

The Observer

MORO, OREGON.
FRIDAY, October 24, 1913

SUMMARY OF THE OREGON NEWS

The Rapid Reader's Review of
Recent Reports Rewritten

A natatorium is to be added to Seaside's list of summer amusements before another season.

Milk testing devices have been received by the pupils of the public schools of Polk county.

The Southern Pacific Railroad company is settling its taxes of more than \$57,000 in Jackson county.

The government forestry service has begun to burn timber tracts in Southern Oregon which are infected with the pine beetle.

Oregon is to have an official exhibit at the Eighth International Dry-Farming Congress and Exposition in Tulsa, October 22 to November 1.

A fountain, constructed on Corinthian lines and made in Klamath Falls, has just been tendered to the city by L. M. Schofield.

Freewater has taken steps to build the first link in the proposed macadamized road from Walla Walla to Pendleton.

Three hundred apple packers of Hood River formed an association to adopt a schedule of packing rates and maintain a uniform system of packing.

A number of road districts of Clackamas county are planning to levy a special tax. The county court is in favor of better roads being built throughout the county.

A hen, which is a cross between a Plymouth Rock and a White Leghorn, raised at the Oregon Agricultural College, broke the world's record by laying 291 eggs in a year.

A local option election will be held at Dufur November 4. Petitions were circulated so quietly that only a few of the "wet" were aware of the plan until the petitions were filed.

From effects of injuries sustained in a fall down a flight of stairs Mrs. Cordelia Mills, aged 81, died at Keno. The woman never recovered consciousness after the fall.

A second crop of strawberries is being harvested by R. J. Taylor, of Independence. There will be on the average of a pound to the plant, or 50 boxes in all.

Klamath Falls is planning to build hitching racks. The city will secure a tract of land near the business section for the accommodation of farmers' teams.

Joseph Schafer, Ph. D., for 13 years head of the history department of the University of Wisconsin, has assumed the duties of general director of the university of Oregon extension division. His office will be at Eugene.

Crater Lake being inland and under the control of the state police, State Game Warden Finley can impose a license on persons who fish in it, states Attorney General Crawford, in an opinion for Governor West.

A force of engineers under the direction of Louis Griswold and W. W. Peters of the state highway commission, has begun the work of surveying a route between Astoria and Westport.

The annual convention of the Oregon State Editorial Association met in Portland. Nearly 75 editors, representing as many newspapers, were present when Colonel H. Hofer called the convention to order.

J. C. La France, convicted of swindling the Modern Woodmen of America out of \$2000 by planting a body as his own on the Clackamas river, was sentenced to from one to five years in the penitentiary by Circuit Judge Kavanaugh at Portland.

The hearing in the case of Dallas vs. H. V. Gates, owner of the water system at Dallas, has been set by the railroad commission for October 28, at Dallas. The complaint alleges that excessive charges are being made for the water.

The Oregon Trunk railway traffic department reports that 22,000 sheep have been shipped from Bend during the past 10 days, probably the greatest export movement of sheep in so short a period ever known in the state. The sheep are to be fed in Montana in transit for the Chicago market.

Governor West will not consider extending clemency to Mike Spanos and Frank Seymour, sentenced to 10 years for the killing of George Dedoskalos, in Medford, who, in a signed statement, attempted to fasten the crime on Thomas Fries, until a complete investigation has been made.

That Oregon ranks first in the percentage of attendance of school children is a statement made by the school superintendent of Erie county, Pa., in a letter received from him by Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill. The writer says that his information was obtained from the comparative study of school systems in the various states as compiled by the Russell Sage Foundation.

Representative Hawley has introduced bills appropriating \$100,000 each for the purchase of sites and the erection of public buildings at Oregon City, Corvallis, Ashland and Grants Pass. He also has introduced a bill authorizing the establishment of a life-saving station at the mouth of the Willamette river and one authorizing the establishment of a mining experiment station at Grants Pass.

The Fall Trade

It Brought With It Business of Another Kind

By MILLARD MALTRE

"Ethel," I said to my fiancée, "we must fix our wedding day either before the fall trade begins or after it is over. For I can't get away when it is on. If we fix it before it must be within, say, a month; if after we shall need to put it off for at least three months."

"I am afraid," said Ethel reflectively, "that it must be later rather than before. I've done very little in the way of getting ready and couldn't possibly complete my preparations within a month."

"You mean buy your trousseau?" "Well, yes. But there are some small matters that need to be cleared up before we're married, and they all require time."

"Such as?" "Oh, they are of no importance to you, simply affairs between me and acquaintances of mine."

