

SHERMAN COUNTY OBSERVER

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The "diabolical ray" bore from the beginning the mark of quackery. The extreme claims that were made by its inventor, his unwillingness to submit his invention to thorough testing, his attempts to make a quick sale of his "secret" in so many places, the outcropping of others with similar "secrets"—all these circumstances brought it under the suspicion of the judicious, says the New York Evening Post. Science in our time is no longer black magic; it progresses step by step over a broad field and many minds are familiar with each small and successive advance. No one experimenter can jump very far ahead of the crowd. Doubtless there are many that could duplicate the "diabolical ray" stunts, as Houdini duplicates the doings of mediums. In fact, it is reliably reported that some similar device is in use for killing vermin in biscuit factories. However diabolical the ray may be, the chances are a hundred to one against its being important enough for the world to get excited about.

School children of the United States have had teeth, poor eyesight, defective joints, deafness and even more serious ailments. And they have them to such an extent that only one-quarter of the 22,000,000 youngsters are given a clean bill of health in a survey recently made public. If optimists insist on revising the figures so as to present a more cheerful picture, it will still remain true that millions of young Americans are suffering from defects that retard their development and reduce their chances for long lives and happy ones. Of course, from time immemorial human beings have made good in spite of considerable handicaps, but that fact does not justify parents in thoughtlessly accepting the handicaps for their children when correction in most instances can easily be made.

England reports that city-born babies are healthier than the country-born ones in that kingdom. It appears that babies don't mind noise, and crowding, but they must have their sterilized milk.

Those gentlemen who are forbidden by law from making large contributions to political campaigns have the consolation of knowing that the church funds still are playing the game wide open.

One advantage of the United States form of government lies in the number of resignation rumors it can accommodate without any necessary inference that there will be a cabinet crisis.

And this is also the season of grand opera in the woodlands.

The right of way is not near as important as is driving the right way.

BILL PAPPER

BY RAISING THE PRICE OF SUGAR THE SPECULATORS ARE POACHING ON THE HOUSEWIVES' PRESERVES

Buyers Manipulate Wheat Market to Grab Cheap Wheat for Europe

There were several new developments of interest in the world's wheat trade for last week but none of them appeared sufficient at the moment to bring the price up. Instead values closed the six days' trading period with a loss as compared with the previous week's final. There is no doubting the strong pressure that is being brought to bear wheat prices at the leading world's centers. By depressing values artificially for a few days, European and Asiatic buyers are enabled not only to make up for the losses they may suffer in selling short and then being forced to cover, but during the interval of low prices they secure the actual cash which they so sorely need. They do not buy futures in the hope of getting wheat, because such is not possible. They utilize the futures to manipulate the price of the cash stuff.

Every effort is being made by foreign interests to keep secret their sales and charters of ships for foreign loading. In this they have been more or less successful for very little of the news of chartering and sale has leaked out until either all of the wheat needed had either been purchased or only a scant supply was still needed. This could be "covered" at an advance—such as has been done on numerous occasions—without unduly affecting the price of the entire load.

Europe's greatest wheat crop authorities are today willing to admit that the world is going into a very short crop season. Recent cables indicate this. The shortest world's crop for many years is the actual forecast, which follows the digging deeper into the reserves of other crops.

Argentina was a real bearish factor during the week although there were periods during which substantial advances were forced at Buenos Aires. A cabled official estimate of the planting for the 1924-5 crop showed a slight increase in the figures as compared with a year ago, although the area was smaller than had been previously forecast.

United Kingdom advices indicated generally unsettled weather with rain in parts. Complaints regarding the crops are becoming more general and the harvest is some what delayed. Bulgarian advices again indicated that the wheat yields are very disappointing.

There appears little doubt that recent sales of wheat to Europe have been extremely liberal although practically all of the transactions are kept under cover. Japanese interests are loath to acknowledge any considerable business in this direction despite the fact that even official information indicate a very short rice crop in the Japanese empire generally while Manchurian wheat is extremely disappointing.

