one statesman is generous enough to divide it between the labor trust and the capital trust.

No mail going nor coming, for four days. It appears to us that in contempt of public rights. The common carrier or the p.o.d. should provide for emergencies such as this.

January dividends in stocks of nearly all the great corporations of the country have been reported as \$202,032,702, the largest on record, but if the present prosperous wave continues the next July dividends will be quite as large, if not larger.

Instead of long drawn out laws Oregon needs simpler, shorter, plainer procedure. The present outrageous system of law enactment is what has doubled the state taxes in Sherman county and then \$20,000 on top of that since the "conspiracy of irresponsible political anarchy," spoken of in a late circular from the National Capitol. They have muddled up, twisted up, tied up and trussed up Justice until her own mother wouldn't know her.

An attack was made before the interstate commerce commission last week upon the legality of the transportation by express companies of parcels or packages weighing 4 pounds or less. Nathan B Williams, a lawyer of Fayetteville, Ark., instituted a complaint against Wells, Fargo & Co., in which he asserted that the carriage of packages of 4 pounds or less by express companies between interstate points was unlawful because congress had committed the carriage of such packages to the mails and had made it unlawful for any private express to carry same. He declares also that the interstate commerce commission was without legal authority to make rates or to enforce tariffs concerning express transportation of such packages.

Oregon does not appear in the list of states having "companies controlled by the beef trust."

The men who have been fixing up the proposed uniform divorce law have found only seven legitimate causes for granting a divorce. A New York lawyer would be ashamed to go into court on a petition containing only seven counts.

Speaking of the postoffice deficit and the reform that is incidentally proposed, we are moved to remark that campaign literature ought to be made to pay its way; also that if government seeds are of any use to the people, they should be worth at least the price of postage.

It is in some quarters regarded as remarkable that the Missouri river has been found capable of improvement. Some of the people who have long denied this possibility might be found even more capable in improvement than the river, on as close analysis and inspection.

A news item tells about two car loads of Chesapeake seed oysters on the way out to Willapa for planting. That's a very small lot. Six years ago Jack Eitner brought out 13 car loads in one train and all they lived and propagated and that's why Jack can afford to travel in Europe, own municipal light and water plants, automobiles, etc.

Mr. Taft's advice to the insurgents to "get busy, and stop quarling," is good advice. It is the kind of counsel which the masses of republicans throughout the country would give; if they had the ear of congress. Apparently, too, this counsel finds the insurgents in a receptive mood. At the house caucus everything was peaceful. The program went through smoothly from beginning to end. A new Congressional Campaign Committee was chosen. This was the principal business of the caucus, and it was carried out without a clash.

After pending in the courts for nineteen years, the suit brought by the federal government to recover 160,975 acres of Indian land near North Yakima from the N P Ry Co has been decided against the corporation. The land is valued at more than \$2,000,000. The railroad claimed it under a congressional grant of 1887. The government contention was that it belonged to the Indians under a treaty made in 1869 by Governor Isaac Stevens. Judge E K Whitcomb held against the railway company which will take an appeal to the supreme court.

KEEP THE KIDNEYS WELL.

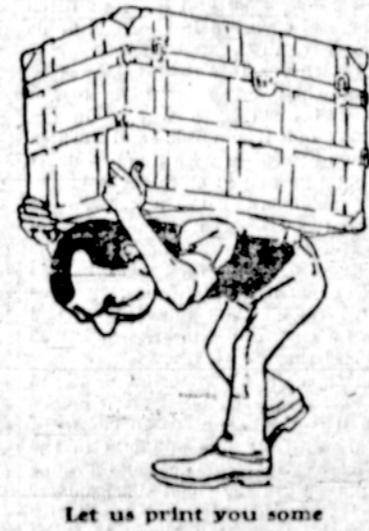
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A certain Irishman, though a bad jockey, was nevertheless very fond of horses. One day, riding through a street, he was accosted by a would be wit. "I say, do you know what happened to Balaam?" "Same as happened to me—an ass spoke to him," came the answer sharp and quick.

Saved at Death's Door.
The door of death seemed ready to open for M W Ayers, of Transit 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; emaciated from losing 40 lbs., growing weaker daily. "Virulent liver trouble pulled me down to death in spite of doctors. Then that marvelous medicine, Electric Bitters, cured me. I regained the 40 lbs. lost and now am well and strong." For the stomach, liver and kidney troubles they're supreme. 50c at Moro Pharmacy.

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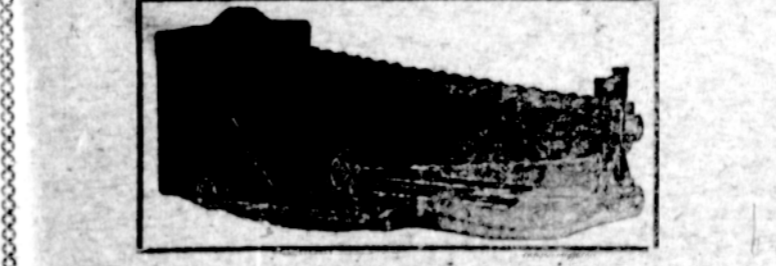
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