

The Observer.

MORO, OREGON.

FRIDAY May 23, 1913

Entered as second class matter at the post office at Moro, Oregon, July 25, 1891.

C. L. IRELAND Manager.

Send for advertising rates. 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; 12¢ a month isn't much. Try it. Order by postal card, and pay for it when you can. Church and Society notices FREE, except when for money making purposes. Such notices at regular rates at the option of the publishers.

Mr. E. C. Mower, in his letter to Mr. Barnum printed this week, goes to the root of the trouble as to why there is so much discontent with farming conditions in Sherman county from the viewpoint of the workers on the farm. It is too early as yet for many to heed what has proven to be the experience of any farming community grown old by lapse of time, but it will come with the passing years.

Nearly all our farmers are of the positive opinion that "in a few years" they will be well enough off to drop farming and take up "something" in the city; never considering the many examples of wrecked fortunes that their neighbors have taken to "the city."

And why the reason? Not because they are not making money. Very few who have dropped farming for city life but have to work a deal harder there than they did on the farm, and for less money.

It is the lack of contentment caused by the environments of the farm when the days toil is done, nothing else. No trees, many times not even a garden; up to the last few years not a cow or chicken on many Sherman county farms; the houses in a hole where those who have to live there can see nothing but fields of wheat or summer fallow.

In the early days it was necessary to build in the canyons, but not so now. Houses are being built in the same old place, but they are warmer, have hot and cold water, etc., but the location loses them the restful view on a hot summer night of the cooling effects of Mastic Mt. Hood or the Lordly Mt. Adams and Rainier.

How many know that on a summer evening, within three miles of Moro, can be seen from three to ten snow clad mountains; and when you have visitors don't you remember how they are always anxious to climb the hill side to catch "a glimpse" of some of these mountains which could belong to every one of the family at all times if the proper opportunity were taken advantage.

Sherman county farmers, as a rule, are now working along lines of farming as suggested by the state agricultural college; but there is another line of thought to be studied and made available before our county will have a permanent population: that of psychological research and its benefits to our selves in our every day life.

Conditions in Sherman County as Viewed by an Observant Visitor.

SMALL FARMS RECOMMENDED.

The Vice President of the Burlington Trust Company, an Organization with Outstanding Loans in this County Approximating \$150,000, Writes Interesting Letter.

Burlington, Vermont, May 3d, 1913

Mr. L. Barnum, Moro, Oregon:

When I returned home from the west a year ago, nearly, I intended to write you expressing appreciation of my pleasant stay in Sherman county, and incidentally inflicting upon you some of my impressions of your county. Matters at home immediately absorbed my attention, and have continued to do so until now I can hardly realize that almost a year has elapsed since we were with you.

Perhaps it is not too late now to carry out my good intention especially since my impressions of Sherman county have lost nothing in the meantime.

I was strongly impressed by the zeal of your progressive farmers in promoting in every possible way the farming interests of Sherman county, and by your own readiness to hear and profit by any suggestions that one from another part of the country and accustomed to different rural conditions might be disposed to make. Accordingly you will not take it amiss if I venture to describe some of the more distinct impressions gained by my trip of a year ago through your country, and in talking with some of your farmers as I met them here and there.

In the first place, it seems to me that there is a tendency to increase the average size of your farm holdings; to concentrate ownership in a few large owners. This may not be particularly detrimental so long as farming is on its present basis, that is, so long as you are content to do practically one-crop farming, and your soil will stand up under present methods of cultivation. But I venture to say that this tendency appears to me to be bad policy for two or three reasons:

First: I am confident from observation of conditions in the east and middle west, as well as in other sections of the far west, that in the long run one-crop farming must give place to a different method. Your soil, good as it is, cannot in the long run stand up under your present methods. You are constantly taking from it without giving anything back to it, and it must in time give out. As a matter of preserving the fertility of your farm lands, then, I believe it true that you should gradually diversify your farming, studying crop rotation carefully and keeping abreast of the latest scientific method. In this connection I would refer to the excellent work apparently being done at the experiment farm at Moro, under the direction of Mr. Stevens. This work, if closely studied and followed by your farmers, cannot but be of great value to them in securing the best permanent results from their lands.

This is an age of scientific farming and scientific farming is diversified farming. However fertile a soil may be, it must be cropped intelligently to yield the best return for the time and money spent upon it. Our eastern farmers used to laugh at scientific farming, as though it was not practicable, but now they are following closely the work of their agricultural schools and profiting largely by it. Large holdings of land cannot in the very nature of things be tilled intensively, that is, cannot be kept to the highest point of fertility and crop output. On this my second visit to your county I was pleased to note an increase in the number of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs being raised and turned off by your farmers. From the standpoint of the eastern farmer, at any rate, this is a long step in the right direction.