This leaves only the increased Argentine area as a leading bear factor at the moment. It is a long time before harvest time in the Argentine and many things can happen—and usually do—to curtail crop prospects in that country.

Kings were once all the name implies. On the Egyptian monuments you can read—if you can read hieroglyphics—how the earth trembled at their tread and all mankind fell upon their faces in the dust before them. It is not so any more. All that is as dead as the stone kings on the monuments. Kings haven't even any rights any more, says the San Francisco Chronicle. Observe the poor king of Innishmurray. Michael Waters is his name and for untold generations his forbears have lorded it over their peaty isle. King Michael can't even brew himself a drop of poteen any more. An irreverent republican government says he's just a plain moonshiner and bootlegger and claps him into Silgo jail. How the kings must wish they were all back in Egypt three thousand years ago!

ALONG LIFE'S TRAIL

By THOMAS A. CLARK
Dean of Men, University of Illinois.
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ECONOMIZING GASOLINE

I WAS going off for a motor trip with very little knowledge of the habits and vagaries of automobiles in general and this one in particular.

"If you want to save gasoline," Spencer said to me, "drive steadily at a moderate speed. It takes gasoline to stop and start the car frequently, and nothing eats it up like pushing the machine beyond its normal speed." I was interested.

An automobile is apparently not unlike people. Kinney was building a house for me. It was begun in April and was to be finished by September. The work dragged at first and I spoke to him about it.

"Don't worry," he said, "we have oceans of time. I'll have the job finished a month before the day agreed upon." He was mistaken, however. There were delays at a crucial time, a strike laid the men off for two weeks, and when September came, although Kinney was "steppin' on 'er" hard, the house lacked a month of completion. He had wasted his opportunities at the beginning and no matter how much gasoline he used up at the end he could not make the grade.

There was Culver, on the other hand, who did his work so regularly that he never seemed rushed or worried for fear he would not be finished in season.

The fellow who does his work regularly, who keeps from worry, who sets for himself a moderate intellectual pace and keeps it every day will accomplish more by the end of the year than the fellow who works by fits and starts, who loafs at the beginning of the week, and then pushes himself to a pace of fifty miles an hour on Sunday. It is the moderate uniform rate of speed that saves the nerves and economizes the gasoline.

Very few young people give much thought to the future. The fact that they will some day be old, or weakened, or broken in strength does not occur to them. The young fellow, however, who dissipates his energies or his emotions, who lives the fast life, who taxes his physique beyond its normal resistance, ultimately pays the penalty. Before his journey is ended, his strength will be gone, the gasoline will be out.

Each of us has about so much reserve power. If we waste it today, we shall need it tomorrow. If we use up our energies in youth, we may expect a premature, weakened old age.

European Wheat Crop Officially Admitted Now to be Half Failure

The wheat crop of ten European countries is 16 per cent under that of last year, according to forecasts announced by the department of agriculture in predicting a further reduction in world supply.

Recent news of reductions has caused the price of American wheat to jump for the farmers and the latest announcement of the department was considered as an indication that a European market might be opened for the American surplus.

England and Wales are four million bushels under last year; Hungary 14 million bushels short, and Poland's reduction is estimated at seven million bushels.

At the same time the department announced that the Indian wheat crop is higher than expected and "somewhat more than 20 million bushels surplus will be available for export."

"Freak varieties" of all kinds of farm crops, new and unheard of, are usually offered for sale at this time of year. If exaggerated claims are made for any variety of crop, growers will do well to ask the Oregon Experiment station about it. Remember Miracle wheat?

Reading of advertising is worth while

Pendleton Preparing For Annual Round-Up With Thrilling Contests

With arrangements completed for four relay strings at the Pendleton Round-Up, to be presented for the fifteenth consecutive year, September 18, 19 and 20, the great show gives every promise of eclipsing that of all other years.

The fleet race horses owned by Geo. Drumheller, Eddie McCarty, Harry Walters and C. B. Irwin, respectively, will compete in those stellar events, the relay races, which play an important part in the Round-Up programs. Each owner brings with him competent riders for both the cowboys' and cowgirls' relay, and this year they promise an array of talent which is internationally known.

