

The Observer

MORO, OREGON.

FRIDAY, January 7, 1919

The price of The Observer is \$1.50 per year, 75 cents for six months, 50 cents for four months—but if paid in advance we accept \$2.50 in full for 2 years. Shorter terms than one year 12 1/2 cents per month. A Blue Mark here will answer an inquiry, when entered upon our calendar, giving the date of the paper as the date at which your current subscription expires.

"BARKIS IS WILLIN'," DOUGHBOYS SHOUT

American Singer Most Proposed to Girl in France Today.

Miss Helen Besler, daughter of the president of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, is probably the most proposed to girl in France today. It all came about because one night she ran out of "encores," and sang a little nursery song called "If No One Ever Marries Me." It goes like this:

"If no one ever marries me—
And I don't see why they should,
For nurse says I am not pretty,
And I'm seldom very good."
The fate of the little girl in the song was to buy a rabbit hutch and live all alone in a little wood. But the American soldiers saw no reason why Miss Besler, who is pretty and "petite" and a typical American girl, should have a similar lot. After they had given her the three cheers and a tiger with which they usually thank the Y. M. C. A. entertainers, they hesitated a moment and then added a purely personal message. "Barkis is willin'," called the A. E. F. as one man.

Since then the incident has been repeated in every American camp Miss Besler has visited. No censor would allow an estimate to pass of the number of proposals Miss Besler has received in that way.

MRS. ALBERT L. MILLS



President of the Army Service League.

FIND MAN'S SKELETON

Lumbermen Solve Mystery of Aged Person's Disappearance.

The mysterious disappearance of Smith Flohr, an eighty-year-old mountaineer of Mountaineer, Pennsylvania, missing since August 20, and for whom a search covering the Blue Ridge mountains for miles around has been going on since, was solved when two lumbermen, John Brown and Solomon Monn, while passing through a densely wooded section of the mountains near Old Forge, stumbled across the skeleton of a man. Near by a hat and coat enabled the discoverers of the body to identify it as that of Flohr.

On the day of the old mountaineer's disappearance he had been visiting a son, Irvin S. Flohr, at Mountaineer, and decided toward evening to make his way across to Blue Ridge Summit, where another son, D. S. Flohr, lived, intending to spend the night there. Despite efforts to dissuade him, Flohr started out across the mountains. From that moment until his skeleton was discovered about a mile from the main mountain road, his whereabouts puzzled the countryside. It is now assumed that he became confused, wandered into the thicket and after becoming exhausted, collapsed, and later died of starvation.

FIXED CUCKOO CLOCK

Bird in Timepiece Made in Germany Now Says "Bob White."

John C. Wagner, a jeweler of Vincennes, Ind., has the distinction of being the first Indianapolis to naturalize the bird in a "cuckoo clock made in Germany." Immediately after the war was declared, when his son enlisted in Battery E, One Hundred and Fiftieth Field Artillery, Mr. Wagner stopped the clock, contending that the "cuckoo" was Germany's national bird. The clock failed to operate for a long time until recently. Mr. Wagner spent many hours in rebuilding it and finally completely Americanized the bird, which now says "Bob White" instead of "cuckoo."

As soon as the announcement was made, a number of Vincennes people who are owners of the "made in Germany cuckoo clocks" crowded Mr. Wagner's store and ordered their "cuckoo" clocks made over.

Thrashing Machine Record.

Hardin county, Iowa, claims the state record for the continuous service of a thrashing machine. Ed Johns, near Iowa Falls, has a machine which is still using which was built in 1879. The machine was originally bought for \$1,200.

SUGAR TESTED MORAL FIBER

Doubters Declared Saving Staples Would Be Easy Compared With Sacrificing Luxuries.

FIGURES SHOW RESULTS.

Americans Demonstrated Sturdy Support of War by Conserving for the Benefit of the Allies.

When figures began to show definitely that the people of the United States were actually reducing their consumption of foods needed abroad, the United States Food Administration was told that it was comparatively easy to bring about conservation of staple necessities, but that it would be far more difficult to accomplish an actual decrease in the use of luxuries. The doubters took sugar as an example, and declared that it would be practically impossible to bring our consumption of sugar down to a point that would meet only the food needs of the people.