One-crop farming is precarious farming. A dry season and consequent crop failure leaves the farmer who must rely entirely upon his farm income for the means of livelihood and to meet his fixed charges, in bad shape; whereas, if he could turn off stock or dairy products each year he would be insured against the lean crop years and have a feeling of independence impossible where his sole reliance is upon a single crop.

Second: Smaller holdings would tend to bring settlers to your county. It needs people. It is too thinly populated. Too much of your land is owned by non-residents and by a few resident holders. This means fewer improvements, a lower assessed valuation, less efficient schools and a less desirable residence locality. This condition of things is of course difficult to remedy, insofar as it results from overlarge individual holdings, but your farmers should be alive to the importance of inducing people to come into the county, make their homes with you and help you develop your resources.

As you know, the great problem nowadays in connection with farm life is how to make it so attractive as to keep people, and

especially our girls and boys, on the farm. The country has to compete with the city in this respect, and in this competition the city too often has the best of it. The boy's home surroundings on the farm do not appeal to him; he wants companionship, and he contrasts too often unfavorably, the conveniences and comforts of the city home with his surroundings on the farm. The question is, how can we keep our boys and girls on the farm? In my judgment the most effective way of doing it is to give them social life on the farm. Make it attractive to them in the way that city life is attractive. Give them pleasant homes, trim, tasteful surroundings, opportunity for recreation, in a word all that goes to make life wholesome and intelligent.

Now all this is more difficult in a sparsely populated community than in one where neighbors are near and social life possible. In riding through your county it impresses me as being unpeopled. Your houses are widely scattered and largely concealed from view. Instead of looking out from your hill-tops upon a succession of farm buildings surrounded by their fine lands and the centers of domestic life, one sees nothing but the bare lands. A fine panorama of thrift to be sure, but lacking on the social side. I am aware that the condition I refer to is more or less inevitable in a new country, but I do not think you appreciate and utilize your great natural advantages. Your people do not realize, I am inclined to think, the scenic possibilities of their county the tremendous advantage you have over the flat monotonous middle west sections of the country.

And this factor is becoming more and more important every day, in the competition of state with state and county with county. Other things being anywhere near equal settlers will go where their immediate surroundings are pleasantest. Farming communities should compete just as villages and cities do in the appearance of their roads and homes, in taking advantage of the natural location and the opportunity to make attractive as well as prosperous homes. I understand there is good reason for building your dwellings and barns in the canyons, nevertheless it detracts seriously from the appearance of your country, and I cannot but hope that as your farmers rebuild from time to time they will re-locate, so that they and their families may enjoy the magnificent views of fields and mountains which abound on every hand. I believe that this would be a strong factor in attracting people to your ranches, and in inducing your boys and girls to cast in their lot with you for the development of the country.

I am tremendously impressed by the fertility of your county, and the opportunity it affords men of small means not only to gain a livelihood but to become independently well off; with proper management your farmers should soon be out of debt. Their efforts from now on should be not only to raise wheat but to make homes. There is no reason why, with proper attention to your farm buildings and highways, you should not have one of the most attractive sections in all the west. That, as already suggested, will mean an increasing population, higher land values, more efficient schools, better maintained churches, and a more wholesome social life. I am well aware that I am too little acquainted with your local situation to pretend to give advice as to farming in Sherman county, to one who like yourself has lived his life there, but my experience is that oftentimes an outsider, accustomed to different conditions, may have a helpful point of view without pretending to have the full knowledge that comes of long association.

Thanking you again for your courtesy, and with best wishes for your prosperity and that of Sherman county, I am,
Very truly yours, E. C. MOWER.

Lincoln's Chin Fly Story.

A certain amount of trouble is a good thing.

Lincoln used to illustrate the point with a story about a chin fly.

It seems that once a man was plowing with a very lazy mule. Suddenly the mule lifted its head, switched its stump of a tail and went across the field at a rapid walk and with most unusual energy.

Reaching the end of the row, there was a man on the fence. When the mule and man came up the fellow got down, walked over to the mule and hit him a slap on the jaw, at the same time remarking: "Well, I killed him that time!"

"Killed what?"
"Why, that chin fly."
"Well, you interfering fool, I wish you would mind your own business. That chin fly was the only thing that made this mule go."—Judge.

Wearing the Trousers.

Ancient Britons were among the people whose wearing of trousers was noted by the more civilized ancients who envied them. "Braccæ" (breeches) seem to have impressed the Roman mind very much as Chinese pigtails did the modern west. Gaul, beyond the Alps, was at one time known as Gallia Braccata—Trouserland—and Cicero taunts a man with having sprung from "trousered" ancestors. As Roman ways degenerated the use of trousers began to creep in, and it is recorded that Alexander Severus wore white ones, previous emperors' trousers having been crimson.

Rice Stealing Coaches.

