

SHERMAN COUNTY OBSERVER

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FRIDAY..... June 13, 1924

Would be censors of literature do not fare so well as they would like in this country, for not infrequently the courts fall to be shocked by books which have been made the objects of hopeful attack. Over in England the proprieties are more meticulously protected—sometimes—and one of the times was when the editor of a London periodical was sentenced to prison for four months and to pay a fine of \$250 because he had printed a book review quoting several passages from an American novel. That novel has been severely criticized here, too, but the assaults upon it failed to produce a decree either of punishment or of suppression. Whether or not the book as a whole was "indecent" is a question on which opinions honestly can differ. The author and his friends insisted that its purpose was excellent and its total effect commendable, but so much of the general judgment as it received pronounced the novel dull and uninteresting, and that, of course, is the ultimate condemnation of any book. It is curious that the British court has done in this case just what ours have refused to do—judged single, separated passages by themselves, and not as part of a whole. The number of great and good books that would not stand that sort of judgment is large. It is, however, one thing to print a book in the course of which appear passages by themselves violating accepted proprieties, and to print a review which collects and presents those passages as proof of what American life has come to be. The editor who did that, or allowed his reviewer to do it, certainly does deserve some sort of punishment, if only for his stupid unfairness.

The third California District Court of Appeals decided that a pedestrian has a right to walk in the road if he wants to. The old English common law for the protection of pedestrians, declared the court, is still in force in California. A pedestrian cannot be convicted of carelessness. The decision was handed down in a case where a man while walking on the road was hit from behind by a truck.

BILL BARBER SAYS
THE MELTING POT THEORY DOESN'T ALWAYS WORK WELL. SCRAMBLING THE EGGS DOESN'T HELP MUCH IF THERE'S ONE BAD ONE IN THE LOT.



Cross Country Auto Party Home

Truman Strong and wife returned Sunday evening from a 6-week's trip to and through California points, New Orleans, Washington, D. C., New York, Buffalo and Detroit. At the last named place Mr. Strong accepted delivery of a big six Buick sedan which he drove back to Sherman county by way of Yellowstone park. Upon arrival at Moro the speedometer registered 3152 miles from Detroit. They were fourteen days making the trip and only lost their road twice at cost of six extra miles travel. They were in Yellowstone park two days, where they viewed all the scenic wonders and enjoyed fishing in the mountain streams of the park, catching their limit each day. Mr. Strong presented the editor of the Observer with two fine large specimens of the black speckled trout that abound in the waters of Yellowstone park.

He reports fine roads the entire distance with the exception of about twenty miles in Montana where he had to use chains. The last day's drive was a distance of 360 miles, from Boise, Idaho. They had rain nearly every day of the trip, leaving the last rain storm at Pendleton. Auto camps were used as stopping places at night, the car being equipped with camp accessories, a bed being made in the car over the seats. Mr. Strong stated that in all five weeks of train and auto travel, he did not see any place that appealed to him more than does Sherman county and that he is now better satisfied than ever before to continue to make Sherman county his future home.

The United States bureau of chemistry announces the discovery of a method whereby a ton of sundried wheat straw is said to yield 10,000 cubic feet of illuminating gas 10 gallons of tar and 625 pounds of carbon residue. The bureau intimates that some day we may see motorists buying gas by the cubic foot from the local gas company instead of gasoline by the gallon from the service station. Cars have been operated by gas experimentally the gas being carried in a rubber storage bag. A car carrying 300 cubic feet of gas can run about fifteen miles it is said.

A Holland without windmills won't look at all like the pictures but such a transformation is under way. Modern electric motors are rapidly taking over the wind's traditional job. The original purpose of the Dutch wind mills was to pump flood waters from the dykes and thus protect the low lying fields from overflow. They worked all right when there was wind but in times of calm they loafed and so now the wind's place is being taken by the electric motor which works whenever the juice is turned on and not only pumps water but propels dairy machinery and threshes grain.

Chinese Women Gossip. According to one authority the upper class women of China give little attention to serious affairs, spending most of their time in gossiping and gambling.

Farmers' Meeting Votes Basic Wages For Harvest Workers

The meeting called for last Sunday to convene in this city to discuss harvest wages for this season was attended by farmers from five counties—Unatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman and Wasco. A tentative wage scale for harvest work for the five counties for both stationary and combine outfits was adopted as follows:

Derrick drivers and box drivers with nets \$2; box drivers pitch off \$2.50; loaders nets or pitch off \$3.00. Sack sowers either stationary or combine \$3.50; header punchers, stationary, \$4; combines, \$2.50; hoe downs, \$2.50; engineers, \$4; separator tenders, stationary or combine, \$5; combine drivers, \$3.50; straw haulers, \$2.50; cat driver, \$5; water buck and roustabout, \$2.50; cooks, up to ten men, \$2.