Now that demands upon ocean tonnage will be lightened, European nations will be able to go farther afield for foodstuffs, and will no longer be entirely dependent for sugar upon North American supplies. With the stocks now in prospect, we will have sufficient sugar to place this country back upon normal consumption if the present short ration in Europe are not materially increased. If the European ration is to be materially increased over the present low amount it can be only through the American people's making it possible by continued restriction to a greater or less extent here.

The fact that the Food Administration has been able to relax the voluntary sugar ration is in itself proof that the ration of two pounds per person per month was generally observed throughout the country. This conservation allowed the Food Administration to build up a reserve, and to tide over the period of scarcity, until the new crops of Louisiana cane and beet sugar were ready for distribution.

The records of the Food Administration show that in July, August, September and October 695,000 tons were distributed. Normal consumption for that period is 1,800,000 tons. This shows a definite, concrete saving of over 500,000 tons. These figures apply to sugar consumed on the table, in the kitchen and in the various industries, and show conclusively that in the homes and public eating places of America, where 70 per cent. of all our sugar is consumed, the sugar consumption has been reduced by more than one-third.

In the four-month period beginning with July, this country normally uses 400,000 tons of sugar per month. Last July 280,000 tons entered into distribution. In August only 225,000 tons were distributed. In September the figures showed 270,000 tons, and then fell to 230,000 tons in October.

There could be no more definite proof that the American people have given their loyal co-operation and support of the war.

NEW CZECHO-SLOVAK ENVOY



Charles Pergler was accredited as the Czechoslovak diplomatic representative in the United States following the departure of Thomas G. Masaryk to Europe. For several months he has acted as Doctor Masaryk's secretary and for four years previously had been the most trusted worker for his people in this country. Pergler was educated in the United States, but spent much of his youth in France. He was later engaged in newspaper work in Chicago and then became a lawyer, practicing in Iowa.

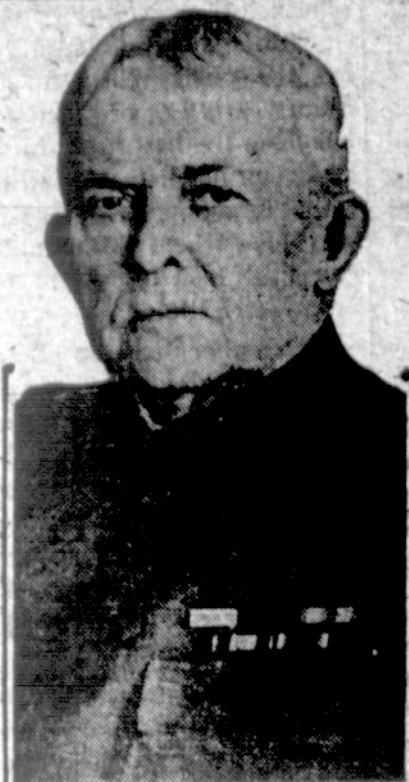
CHINESE WOMEN PAWN GEMS

Slant-Eyed Beauties Buy Diamonds on Installment Plan and Then Hoek Them.

San Francisco.—"Alla same white women. Just hoek diamond. Whatta malia?"

Yip Shue, Lee So and Lan Sook, Chinese women, residents of San Francisco's oriental quarter, flapped the foregoing, following their arrest on a charge of embezzlement by bailer preferred by the Brilliant Jewelry company. Then they told their story. Deceitful of setting off their charms they purchased diamonds valued at \$1,200 from the jewelry concern, agreeing to pay on the installment plan. Then the need for ready cash was experienced by these three slant-eyed beauties. A local pawnshop got the gems. Yip Shue, Lee So and Lan Sook spent the money. Then came the police.

GENERAL BELL



Major General J. Franklin Bell, commander of the department of the east, who died last week.

IMMEDIATE AID FOR SOLDIERS IS URGED

Washington.—Immediate consideration of the interior department's request for \$100,000,000 for the reclamation and occupation of 215,000,000 acres of tillable soil in this country by returned soldiers was asked by Secretary Lane at an informal meeting of members of congress held in the house chamber.

The plan of the department not only would provide labor for thousands of men discharged from military service, Secretary Lane said, but would greatly increase the resources of the nation. Briefly the programme contemplates the employment of discharged soldiers at current wages on vast reclamation schemes in many states, who would be permitted later to select sections of the reclaimed land for farming purposes, the government furnishing money to pay for the cost of development. This money, together with the full cost of the land and interest, would later be returned to the government.