Among Chinese coolies a favored method of stealing rice is to lean up against a pile of sacks and stick a tin tube through the sack, the rice, which is dry, flowing naturally through the tube into the coolie's clothing. Flour is also stolen in this manner, and a common punishment in this case is to let the thief obtain a large quantity and then pour water into his clothing, which makes matters rather uncomfortable for the culprit.

The Obstinate Cook.

Father—Cooking gebooks are of some use after all. This cake is delicious. Daughter—Is it? I thought it would be a terrible failure. Father—Why? Daughter—I told the cook exactly how to make it, and she went and made it some other way.

Cruel.

"Why do you encourage your husband to drink so much coffee?"
"It's the one thing that will keep him awake nights, and that's the only chance I get to tell him what I really think of him!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Truth.

Truth is mighty, but if a goodly share of it were not choked into silence this would be a sorry world.—Pack.

A Tiny Book.

The smallest book in the world was made in Italy. It is but much larger than a man's nail. It is four tenths of an inch in length, a quarter of an inch in width, and contains 208 pages, each with nine lines and from 95 to 100 letters. The text consists of a letter written by the inventor of the pendulum clock to Mme. Christine of Lorraine in 1610.



Studebaker

"Yes Sir! Studebaker wagons are made to back up a reputation."

"I know, because wagons of every make come into my shop for repairs, and I have a chance to see how few are Studebakers."

That's the opinion of thousands of blacksmiths who know the quality of Studebaker wagons.

The owners never regretted that they bought Studebakers.

Tested materials, accurate workmanship insure a wagon unequalled for durability, and this careful selection of wood, iron, steel, paint and varnish has been a fixed rule with the Studebaker Company for sixty years. That is why a Studebaker wagon runs easiest and lasts longest. It is built on honor.

Whether you live in town or country, there is a Studebaker vehicle to fill your requirements for business or pleasure—and harness of every description made as carefully as are Studebaker vehicles.

See our Dealer or write us.

STUDEBAKER South Bend, Ind.
NEW YORK CHICAGO DALLAS KANSAS CITY DENVER
MINNEAPOLIS SALT LAKE CITY SAN FRANCISCO PORTLAND, ORE.

MORO'S BARBER SHOP
Porcelain Bath Tubs.
Everything First Class and Up to date.
Agent for the Best Steam Laundry
Shop in Brick Building next Observer Office
E. W. LEWIS, Proprietor.
MORO - - OREGON.

VINTON HOTEL
Grass Valley, Oregon.
Entirely new, convenient to business. Clean beds, and table the best the market will afford. Prices reasonable. Commercial trade solicited.
CONDUCTED ON THE BEST PRINCIPLES.

It Looks the Part and Acts it



The '13 Mitchell \$1600
\$2000
\$2650
P. O. B. Portland

SPECIFICATIONS

Long Stroke, T-Head Motors, 4x6 and 4½x7, Electric Starter, Generator, Lights and Horns, Long Wheel Bases—120-in., 132-in., 144-in. Big Wheels, Center Control, Left Side Drive, Speedometer, Top, Gasoline and Oil Gauges, etc.

You owe it to yourself to see the Mitchell before you buy.

Geo. N. Crossfield

WASCO, OREGON.
Agent for Sherman County, Mitchell and Reo.

The
Best Drug Store in Sherman County is located right here in Moro, in fact it skins any thing for a long way in any direction, so thinks the

Moro Pharmacy

Livery Auto Service

J. N. Landry, Moro, Ore.
Headquarters at Moro Confectionery Store.
Day or Night Service at Reasonable Rates.
Phone Orders Promptly Answered.

Songless Spain.
There was almost as little acted as spoken drama in the streets. I have given my impression of the songlessness of Spain, in Madrid as elsewhere, but if there was no street singing there was often street playing by pathetic bands of blind minstrels with guitars and mandolins. The blind abound everywhere in Spain in that profession of street beggary which I always encouraged, believing, as I do, that comfort in this unbalanced world cannot be too constantly reminded of misery. As the hunchbacks are in Italy or the wooden peg legged in England, so the blind are in Spain for number.—W. D. Howells in North American Review.

Bread Trancheira.
There is no city in the world where so much bread is consumed as in Paris. It is estimated that every inhabitant eats one pound a day on the average. Even in past centuries the French, especially Parisians, had a horror of stale bread. And as in those days people manufactured their own bread they had a curious way of making it palatable. Strange as it may seem, the bread prepared, huge round or square slabs, was used as a dish, on which the meat was served and bore the name of "trancheira" or "tailloir." The juice of the meat having penetrated into the bread imparted a pleasant taste and prevented it from becoming dry.—Baker's Weekly.

wanted too much.
Client—But you tell me of nothing but misfortunes. Fortune Teller—Well, what do you expect for 2 francs? That you will win the big prize in the lottery and marry a millionaire?—Felix Meis.