

The Observer.

MORO, OREGON.

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



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Just What a Typewriter Is.

A typewriter is one who typewrites on the typewriter and the typewriter is a machine on which the typewriter who typewrites on the typewriter typewrites. Now, the typewriter who typewrites on the typewriter typewrites on the typewriter until there is no more typewriting to be typewritten by the typewriter on the typewriter on which the typewriter who typewrites on the typewriter typewrites.

After reading the above slowly, try it again aloud at sixty miles an hour.

Wise makers of wealth do not hoard it, but set it to new uses. They steadily improve the resources and equipment of civilization and their investments eventually in the betterment of society. The successful man who is sagacious realizes that the exploitation of society would bring harm to himself. Of such is Mr. Benson, who, the other week, bought the recently voted bonds of Hood River county, enabling that county to complete the Columbia River Highway in time for the immense travel it must sustain next year. Without the help of Mr. Benson Multnomah could not be able to complacently say that their portion of this wonderful scenic highway is about finished.

The International Harvester Company, known as the Harvester Trust, in a recent court decision has been ordered to dissolve itself into at least three independent concerns. If this be not done the government will appoint receivers. The opinion states that the big trust, although itself controlling over 85 per cent of the trade in agricultural implements, has been generally fair and just to small competitors. The decision specifically states that there is no limit to the growth of a business in the eye of the law so long as its growth is not the result of combination of business rivals.

Wasco county, to receive full benefit from the completion of the Columbia River Highway, should put the road over the Cascade mountains, from Wapinitia to Government Camp, in as good condition as the western side. They have but little to do to avail themselves of the route down the river, and if the over the mountain road be attended to, it would make the highway a financial asset to Wasco county.

A Russian soldier's pay is \$3.78 a month and expenses. How is that for a steady job as traveler?

The Question of State Prohibition.

State-wide prohibition, as proposed for the state of Oregon, does not attempt to correct the moral situation or even introduce effective temperance among the people.

The proposed amendment, as published in the official pamphlet sent out by the secretary of state for Oregon, has one very grave omission if consistent intent to do away with the use of liquor in all manner of use is to be given a thorough trial; that is, the amendment, as proposed, prohibits the manufacture and sale, but nothing is said as to the easily evaded law when a defense might be made on a presumption of a gift of liquor.

This loophole in the new proposed law would undoubtedly pile up an excessive tax on the people for law enforcement and throw the burden of proof on a now overburdened system under which convictions could be secured.

Under the proposed prohibition amendment the Oregon voter is asked to destroy a manufacturing industry of his state that each year lightens his portion of the tax necessary to maintain the state government and its institutions; also he is asked to help destroy the value of a considerable area of farming lands of the Willamette valley.

If it were an economic necessity, or if the proposed amendment was capable of the fulfillment of the claims of its sponsors, it possibly would be an entirely different proposition.

State prohibition does not lead to temperance, but it does lead the youth of the land to a more extended education in the evasion of law and tends towards abuses that are not possible in localities where legal prohibition is not enforced.

If state-wide prohibition is capable of being properly safeguarded and enforced, and the people of the state eventually educated to get along without liquor, why are the voters of fifteen states in this country that were at one time prohibition states now sanctioning the sale of liquor?

There are now nine prohibition states in the United States. One of the most prominent is Maine, a state that has been charged by officers of the navy with having a substitute on sale that makes the sailors unfit for weeks, and finally forced naval ships to not visit the state unless absolutely necessary.

Another of the states is Kansas, and in the argument in favor of the amendment filed by its advocates they say that Kansas pays the sum of \$5,303,666 for liquor each year. How they get these figures we don't know, but they can be found on page 50 of the official book.

One of the questions to be decided is, "Does prohibition prohibit?"

Another nice sounding scheme to separate the money from the taxpayer is the proposition to install a free employment bureau and coffee house in each incorporated town, the expense to be equally divided between the city, county and state, to cost \$3,000 each. How many cities are there in Oregon? The proper way to handle the matter of getting the job to the man is for the employer to pay the fees, not the man out of work. Then there would be no more of one set of men going to work and meeting another set of discharged men coming from the job, as was told in an official investigation in Portland last week.

