The Observer.

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MORO, OREGON.

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C. L. IRELAND .....Manager.

FRIDAY .....May 17, 1912

If you do not read The Observer, why not?

We would like to have you take it, and we know it would be profitable to you to become a subscriber. We send it two years for $2.50; one year $1.50; 12½ cts a month isn't much. Try it. Order by postal card, and pay for it when you can.

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Did it ever occur to you that it costs no more to produce printing that is pleasing to the eye than the other kind? The Observer is equipped with all the modern faclities for doing good work at the very minimum of cost. Try us with an order and if it is not executed to your perfect satisfaction you need not pay for it.

Send for advertising rates.

Americans in Mexico would rather get out than feel at home.

The Oregon City Commercial Club will float a scheme for Cascade county, cut off the mountain side of Clackamas.

Sometimes it happens that the politician for revenue only, who goes too strong on planks, gets his fingers full of splinters.

Those dredger spuds, wanted at Panama from an Oregon forest, are to be 36 inches, not six feet, in diameter, Mr Head Writer.

The Borah Jones homestead bill has been agreed upon in conference, but has not yet passed congress; if it should pass we will then announce its provisions.

Louis W Hill is succeeded by Carl R Gray as president of the Great Northern Ry. Joseph H Young is now president of the North Bank Ry Co.

One Missouri widow is reported to have 200 hens, 4 cows and 25 acres in early vegetables; if we should print her name and address she wouldn't be a widow long.

The supreme court decision that Alaska is not a district, but a territory, in the meaning of the language of the national law as to interstate commerce, tends to render its condition more anomalous.

A young widow in New York will get the income from $5,000,000 unless she remarries, in which case the amount will be reduced to $100,000. In an instance of this kind a great passion to save money awhile would be intelligible.

Secretary Knox repeats the statement that there will be no intervention in Mexico; at the same time all rights under international law will be maintained. The way for Mexico to keep out of trouble is to respect the comity of nations.

In the Mississippi flood thousands of farmers have not only been driven from home but have lost their business and means of subsistence; relief measures should be thoroughly considered, as well as prompt and liberal. The government is called on to provide for 150,000 destitute people.

It is inconsistent to charge that the postal department deficit is so great that newspapers are to be obliged to pay double former rates of postage, and then in the same breath ask for a parcels post law which will permit mail order houses to send any package up to 11 pounds for about 10 cents.

A splendid idea and it is up to the newspaper fraternity to act on the same and make it good. Arthur Brisbane suggests that the country editor is not sufficiently paid for his labors; the suggestion is true. He says the country newspaper man should have an annual profit of $6 on every copy of his paper in circulation, which is equally true.

Will Congress Grasp the Situation?

A Spanish steamship line has secured docking facilities at San Francisco, and at other Pacific ports, and intend to trade with California, Oregon and Washington via. the Panama canal. Germany and other lines have made similar preparations.

Of course we all welcome an increase of trade with the European continent, but every ton of it is going to be done in foreign ships. In no ship building yard in America is there a single steamship under construction for commercial service with a foreign country.

We are making a gift annually to foreign steamships of not less than $250,000,000 (probably nearer $300,000.000); we are handing over that amount regularly, where much of it ought to be going to American investors in American ships; money that should be kept at home. Our position on the ocean is pitiable in the extreme; practically we have no shipping engaged in foreign trade; a result of the utter failure of congress to grasp the situation.

The Panama canal holds out a hope; no, we will not say a hope, that is too strong an expression; let us rather say an opportunity: for building up a merchant marine for foreign traffic with the far east, Australia, and west coast of South America. Whether the opportunity shall be accepted depends entirely upon congress. Refund to American ships only, using the canal for foreign trade, the canal tolls, then Americans will begin to accumulate American ships. Tax American ships as foreign ships are taxed for the use of the canal and there will not be another American ship built. It is a simple act of discrimination: That is all.

The Grange and the Farmer's Union should handle this question, and do it now.

What the Primary Elections Cost.

According to the figures given out by the clerk of Baker county, the cost of each vote cast in that county at the recent primaries was 65 cents. This much for judges, clerks, deputies, and ballots. The men who carried the ballot boxes from outside precincts were paid 2,545 miles mileage, bringing the boxes to the court house for the final canvass.

May 4th was the last date on which a statement of campaign expenses should be filed in the office of the secretary of state, and the name of no candidate will appear on the official ballot unless this official statement is filed, as provided by the corrupt practice law; and there is a penalty provided for those who failed to be nominated and have not filed a statement of campaign expenses.