The meeting also adopted a resolution that two delegates be appointed to represent each county at meetings to be held during the harvest season. These meetings to recommend changes in the wage scale where necessary. The delegates to be appointed by the president of the local farm bureau, the president of the farmers union, or the county agent, of each county. Part of the duty of the delegates will be to advise each county regarding the active supply and demand for harvest workers.

Literary critics who read the trend of modern literature as indicating the passing of romance are reading against the truth. Romance came early into the world, and it will stay late. From time to time literature may wander after new gods and romance may temporarily be laid aside, but not for long. Man invariably takes it back again to his heart when he craves the warming thrill that nothing else in writing can give. The Muse that holds sway over romance has made for herself a place from which no assaults by the so-called realistic or psychological or any other school can oust her. Romance has rendered man great service by cheering him in time of depression, by firing him to heroic action, by stirring him to high idealism, by shortening his hours of weariness. Other kinds of literature will not replace it, because they can't.

The maxim that ignorance of the law is no excuse came into being when there was little, if any, excuse for ignorance; when law was the expression of rules of conduct that could be sensed from knowledge of right and wrong; when it was simple and ran directly against obvious ills. But the increasing output of legislation threatens to crowd out the remnants on this and that subject, the rapidly growing list of "mala prohibita" or offenses arbitrarily so listed, the confusion of laws as between sections through which transient elements pass make it difficult even for students to learn them and practically impossible for the layman to know them. If the maxim is to retain its force and not work injustice, complication and multiplication of laws must cease.

One of the most significant departures in colonial administration has been undertaken by the Holland government, which has granted complete autonomy to the island's colonies of Java, Sumatra and Celebes. The natives will elect members who will sit in the parliament at The Hague. Holland is the second largest colonial power in the world, comparatively speaking. The population of the Dutch East Indies is close to 80,000,000, while in natural resources the islands are unsurpassed in the East. The policy of England and Holland, the two greatest empire builders in the world, has always been to bind the natives' interest to their own. A delegation will start shortly from the Philippine islands to study the system of colonial administration at first hand in Java.

Items of Interest From Every where

R. B. Williamson was elected president of the Albany chamber of commerce at the annual meeting.

William Hilton, Portland contractor, was the successful bidder on the school building to be erected at Fossil.

A total of \$31,110.50 was turned over to the state treasurer by the state land board during the month of May.

Fitzhugh G. Lee has been confirmed by the senate as postmaster at Junction City, Or., and William C. Foster at Tillamook.

Thirty-nine students at the Indian school at Chemawa received diplomas from Governor Pierce at the graduating exercises.

Eugene's building permits totaled \$1,347,035 for the first five months of 1924. The permits during May amounted to \$250,150.

City officials have asked that Eugene people curtail their use of water, as the filtering plant is not working up to standard.

An order restraining the state game commission from changing the open season on deer was issued by Circuit Judge Bingham, Wednesday.

Building permits in Marshfield for the first five months of 1924 aggregated \$331,000, which is nearly on a par with those issued throughout 1923.

The University of Oregon has raised \$309,783 thus far in its nation-wide million-dollar endowment campaign, according to the official report issued May 23.

A limited number of enlistments from Portland for the air service in the Philippines has been authorized by the ninth corps area headquarters at San Francisco.

R. T. Spalding has resigned as secretary of the Marshfield chamber of commerce to become secretary of the Medford chamber, succeeding H. O. Frobach, resigned.

Democrats from many sections of the state, some 500 in number, gathered in Portland Wednesday for the 31st annual convention of the Oregon State Dental Association.

While other regions suffer from lack of water, the Warm Springs irrigation project enjoys the distinction of being the only project in the west with a surplus for 1924.

Charles H. Carey, delegate at large from Oregon to the republican national convention was selected to make a speech seconding the nomination of President Coolidge.

The state tax on sales of gasoline and distillate in Oregon during the month of April aggregated \$214,497.05, according to a statement prepared by Sam A. Koser, secretary of state.

A seawall of more than a half mile in length is one of the ambitious projects of Newport. The wall has been started and about 800 feet is under construction by the port commission.