"Obligations you wish to pay off?" "Oh, no; not that at all. I'm not indebted to any one for favors."

"Old scores then?" "That's more like it."

"Mention one of them."

"Well, there's Nell Blanchard. Last summer when we were at the Springs together she treated me very badly. Ned Franklin was there and devoted himself to me. Ned prejudiced him against me and got him away."

"What sort of a retaliation do you propose?"

"That's something I wish to speak to you about especially. You may object."

"Well, out with it."

"Why, the only way I can punish her is to show her that I can have him if I want him."

"I was afraid you'd act mean about it."

"You mean that on the eve of your marriage with me you propose to bring down another man?"

"Only to punish Nell Blanchard as she should be punished."

"Do you think that it is treating me right to carry on a flirtation while

you are engaged to me?"

"I am not engaged to you."

"Why not?"

"Because I supposed it was off long ago."

"And now it's on again?"

"To this I made no reply. I looked at the ceiling."

"Unless you wish to break with me you must drop it at once."

"I have not yet recovered my letters."

"Your letters? Nonsense!"

"There was another silence. I took my eyes from the ceiling and directed them out through a window."

"Well, what are you going to do?" Ethel asked.

I responded in a quiet, reflective tone that if she would not object to my letters being used against me after my marriage with her I would let them remain where they were. I would call the next evening upon the lady possessing them and endeavor to persuade her to give up all idea of there ever being anything between us.

"Is it necessary that you should call to do that? Can't you write?"

"I committed myself in these letters. I am anxious to secure and I should use diplomacy in the matter. Just as you have been diplomatic in setting yourself right between Franklin and Nell Blanchard. By the by, boy is that affair progressing?"

I looked at her with a cold stare.

"I have finished it," she replied fully.

"Indeed. It's a pity I had not taken up mine earlier; then they would both have been ended together."

"I thought you said you would end the matter at once."

"I said I would endeavor to do so."

"She had taken hold of her engagement ring and was trying with it. I knew she was meditating taking it off and handing it to me."

"You would not have me treat a girl who loves me harshly, would you? You know how you have been situated with regard to Franklin."

There was a long silence. I thought it time to bring the matter to a focus.

"I will make you a proposition," I said. "Drop Franklin without a word, written or spoken, and I will do the same in my own case."

Another long silence, at the end of which she put out her hand to me. I clasped it, drew her to me and that was the end of paying off old scores. By this time the rush of the fall trade was over and we were married within a month. We passed over the border dividing the single from the married state, and prenuptial nonsense gave way to matrimonial conditions.

Feeding the Locomotive.

too busy to keep an eye on my fiancée. A lover is a peasant, and I was by no means easy in my mind upon this vindictive Nell was arranging for herself. Franklin knew had been her favorite before I had appeared on the scene, and prior to our engagement I had suspected that I was serving for a snare by which to trap him. I heard something of his recent attentions to Ethel since she had begun her vindictive campaign, and some of my intimate friends, who knew that I was interested in her, began to look upon me with commiseration. Now and again I asked Ethel how she was getting on with her vindictive campaign, and she said that Nell was simply green with envy and jealousy.

I have never believed in defensive warfare. It is a military principle that the advantage preponderates to the attacking force. I considered bringing the matter to a focus by telling Ethel that if Nell was green with envy and jealousy nothing more was required and there was no further necessity for her playing Mr. Franklin in the matter; also that she had been reported to be engaged to him and all the surprise she could wish for would occur when her real engagement with me was given out, with the wedding soon to follow. But did not Ethel know all this without my telling her? And if she knew it what was to be gained by telling her?

If Mr. Franklin was destined to win in the game—as I strongly suspected he would—the end would be Ethel's giving me a ring about her having unwittingly, unknowingly and unintentionally got into an unfortunate position and that she was obliged to give pain to me or Mr. Franklin, and she was absolutely crushed; also that she had loved him and he had loved her till that horrid Nell Blanchard had come between them and made all the trouble. Then under such distressing circumstances I would be expected to do a magnanimous, noble part by relieving her of her frightful embarrassment by releasing her without blame.

One day I received a note from Ethel chiding me for not having been to see her for a week. She simply called my attention to the fact without comment. I replied that the fall trade was at its height, and I was working nights. I received another note stating that I had been seen at the theater in company with a pretty girl—a few evenings before. My reply to this was a confession. The young lady I had taken to the theater had once been a "flame" of mine. She possessed certain letters I had written her when I thought I loved her, which I was desirous to get into my possession before being married. In order to do this I must dissemble. When to do this I must dissemble. I could the better devise a scheme for securing the letters.