For the benefit of homeseekers and prospective settlers, the Oregon state Immigration commission and the Oregon development league have issued a booklet of information describing the irrigated lands of the state open for settlement. The lands are located in Crook county, near the towns of Terrebonne, Redmond, Deschutes, Bend and Prineville.

The output of gold in California during the past year was the largest in thirty-one years. Only three times in 49 years has the gold output exceeded twenty million dollars, and with the exception of 1883, the amount mined last year was the largest since 1864.

How to keep out of the war is Uncle Sam's aim. Some think that admitting foreign ships to American registry is a sure way to get in. Warring European nations will not recognize that doubtful device of getting a merchant marine ready made, and will seize the ships. Then we either back down or fight.

The United States as an independent country will be affected by the war in Europe in other respects than finance or commerce. New standards of statesmanship will be established as the American people contemplate the terrible results of personal government and imperialistic ambitions abroad.

A large number of wounded French soldiers claim that the German bullets do not hurt when they stop them. The wounds seem to close after the passage of the bullet. Still, a large number of Americans would most likely be willing to donate all the chances to stop the leaden missiles.

Austria is meeting with the difficulties that outside observers anticipated from setting its soldiers to fight against men of the same race. Its troops are mutinous and can hardly be kept in line. How Austrian armies are to be held together and made effective is difficult to imagine.

European countries will soon witness the other side of the American exodus—the sale of unclaimed baggage. The visitors had all their money taken from them, their automobiles and their trunks. One party was arrested 102 times in the course of a short journey to a seaport.

At the beginning of the European war the quoted market reports said each day that "meat prices soar." Now, with legislative investigations in running order, the big meat packers are beginning to ascertain that the consumers are "sore."

American tourists in Europe now believe in seeing America first. Some who were there are glad to see America at any time and are more convinced than ever that this is the country for them to stick to through thick and thin.

It is easy for flies to carry disease from one person to another, from a person to an animal, from an animal to a person or from an animal to another animal. In this way flies are practically universal transmitters of disease.

Oregon is losing many settlers because of the high prices at which its agricultural lands are held, said Judge Lovett, chairman of the executive committee of the Union Pacific system, at Portland last week.

Americans for years have been talking "freedom," but Paris will still be the autocrat of fashion. We guess she will have everybody in the feminine world wearing something military before spring.

If we were in Switzerland and were attacked by those hot and heady big nations, we would get the Swiss navy to fire a glacier at 'em.

There is a tidy little canal down there at Panama. But the customers, look at them; all busy pulling each other's hair.

We fear that instead of being pronounced "Le-ayzh," it will soon be pronounced a total wreck.

The first cargo of wheat for Europe from Oregon cleared from Portland August 22d.

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Farming is somewhat like the colored preacher's definition of life. "Life, my breddren, am mostly made up of prayin' for rain an' den wishin' 'twould cl'ar off."

A Grave Injustice

Do those who advocate the absolute prohibition of the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic liquors realize the seriousness of the social and economic crisis that would be precipitated by such legislation? Are they aware of the fact that the heads of families aggregating probably not less than three million people would suddenly be deprived of their sole means of livelihood, and that properties valued in the aggregate at perhaps two billion dollars would as suddenly become worthless?

It is doubtful if they do fully realize this, yet these are figures given by no less a writer than Dr. Henry Smith Williams in an article in the "Ladies Home Journal," reviewing the prohibition movement. And he adds: "Personally I am at a loss to understand how anyone who has the slightest grasp of economic questions can contemplate with equanimity the anarchistic possibilities—nay, certainties—which reveal themselves through the slightest use of the imagination in connection with these figures. To me, at least, it seems obvious that the only thing which has kept the prohibition movement before the people of the United States is the simple fact that prohibition does not prohibit."

Thinking men and women who seek the truth and are unswayed by prejudice, and who give the foregoing facts the consideration they deserve cannot escape a like conclusion. —Paid Advertisement.

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