It cost President Taft $4,339 to run for preference (?) candidate in Oregon! If it cost him this much in every state he is now in over $250,000, and provided he gets it, he would just be starting on the campaign, which, at the same rate would make the cost over $500,000 to get the office the people want him to have. It is apparent from this statement that this alleged plan for the election of a poor man on equal footing with the rich, is a farce and a fraud, and a useless burden to the taxpayer.

Several clergymen have lately given vent to their indignation at Senator John Sharp Williams and to their surprise at the senate's failure to rebuke him. Senator Williams' offense consisted of reading aloud in the senate what the Washington correspondents called a parody of the Apostles creed. Senator Williams may be left to his own reflections. Wise after the event, he has had his offensive words stricken from the Record. This is not much, but it is better to be wise after the event than to be a fool all the time. The behavior of the senate has an interest which lasts a little longer. Why has no senator made the protest which the clergymen think elementary self-respect should have led the senate to make? Why was nothing said or done about Mr Williams.

Beef prices are again going skyward, and the men who used to explain it by the tariff on cattle hides are now all at sea as to details; but they continue attributing it to the tariff, on general principles.

A Short Talk on Alfalfa.

You perhaps have of late seen in the public press and have heard from the lecture platform, discussions in regard to the very unwise practice followed by many farmers in Eastern Oregon of continually growing wheat on the same land. The folly of this practice has been repeatedly pointed out but of more value than volumes of writing, or scores of speeches, is an inspection of the alfalfa plots at the Experiment Station Farm at Moro, at this time of the year.

Farmers who have visited other sections of the state where alfalfa is grown successfully in large areas have often remarked what a boon it would be to Sherman county if alfalfa could be grown on our upland soils without irrigation. If you will visit this station you will see just what you have been looking for these many years: Alfalfa growing; GROWING, mind you, on one of the dryest spots of that dry farm; and growing vigorously on soil less than 2½ feet to hard pan. Of course the station does not recommend the planting of alfalfa on 2½ foot soil, but the fact that a good stand of alfalfa can be obtained on such soil, augurs well for what might be done with this crop on deeper soil, for alfalfa, of all plants, is deep rooted and requires deep soil.

Wisely, the station is taking advantage of the success they are having with the small plots on shallow soil, and have planted this spring more than four acres in a more favorable location but still on upland soil.

It is not generally understood that there are many varieties of alfalfa, just as there are varieties of wheat. These varieties, too, differ in hardiness and in drought resistance, the same as varieties of grain do; trial is being made at the station of several different varieties to find out which of them are best for the climate and soil of Eastern Oregon.

Supt. Stevens thinks that alfalfa seed-growing can be made a profitable industry in Eastern Oregon, and part of the experimental work with that crop has in view the discovery of the best way to grow alfalfa seed successfully, as well as to get the best results when cut for hay. He explains that different methods must be employed in growing alfalfa for seed than when maximum yields of hay are desired. Alfalfa seed grown on dry land now sells on the market for 25 cents a pound and upward, and the demand is greater than is the supply. Undoubtedly alfalfa seed raised in Sherman county would be of the highest quality, and command the highest market price.

We hope the Moro Station will be successful in establishing a good forage crop on the dry lands of this part of our state for the crying need of our communities is more dairy cows, more hogs, more good horses. These, with other live stock and poultry, will do more towards 'paying off the mortgage' than 1,000 times the energy expended in trying to raise wheat on land that has been wheat cropped for a decade or more. Visit the Experiment Farm, take a lesson in this subject, which is a most intensely interesting one.

Dry Land Pasture.

A Philippi has 20 acres of dry land alfalfa, 12 acres of which is 4 years old, which has stood the dry weather in good shape and is now about 18 inches high. It is on the uplands along John Day river, where the soil blows so bad that it is impossible to grow wheat. Mr Philippi has used it for pasture continually and says it is worth $100 an acre to him.

China has just launched a war ship, and America has just burned one; the Chinese are wiser than we, for their ship is a junk already; whereas, it takes anywhere from 10 to 40 years for American war ships to become "junks." We spent $500,000 to build the Pensacola, and $1,500,000 to repair her, while the modern dreadnought wastes $10,000,000 at the start, and as much more during its life; then we are lucky if we get $10,000 for the junk in it.

You will look a good while before you find a better medicine for coughs and colds than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It not only gives relief—it cures. Try it when you have a cough or cold, and you are certain to be pleased with the prompt cure which it will effect. For sale by all dealers.

Fight it as You Would a Plague.