I was quite sure this would bring matters to a climax, and it did. Ethel wrote me to come and see her at once. If I delayed she would send back the engagement ring I had given her. I thought over my next move and decided to go to see her. I found her very much troubled, though she endeavored to conceal evidence of the fact. Her face was heated, her eyes were restless and her bosom heaved.

"Why did you not tell me of this former love affair?" she asked in an accusatory tone.

"Because I supposed it was off long ago."

"And now it's on again?"

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Feeding the Locomotive.

Today the factor determining the size and power of large locomotives in the physical endurance of the fireman, as an ordinary fireman cannot put in the firebox more than 5,000 to 6,000 pounds of coal an hour. This is one of the considerations which render compounding and superheating, which together under favorable conditions secure as much as 40 per cent economy in the fuel burned for a given output, such valuable factors in the development of the locomotive. Chicago News.

PACIFIC HALFWAY ACROSS THE CANAL

Twenty Tons of Dynamite Open
Stretch of Work.

BIG CUT RAPIDLY FILLED.

Dredges Expected to Complete Work of Establishing Channel at Western End in Short Time—The Cut is 5,000 Feet Long, 500 Feet Wide and 41 Feet Deep.

Panama.—The last remaining barrier at the Pacific end of the Panama canal has been blown up by dynamite. It was an intensely interesting spectacle. An electric switch was turned on, and a moment later the 1,500 spectators and the officers of the British cruiser New Zealand saw a wonderful sight. Hundreds of tons of mud and stones were thrown high in the air. There they seemed to hang, then fall back as the roar of the explosion echoed in the nearby hills.

About twenty tons, equivalent to 44,000 pounds, of 45 per cent dynamite constituted the blast, which was one of the largest ever set off in the canal. The charge, which was planted in 541 holes at an average depth of thirty feet, tore a big gap in the barrier, but not to a sufficient depth to permit the water to flow through, as the sea level channel was at low tide.

Equally as interesting as the explosion was the actual breaking of the barrier, the tide creeping steadily up until it was level with the top of the gap. A workman asked a shore and made a snarl through, through which a rill of water trickled. Gradually it widened until an hour afterward a torrent, with a thirty-five foot fall, poured through an opening 400 feet wide.

Photo by American Press Association.

BLAST AT PANAMA CANAL.

Into that part of the canal between Gamboa dike and Miraflores locks which had been excavated by steam shovels.

This cut, which is 5,000 feet long, 500 feet wide and 41 feet deep, below mean sea level, was immediately filled when the waters of the Pacific touched the Miraflores locks.

Dredges passed through the opening, and in a few days the last vestiges of the barrier will be removed, establishing a practically complete channel at the Pacific end. The dredges have begun to remove the last barrier of the Atlantic channel. When that work is accomplished ships may navigate to the locks at both ends.

On May 18 the engineers of the Panama canal exploded 32,750 pounds of dynamite that had been loaded into 236 holes to dispose of the first dike holding back the Pacific ocean. This dike had dammed the waters of Ancon harbor, in the gulf of Panama, until the engineers practically finished excavating a long stretch of the canal near Miraflores. The mighty blast was successful, and the waters of the Pacific flowed into the canal up to the point where it was checked until the last blast removed another barrier.

DOG BARKS FOUR DAYS.

Spaniel Finally Attracts Notice to Its Owner.

Alpena, Mich.—For four days a small water spaniel, whining in front of his master's shanty. Dozens of persons noticed the dog's peculiar actions and passed on. Several offered to feed the animal, but it refused to eat. Finally it ceased to whine and began to yelp and succeeded in inducing neighbors to enter the dilapidated building. There they found the body of Frank Cleveland, whose sole companion for years had been his dog.

Men Lay Egg in an Egg.

Milton, Ind.—J. M. McMahon has a hen was 7 1/2 inches in circumference one way and nine inches the other and weighs 5 1/2 ounces. A few days ago the egg was blown, and the yolk and white of the egg filled a trap-up one third full.

What We Spend in France.

American tourists in France are credited with spending annually over \$200,000,000.

Chronic Dyspepsia.

The following unedited testimonial should certainly be sufficient to give hope and courage to persons afflicted with chronic dyspepsia. "I have been a chronic dyspeptic for years, and of all the medicines I have taken, Chamberlain's Tablets have done more good than anything else," says W. G. Matthews, No. 7 Sherman St., Haverhill, N. Y. For sale by all dealers.—Advertisement.

OLD ENGLISH JURIES.

