

The Observer

MORO, OREGON.

FRIDAY, August 19, 1921

Subscription Orders Taken

At the Observer office, Moro.

No Longer Popular.

No matter how black or threatening the outlook, keep working, keep visualizing your life dream, and some unexpected way will surely open for its fulfillment. The abiding faith in a power which will bring things out right in the end, which will harmonize discord, has always been strong in men and women who have done great things in the world.—Orison Squire Marden, in Chicago Daily News.

Dark Outlook.

"Do you think the judge will be hard on me?" asked an offender who was waiting for that tardy official to return to his bench. "I don't know," said the court clerk. "He told me he was going to have some roast pork for lunch, and roast pork always disagrees with him."

One Thing Certain.

A New York apartment house advertises several six-room suites at \$17,500 a year. We know nothing about these suites, but we do know that the tenant who occupies one of them doesn't make his money picking cotton or working in a sawmill.—Hins-ton Post.

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SEES PARENTS' DEATH-FIGHT

Girl of Thirteen a Witness When Mother Slays Husband in Chicago.

Chicago, July 11.—Mary Balough, wide-eyed and speechless with terror, witnessed a desperate battle between her father, Kalmer, and her mother, Mary, which ended when the mother seized a knife and stabbed her husband dead.

Neighbors who ran in found the wife unconscious beside his body. According to the daughter, who is but thirteen, Valmer Balough had been drinking and was upbraiding his wife for her conduct at a Sunday picnic. She retorted that he would have to quit drinking or she would leave him. He lunged at her with a butcher knife, but she wrested it from him and lunged it three times into his left side. The woman was badly stabbed and cut before she got the knife.

One of the most interesting experiments of recent times from a human interest standpoint was that in which Madame Tetrazzini, standing in her apartment in a New York hotel, sang to all ships in port and 800 miles out at sea that had a radio telephone on board, and was heard as distinctly as though she were singing to her hearers assembled in a hall. Also, the cheers and demands for an encore from ships so far away and so far apart were heard as distinctly. We are so accustomed to the marvels of science that we forget to stop a moment to remember what a wonderful age we are living in.

A St. Louis man, under arrest for shooting a detective, asserts that playing the ukulele transformed him from a gaily, upright citizen into a criminal. We don't know about that, but we do know of instances in which hearing someone play the ukulele has lured symptoms of homicidal mania in perfectly reputable persons.

Story "Took Like a Funeral." The hostess suggested that we each tell a funny story. When my turn came I was laughing so hard over the joke I wanted to tell that I could scarcely speak. Every one was anxious to hear it, and at last when I had controlled my laughter I began. No one even smiled when I finished. I was the only one who thought the story funny.—Exchange.

Didn't Have the Price. Returning home from the dentist's, where he had gone to have a loose tooth drawn, little Raymond reported as follows: "The doctor told me 'fore he began that if I cried or screamed it would cost me a dollar, but if I was a good boy it would be only 50 cents. 'Did you scream?' his mother asked. 'How could I?' answered Ray; 'you only gave me 50 cents.'"

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

The Lincoln county fair will be held at Toledo, September 8-10, inclusive. Medford policemen are waging a campaign against automobile mashers.

The Marion county flax crop will aggregate 800 tons, according to estimates made by growers.

Douglas county, through its county court, has just appropriated money to employ a public health nurse.

Wolves and cougars have been causing severe losses to stockmen grazing cattle on the Umpqua forest ranges.

Medford Chamber of Commerce officials are considering the possibility of establishing a municipal playground for children.

What is declared a good grade of coking coal, eight and one-half feet deep, was struck at the Munday oil well near Medford.

The quarterly meeting of the North Pacific Coast Association of Railway Special Agents and Police will be held in Portland September 17.

More than 2,000,000 pounds of loganberries were handled this season by the Kings Food Products company, with headquarters in Salem.

Six small forest fires were started in the Santiam national forest this week as the result of an electrical storm which swept the forest.

Salem cannery announce that the dried-fruit market has reached its lowest ebb and that better prices may be expected in the near future.

It is estimated that from 750 to 775 car loads of pears will be shipped out from the Rogue river valley this season, and about 800 cars of apples.

The catch of salmon by the purse seines operating outside and the gill netters drifting close to the mouth of the Columbia river continues good.

Members of the public service commission have set August 22 as the date for hearing the application for overhead railroad crossings near Brookings.

The Disabled Veterans Auxiliary is the name of a new corporation organized in Portland, according to articles filed in the state corporation department.

Harvest is under full head in Morrow county and wheat is making a fine yield in all sections. Better than 40 bushels were reported from many farms.

The rim road around Crater lake is open to travel, the last big cut through the deep snow still on the wonderful scenic road having been made.

Medford citizens interested in mining have formed a club for the purpose of stimulating mining activity in southern Oregon and northern California.

More than 1,500,000 pumpkin pies will be made next fall and winter from dehydrated pumpkins, to be put up this season by the Kings Products company of Salem.