Necessity for haste in making the appropriation was emphasized by Secretary Lane. Soldiers are being discharged from the service at the rate of thousands a day, he said, and provision for employing them should be made soon.

THE TEST NOW FULFILLED.

This government is nothing more than the expression of the people, and if we are to win the war it will be only because every man, woman and child charges himself daily and hourly with the test, Does this or that contribute to win the war?—Herbert Hoover, April 18, 1918.

With the solemn obligation of providing that "margin" of food that would safeguard against starvation our friends in Europe the housewife and the consumer have learned hitherto to ignore and unsuspected things "college education" in food values, food handling, buying and substituting that they will not want to forget.



Forced to Move.

"We've got to have a bigger house."

"Outgrown the present place?"

"No. We have rooms enough, in fact more than we need, but the cellar is too small."

"What's the idea?"

"We can't store six tons of soft coal in anything less than the basement of a church."

Hospital Humor.

In an American hospital in France a lieutenant who had lost both his legs in battle received a package from his wife. In it were six pairs of socks. Raising himself as best he could in the cot, the lieutenant said:

"Say, boys, what am I going to do with these now?"

"I guess you're just out of luck," was the reply.

RENO REPLACED BY ATLANTA

Capital of Georgia Now the Greatest Divorce Center in the United States.

Atlanta, Ga.—Atlanta had supplanted Reno as the greatest divorce center in the country, is the announcement made from the bench in superior court by Judge John T. Pendleton in dismissing the divorce jury.

"Reno, a little town out in Nevada, formerly held the record for divorces," Judge Pendleton told his hearers. "But this record has now been wrested from Reno by Atlanta. And Atlanta has no close competition. We will continue to outrank Reno just as long as Georgia divorce laws remain so lax."

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

Albany's motion picture theaters have closed voluntarily to remain closed until all influenza danger is passed.

The Warm Springs irrigation project, which is already on a fair way to development, is causing a big boom at Vale.

Approximately 125 men employed at the St. Helens Shipbuilding company's yard at St. Helens are out on a strike.

Portland will open its first open-air school on January 27. It will be the only school of its kind in Oregon and in Washington.

Joseph McCord, a well-known Baker county man, who had been living on his ranch near Rock creek, committed suicide by taking strychnine.

The ministers of Albany adopted a resolution voluntarily closing all of the churches of Albany to all meetings until danger from influenza is past.

The J. H. Chambers mill at Cottage Grove is now getting out several cars of 16x16 timbers to be shipped to Italy. The timbers are 50 to 60 feet in length.

Delegates from Oregon, Washington and California will attend the Oregon State Hotel Men's association convention which will open in Portland Monday, January 20.

Another influenza wave has hit Klamath Falls. The ban which was placed on the city early in October has been raised only a short time, but the disease again is spreading.

The Columbia river between The Dalles and Hood River was completely closed last week with ice which stretched from shore to shore. Automobiles crossed in safety over the frozen surface.

Work on the Eugene-Lorane road, which is one of the big road projects planned by the Lane county court for 1919, has been started and a crew of men has begun to clear the right of way at the Eugene end.

Mrs. Emmaline Elizabeth Galloway, wife of former Circuit Judge William Galloway, died at her home in Salem after an illness of several months. Mrs. Galloway was long identified with public life in Oregon.

Fraternities and sororities of the Oregon Agricultural college have formed a corporation for the purpose of purchasing foods and other supplies and for systematizing operation of the various chapter houses.

District Attorney R. W. Swagler was shot three times, but not seriously wounded, by John Hanlon, of Jordan Valley, as he was ascending the stairway in the courthouse in Vale. Hanlon is in jail charged with assault with intent to kill.

In a report to the state land board, Attorney-General Brown goes at length into the land fraud situation in the state and declares that he will seek \$5000 from the legislature to further prosecute the Pacific Livestock case, but will attempt no other prosecutions.

Matilda Whitte, an Indian woman, who became famous during the Modoc war in 1872, when she was the trusted messenger of the peace commission and carried messages to and from the hostile Indians in the lava beds, died at Klamath Falls. She was 80 years of age.