They Were Fined or Beaten For Not Reaching a Verdict.

Not always enviable was the lot of the old time jurymen, for there was always the prospect of trouble if the verdict did not gratify the higher powers. Thus the failure of a jury to convict Sir Nicholas Throckmorton made Queen Mary "ill for three days," and she came out of her sick chamber to dine the dissembling jury (meanwhile confined in prison) the sum of \$10,000 a head.

Elizabeth followed the same plan, and the practice of fining English juries did not cease until 1670, when a fine inflicted by the notorious Jeffreys was rescinded on appeal.

In some old time "courts of quarter sessions" the injunction to lay their heads together had to be carried out by jurymen in literal fashion. When they began to consider the verdict they were supposed to dive beneath the level of the jury box and remain in that cramped position until a decision was reached.

Meanwhile the court under stood near the box armed with a long wand of willow. If any jurymen ventured to emerge above the surface before the twelve minds were agreed down came the wand on the head of the offender.

—Chicago News.

MOTIONS OF PLANTS.

Some Forms of Vegetable Life Have the Power of Choice.

One of the chief distinctions between vegetable and animal life is that animals have power of choice and of voluntary motion, while vegetables and plants grow only mechanically by natural law. But the microscope seems to show that many vegetable forms can move as easily as can animals.

There is a plant called Volvox globose, so minute that millions of it could be put in a wineglass, which is seen to whirl like a top across the field of the microscope. Some plants found in our ponds, which are still more minute, move habitually, as with an apparent purpose.

Darwin, who gave closer study than any other naturalist to climbing plants, stated that these seemed to exercise the liberty of choice. Their tendrils, in climbing over pieces of wood with holes, will try one hole after another until they find one that pleases them. He saw one tendril withdraw itself after having located itself in a hole for thirty-six hours.

Other plants will run a long way over the ground, refusing to climb the trees in their path until they come to a peculiar species of tree, to which they at once cling.—Harper's Weekly.

Misuse of the Dictionary.

Since the time of Johnson the dictionaries have attempted to record the pronunciations prevalent among the best speakers of English in their generation. That they should do this is a commendable aim, but as it would have been futile. But, as in the case of Caesar, the hour of dictation seems to have been thrust upon them. Those who found themselves wallowing in the slough of despond because of conflicting pronunciations appealed to the dictionary as their arbiter and protector, and for their future safety exalted it to the position of a despot. Thus, while nobody searches the dictionary to avoid those words which it stigmatizes as slang, the pronunciation fad is continually devouring its pages lest be committed the unpardonable sin of uttering a syllable not sanctioned by its authority.—Robert J. Menner in the Atlantic Monthly.

The Deaf and Dumb.

In early times it was an opinion, maintained even by philosophers, that the education of the deaf and dumb was impossible. It was then believed that language could be acquired only through the medium of the ear, as shown by the complete of Loecherer:

To instruct the deaf no art could ever reach.

No care improve them and no wisdom teach.

The first mention of instruction for the deaf and dumb is found in Bede, A. D. 885. No other case is met with for some centuries. Rudolph Agricola of Heidelberg makes mention of an educated deaf mute in his "Dialectics," 1490. It was not until 1590 that instruction for the deaf and dumb began to be general.—New York American.

A Pond on the Farm.

Why not build a good pond on the farm? The government will stock it with fish; it will furnish water for your stock the year round by installing pipes and hydrants to keep the water cool and sanitary, and when winter comes it will furnish a fine place for the amusement of the young folks. Then it will supply the material for the ice crop to store away for summer use.—Successful Farming.

Giving Her a Job.

Mrs. Strongminded—Our society has appointed me chairman of a committee whose object is to try to bring about a reduction in rents. Strongminded—I'm glad to hear it, my dear. You can begin at once on my trousers.—London Tit-Bits.

How Did She Know?

Aunt—I don't like to see you darning about with mere boys all the time. What do you find so entertaining in that you smooch-faced young Thorpe? Niece—Why, aunt, his face isn't so smooth as I looked—Boston Transcript.

There is great force hidden in a sweet command.

Halt's Legion of Honor.

It is not generally known that the famous order of the Legion of Honor was adopted at Haiti in 1849. When Boulenger became emperor under the name of Faustin I. he instituted an order in imitation of that which had been established by Napoleon in 1802. Statutes, ribbons and insignia were precisely identical, and since the sovereign of Haiti distributed his honors to all and sundry, with lavish hand, the French government was considerably embarrassed. The French of Boulenger ended the difficulty.—Paris Gaulois.

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