Although 70 fires have occurred in the Deschutes national forest this year, so efficiently has protection work been organized that only 158 acres have been burned.

At the special recall election affecting the Umpqua board of port commissioners, J. L. Brown and Joseph R. Butler were retained in office by an overwhelming majority.

Fire of unknown origin swept over 200 acres of stubble on the Watts Brothers' ranch at Athena, destroying more than 1000 sacks of wheat, valued at approximately \$2000.

A dozen or more applicants have been received by the regents of the Oregon state normal school for appointment to succeed J. H. Ackerman, late president of the institution.

Work on the highways in Tillamook county is now nearing completion, with the exception of the bridge and the new road near Hebo, which will take two months more to complete.

The salmon pack this season will be about 75 per cent of that of last year, according to Carl D. Shoemaker, master fish warden. He estimated this year's pack at about 340,000 cases.

Cherry growers of Cove in Union county have shipped 18 carloads of black cherries and 11 carloads of Royal Annes and have already received over \$40,000 in payment for their crops.

Increases in the initial bond issue from \$2,000,000 to \$5,000,000 to make the first payments of the soldiers' loan and bonus voted by the people was decided upon by the state bonus commission.

The internal disturbances on the south side of Mount Hood have created no small interest at Hood River. While Hood River folks at first were prone to scout the stories, old-time mountaineers say they believe the eruption was caused as the result of an accumulation of melted snow and ice water coming in contact with the hot depths of the old crater.

5,735,000 Persons Now Out of Work.

Washington.—Best estimates available at this time show that 5,735,000 persons are out of employment in the United States, Secretary of Labor Davis reported to the senate.

Robbers Get Payroll of \$114,000. Springfield, Ill.—Four outlaws in an automobile held up a deputy sheriff and mine officer of the Peabody mining interests at Kincaid and escaped with a payroll of \$114,000.

MYSTERY OVER EFFIGY

Bundle Left on Doorstep of Havana Home Causes Excitement.

Negroes Attracted to the Scene Display Great Fear of Voodoo Evil and the Evil Eye.

Havana.—Belting in his shambling horse, an aged negro cab driver early one night recently removed a bundle from the shadows of his coach and deposited it in the doorway of an aristocratic residence near the Malecon, Havana's bay-shore drive.

The flickering light of a near-by arc lamp made it possible for passers-by to distinguish the outlines of the bundle. Apparently it was a rude effigy, the head an unhusked coconut, with the fiber unraveled enough to give the appearance of straggly hair, and the legless body a stuffed, ragged coat, to which were fastened bones and what apparently were twigs and berries.

The cab driver hardly had disappeared before a small group had congregated on the sidewalk before the portico that sheltered the effigy. The group swiftly grew into a small crowd, composed mostly of negroes and mulattos. Noisy before they caught a glimpse of the motionless figure, the spectators, after giving one glance, lost their animation and became a part of the whispering, nervous assemblage.

The suppressed excitement became more pronounced when a negro band, ranged Haitians from the country, started a monotonous air on their tom toms and notched calabashes.

Nobody touched the effigy, not even the policemen attracted to the scene, who confined their energies to keeping the sidewalk clear.

The windows of the house itself remained shuttered and closed, although gleams of light indicated the family was awake, even if not desirous of protesting against uninvited visitors.

As the hour grew later the crowd dwindled, those leaving hastening their steps as they passed through the deserted streets, with apprehension in their backward glances and frequent signs of the cross, inconspicuously supplemented with fingers crossed against the evil eye.

Fear of voodoo evils whose fearfully muttered names were often linked with the words, "death before sunrise," sent them hurrying homeward.

But before dawn the effigy had disappeared.

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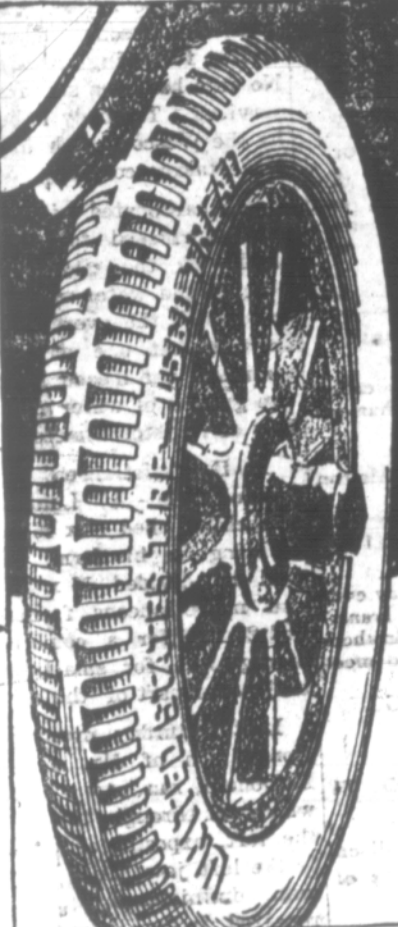
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