That Indians from Umatilla reservation have done their part in serving the country in the war is shown by the record of more than 50 who have been doing their duty in France and in the training camps. The Indians responded willingly when called to the service.

After sitting for several days in front of a house at Dillon, east of The Dalles, apparently watching passing trains, the frozen body of an aged negro, believed to be Joseph Mullen, was found. It is believed he started to walk to The Dalles when he was overcome by the cold.

Early extension of the Strahorn railroad from its present terminal at Dairy, 29 miles east of Klamath Falls, to Bonanza, was indicated at a meeting of the residents of that section. Between \$10,000 and \$12,000 of the \$16,000 necessary to assure this construction was pledged.

Stockmen of Wasco county have agreed to support the effort to be made at this session of the legislature to enact a law providing for co-operation with the federal government in checking the predatory animal pest by matching the appropriation of the United States for this purpose.

The death house at the state penitentiary at Salem, where more than a score of men have been shot through the traps into eternity, is to be changed into a kitchen, and fully 300 convicts will be served their food cafeteria style, instead of the present "reach and grab" system which prevails, according to plans being worked out now by Warden Stevens.

Seven Hood River valley mills, headed by the Mitchell's Point Lumber company, with a cut of 3,500,000, last year turned out 11,575,000 feet of lumber. With the 24,000,000 feet produced by the Oregon Lumber company's mill at Dee, the valley's total lumber output for 1918 reached 35,547,000 feet.

The Crooked River road, for the construction of which the state and Crook county each appropriated \$95,000 recently, is now being surveyed and construction will probably begin within 90 days. This thoroughfare will be one of the most important post roads as well as one of the best scenic roads in the county.

The Astoria sanitary and reclamation commission has sold \$300,000 in bonds to Morris Bros., of Portland. The money is to be used for the construction of a bulkhead along the third reclamation district, from the Clatsop mill to Thirty-seventh street, and the entire district is to be filled with sand pumped from the river.

Merger of the Home telephone system in Portland with that of the Pacific States system was authorized in the federal court when a decree modifying the decree of March 26, 1914, was filed. The Pacific States company is permitted to acquire the Home exchanges in Portland, Albany, Corvallis and Oregon City.

Seven standard Russell road graders with scuffing attachments were last week ordered by the Lane county court and after their arrival will be distributed about the county for road maintenance work. These are considered to be valuable additions to the already extensive road building equipment of Lane county.

At a conference between Portland city officials and members of the school board a tightening of quarantine regulations against Spanish influenza was decreed. Reports at the meeting showed a considerable increase of new cases, and it was said that since October 19 last 11,536 cases and 918 deaths have been reported.

Judge Anderson, of Baker county circuit court, has ruled that the city authorities of La Grande were within their legal rights when they ordered the moving pictures to close during the influenza epidemic. The city ordered them closed, and the theater managers determined to take the matter to the courts for a test decision.

About 20 members of the Oregon military police who now are on duty are taking a chance at securing their salary, it has developed. The deficiency appropriation made by the emergency board to cover the expenses of that organization lapsed on January 1, and consequently the members of the force are at the mercy of the legislature.

The Dalles undertakers report that there were 55 deaths from influenza in that city during the last three months of 1918. A heavy toll has been taken by the second wave of the epidemic. Schools, libraries, pool-halls, theaters, churches, lodges and libraries have been closed; public funerals are forbidden, and all houses where the disease exists are quarantined.

A deal of considerable magnitude was closed at Sutherlin last week, when the Sutherlin Inn, of which Frank B. Waite is the principal owner, was sold to the Seventh Day Adventist people of southern Oregon. The hotel was built four years ago at a cost of \$30,000. The object of the Adventist people is to establish an academy in the building and move their school at Lorane to Sutherlin.

Secretary of the Interior Lane indicated in a speech before members of the house recently that he had adopted Representative Sinnott's suggestion of having his requested appropriation of \$100,000,000 for reclamation purposes incorporated in the sundry civil bill to insure action in this congress. If this appropriation is granted Representative Sinnott will seek to have two new irrigation projects initiated in Oregon.