The Observer quite agrees with Mayor O J Goffin, that the fly pest should be fought as a plague is fought. If people desire to fortify themselves against contagious diseases, now is the time to do so. See that all filth and decaying material is removed and burned; insist that your neighbors do the same. Science has proven beyond any doubt that the common house fly is one of the greatest enemies of health.

The fly season is now near at hand; millions will invade the city; while we may not be able to exterminate him, we can no doubt limit their numbers by cleaning and destroying their breeding places. "Where there is a will there is a way."

Disease germs thrive in the filth of dark, damp places; sanitary surroundings must therefore be clean, well lighted and dry. Such surroundings tend not only to prevent the spread of disease but also aid greatly in recovery from disease when once contracted.

Lime is used for many purposes about premises; and it is the handiest and cheapest of all disinfectants; besides, it is very useful when applied as a white-wash for disinfecting and sweetening cellars, stables, barns, poultry houses, privies and other buildings. Lime wash should be kept from the air, or should be made up fresh before using. Air-slacked lime is of no value as a disinfectant.

Summer Lake Freaks.

Silver Lake Leader: Reports come to us of the peculiar doings of the well Jack Parkin was drilling on his place at Summer Lake. One is that the ground was caving in around the casing; another that the road where the engine stood had settled about two or three feet, and that both Mr Parkin and Hale got scared, one for fear of his ranch, the other for the safety of his machine, so they pulled up the casing and moved the outfit away. What is under Summer lake is beginning to be a serious question, every hole sunk shows something different from the others, the one on Mr Klippell's place being a strong artesian flow of good water, another discharges gas and now one which seems to intersect a crevice. Geologists tell us that Summer lake valley was at one time level with the rim rock and has sunk away. Is the sinking process commencing again? If so how fast and how long will it continue?

The Lilacs.

How lovely the lilacs lean,
How gracefully the lilacs nod
Above the vernal gold and green
Of the soft garden sod.

And how, adown the twilight tides
Their delicate perfume drifts and strays,
Poignantly recalling the ides
Of long evanished Mays.

O, lilacs droop; O, lilacs fling
Your attar as in other years;
From out the precious past you bring
The bitter sweet of tears.

Dates of Pacific Northwest Fairs.

Following is a schedule of some of the leading fairs and race meets in the Pacific Northwest during the coming season:

Oregon State Grange annual, at Roseburg May 16-17.

Northwest Developing congress Seattle, June 5th.

Rose Festival, Portland, June 9-15.

Elk's National Grand Lodge Reunion, Portland July 8-13.

National Irrigation Congress, Salt Lake city, July 22-23.

Vancouver, B. C. August 11-17.

Seattle, Wash. August 19-24.

Linn County Fair, Scio, Or. Aug. 28-30.

Portland, Or. August 26-31.

Salem, Or. State Fair, Sept. 2-7.

Pendleton Roundup, Pendleton, September 6-8.

Vancouver, Wash. Sept. 9-14.

Walla Walla, Wash. Sept. 16-21.

Wash. State Fair, N. Yakima, Sept. 23-28.

Interstate Fair, Spokane Sept. 30 Oct. 5.

The Dalles Fair October 2-5.

Sherman county Fair, Moro, October 10-12.

Boise, Ida. Intermountain Fair Oct. 7-12.

Northwestern produce exposition, Minneapolis, November 12.

14th and Washington Sts., Portland, Oregon.

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tf317-135] Monkland, Or

Harvester For Sale.

One 18-foot Holt combine in good condition, 30-horse equalizer hitch, cook house and wagon, stove, etc. Call on or address,
R W PINKERTON,
tf317-135] Moro, Or

Header for Sale.

1 12-foot McCormack header second hand. See
R. J. GINN,
310tf135] Moro, Or

Pleasant View Fruit Farm

For Sale—62 acres, 8 acres in orchard, ½ acre black berries, 5-room Bungalo, rock cellar, shop, barn, all new, 2 wells, windmill, plenty wood, six miles from town, 1 mile from school; $75 per acre. Will sell or trade for grain farm.
ERNEST F. SONTS,
2t310*] The Dalles, Or

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The Biggs Hotel has now opened a lunch counter and bakery where everything is good, at Portland prices.
GEO. ROBINSON,
tf.m1] Biggs, Or

Eggs For Hatching.

Full blood S C Rhode Island Red chickens, and Indian Runner ducks. Eggs for hatching, either breed $1.00 per setting. Special price on incubator lots.
GEO O WARFIELD,
12t.f23.my10] Moro, Or

To Buy, Sell or Exchange.

Any person or persons having horses, cattle, houses, lots or household goods for sale or exchange, or parties desiring to buy such property, will find The Observer a good medium for advertising and securing a customer. Try
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