F. E. Mallory was wounded in the face, chest and abdomen in exchanging shots with five men whom he observed prowling around the merchandise store of H. N. Beck in Hubbard.

Henry Tuckman of Portland, died at a Salem hospital as the result of injuries suffered when a truck in which he was riding plunged down a hill on the highway between Dallas and Independence.

Closer organization of the live stock industry of the state and the Pacific northwest was emphasized at the 11th annual convention of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' association of Oregon held in Baker.

The Rev. Robert A. Buchanan of Sitka, Alaska, has accepted the pastorate of Grace Presbyterian church at Albany, succeeding the Rev. A. D. Thompson, who resigned after serving several years.

At the Quartz crossing about five miles east of Baker, a west bound freight train ran into a herd of cattle belonging to Palmer & Denham and killed twenty-two and seriously injured a number more.

A convention of music teachers and professional musicians of Oregon was held at the University of Oregon Friday and Saturday of last week. Several hundred persons from all parts of the state attended.

The Southern Pacific company has secured an option on 39 acres of Klamath Falls property which will be utilized for switching, shops and roundhouse facilities for the new Eugene-Klamath Falls line.

Organization has been perfected in Portland of a daylight lodge of Masons, whose membership is composed of members who are employed at night and who therefore can attend only sessions held by day.

After receiving no fish since the opening of the season on Rogue river, the Macleay Estate company at Wedburn has reached an agreement with the union fishermen, who will be paid \$1 1/4 cents for their catches.

Ten thousand pounds of chittim bark from trees in the Siuslaw national forest have just been sold by the forest service to William Wilbur of Deadwood creek, according to Ralph S. Shelley, supervisor of this forest.

Governor Walter M. Pierce was the principal speaker at the community picnic held at the Beaver Creek school grounds Thursday, June 13, under auspices of the Beaver Creek grange and the Beaver Creek Co-operative company.

Chester Wheatfill and Harold Stuman, Eugene youths found guilty in circuit court on the charge of assault and robbery while armed with a dangerous weapon, were sentenced to serve seven years each in the state penitentiary.

Two Cars Smash Monday Night Four Miles South Grass Valley

A complete wreck of two cars, each driving under California license, occurred about four miles south of Grass Valley at 9:30 on Monday evening. The cars met on a curve, with the result that parts of each car were liberally scattered over the Sherman highway. A man named Rodgers, accompanied by a Mr. Farleigh and wife, in a buick roadster and Thomas Moss, accompanied by E. T. Patrick, of Criterion, driving a Dodge touring car were the parties concerned. Rodgers was the only one hurt the steering post of his car injuring his chest and causing him to bleed at the mouth. Sheriff Chrieman was called to the scene of the wreck on Tuesday morning but at this time no complaint has been officially filed against either driver.

Field Day at Experiment Station

Saturday, June 4th, will be field day on the experiment station at Moro. A general invitation is extended to all farmers, business men and any one interested to visit the station on that date. A meeting will be held in the forenoon at which several prominent speakers will discuss the general agricultural situation and particularly the problems of the west grower both production and marketing. Prof. Geo. R. Hyslop of the Oregon experiment station and M. A. McCall of Washington experiment station and U. S. department of agriculture will be present to deliver addresses. The meetings will be in the forenoon beginning at 9:30 with the afternoon devoted to an inspection of the station.

Fire that started in the dry kilns of the Gold Medal shingle mill, in the Nehalem, near Birkenfeld, destroyed 39 trucks of shingles that were in the kilns and about 1,500,000 shingles on the outside, entailing a property loss estimated at \$10,000.

A. W. Stone, who on June 1 terminated his connection with the Hood River Apple Growers' association, immediately began the task of converting the Mosier Fruit Growers' association into an organization characterized by strictly co-operative lines.

As soon as arrangements can be completed, an airplane forest fire patrol will be established at Eugene, Senator McNary was told by Secretary of War Weeks and Colonel William C. Greeley, chief of the forest service. Three planes are to be provided for the use of the patrol.

Several hundred residents of the country lying north of Salem, staged a demonstration in Salem with the presentation to the county court of a petition asking for a paved roadway connecting Brooks and Mount Angel and piercing part of the Lake Labish district. The petition contained 87 names.

"No one is able to estimate, in happiness or money the value to women of electric labor saving devices," says Miss Sophia Malicki of the women's public information committee of the national electric light association. "The labor saving devices have given her longer life, have allowed her time for cultural pursuits, have made her physically more beautiful and, in a word, are making life more enjoyable through freeing her of home drudgery."

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