With even nurses and assistants at some of the hospitals becoming ill from influenza, the situation at Salem has become so serious that city authorities have intimated that the already tight ban may be drawn even tighter unless radical steps are taken to preserve the regulations. It is even possible that the prohibitory measures may be extended to apply to all but absolutely essential businesses, such as meat markets, groceries and drug stores, and that other merchandising establishments will be ordered closed. It is estimated there are fully 1000 cases of the disease in the city.

Jackson county won the \$50 prize in the thrift campaign conducted by the school children of the state during last year under the auspices of the Oregon Bankers' association, the Oregon State Teachers' association, the Oregon department of education, the United States department of agriculture and the Oregon Agricultural college through the boys' and girls' club work department. The work has proved so successful that the Oregon Bankers' association will not only again offer \$50 in cash to the county making the best showing, but has voted \$200 for the printing of pupils' record books.

HOME ON CRUTCHES

Girl's Dream About Her Brother Came True.

One night one of the sisters of Private George A. Egan of Syracuse, N.Y., a veteran of the Twenty-third infantry, dreamed she saw her brother coming home and that he was on crutches. She saw so clearly and was so thoroughly convinced the apparition would come true she told her employer not to expect her back the following day at work.

Without a doubt in her mind, she arose the next morning and awaited the arrival of her brother, who had been absent for more than a year. The rest of the family following morning the rat-tat-tat of crutches on the walk leading to their home was heard, and George appeared at the kitchen door.

Nome, Alaska, Deserted.

Only about 500 persons are spending the winter at Nome, Alaska, this season. When the gold rushes of former years was on Nome had a population in winter time of several thousand. The last boat this fall was loaded to capacity with outgoing Alaskans.

LOST LIP IN BATTLE NOW HAS NEW ONE

New York Officer the Subject of an Interesting Operation in England.

A surgeon has played a trick on Lieut. Clement G. Felt of Olean, N. Y. But the lieutenant is not angry about it. In fact, he is one of the happiest men in London. He was hit by a shell on September 29 in the terrible battle between Cambrai and St. Quentin, when the Hindenburg line was broken. He lay unconscious in a shell hole, nobody knows how long. He doesn't know.

When he came to himself, he found that he was wounded in the lip, in the hand, and also that his lower lip had been blown away. He was taken to hospital and examined by a surgeon, who in due course placed him under an anesthetic and made him a new lip. The work was so perfectly done that even the lieutenant's own mother would never detect that the present lip is the second one that her son has worn. All that remains to show that he was wounded in the mouth is a slight scar, just a badge of honor.

Lieutenant Felt often wondered where the new flesh came from that went to his face. Was it taken from the anatomy of some generous colonel, or major general? Was it a contribution of some pretty young English maiden? That was what he hoped most of all. Lieutenant Felt is a bachelor. But, alas, it wasn't. Only the other day came the disillusionment. The bandages of his own left hand, which he thought had been damaged by the shell, were unwrapped. Then he discovered the trick the surgeon had played upon him while he was under the influence of the ether. There was a deep cut in the hand. That was the new lip.

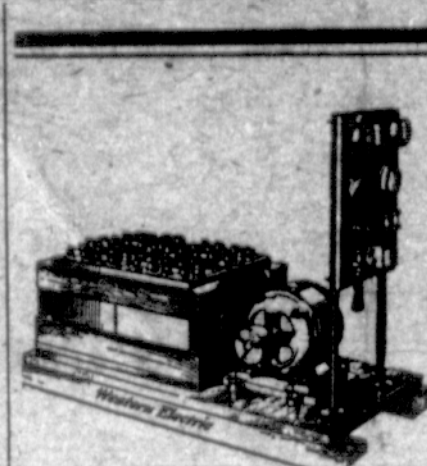
Passing of the Tall Hat.

The quaint tall hat which is now only seen in Wales, or on the heads of stage witches in pantomimes, was originally the fashionable head-dress for ladies during the reign of Queen Anne. A curious result of that fashion can, or could lately, be found at the West-Country vicarage once held by Lancelot Blackburne, the retired buccaneer who became archbishop of York. There the lintels of the doorways are, or were, abnormally high, to enable Mrs. Blackburne to go from room to room without fear of damage to her hat.

There was a Crowd in the Store

and they were trying to josh the Tobacco Man

"Have a chew on me," says he. "Break off just two or three squares. That's a man's size chew of Real Gravely. It holds its good taste



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