With the approach of Round-Up, work has begun on the trophies which are coveted by all the cowboys. They are the prize saddles, of handsome leather with silver trappings, which will go to the winner of the north-west bucking champion and of the world's championship bucking. In addition there is the \$2500. Roosevelt trophy of silver and bronze to be awarded the all-round cowboy at the Pendleton and Cheyenne shows. Last year the trophy was won by Yakima Carutt, who must win it twice again before he can retain possession permanently.

To the all-round cowboy of the Pendleton show goes the famous Police-Gazette belt, with its gold engraved buckle. This trophy has been awarded each year since 1912, when the first award was made. Besides the saddles and other trophies, there are cash and merchandise prizes for all events.

Waukoma Bridge at Hood River Will be Completed October First

Steel crews last week completed placing the last girder in the seventh span of the Waukoma interstate bridge across the Columbia between Hood River and White Salmon. The total length of the seven piers, which reach from an 1800 foot wooden trestle on the Oregon bank to the channel span, is 1456 feet. Riveters completed their work on the steel this week.

Crews of the construction company are now concentrating their efforts on three piers on the Washington side of the Columbia. When these are completed two 208 foot spans and the channel span of 252 will be laid, completing the structure. It is anticipated that the bridge will be ready for traffic by late October.

CHURCH NEWS

Notes of Interest to All Local Denominations

Sunday school at the usual hour next Sunday morning at the Presbyterian church.

Morning service at the Presbyterian church at the usual hour next Sunday. The sermon will be by the pastor, Rev. Henry G. Hanson, who will also preach the same afternoon at DeMoss park, at 4:30 o'clock.

Christian Science church services are held at eleven o'clock on Sunday morning and at eight o'clock on Wednesday evening. Sunday school at 10:15. This church maintains a free circulating library located at the rear of the church, where all authorized Christian Science literature may be read, purchased or borrowed. All are cordially invited to attend the services and to make use of the reading room.

W. F. Rader and Miss Elepha McDonald were married last Sunday, August 24th, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Neil McDonald, living in the Hay canyon district. Mr. Rader has leased the Hines place, northwest of Moro, owned by J. N. Landry, where the young people will make their future home.

After September 1 there will be no more rural mailcarriers driving horses out of Eugene. On that date motor route C will be established, taking over the work of three of the present carriers, and one postoffice, that at Fox Hollow, will be discontinued.

Forest Supervisor MacDuff has recommended to the district forester at Portland that the carrying of firearms be prohibited on the watersheds of Salt creek, Winnberry creek and Fall creek, where some of the best deer hunting in Oregon is to be found.

Conditions at Hood River which a couple of weeks ago pointed to an apple harvest earlier than usual, were removed by the recent rains, which are expected to delay maturity of the fruit. The showers, although light, will be of great benefit to growers of the district.

Meeting of Board of Equalization
Notice: There will be a meeting of the County Board of Equalization for Sherman County, Oregon, at the court house on the second Monday in September, at Moro, Oregon, that being the 8th day of September, 1924, to publicly examine the Assessment Rolls, correct all errors in valuation, description of lands, or other property assessed by me, and it shall be the duty of persons interested to appear at the time and place appointed. All petitions must be made in writing and verified by oath of the applicant and filed with the Board within fifteen days from the time it is by law required to meet.
OTTO PEETZ County Assessor.

John Dunn

Word was received in this city late Monday that John Dunn had passed away in Portland that evening. Funeral services were held at Grass Valley on Wednesday afternoon, under direction of the Crandall Undertaking company, by I. O. O. F. lodges of Wasco, Grass Valley and Moro, Mr. Dunn being a member of the last named lodge. John Dunn was formerly a resident of Grass Valley, coming to that place from Lafayette, Yamhill county, in 1897. He was a blacksmith by trade and for a number of years operated a shop at Grass Valley, which he sold some years ago and moved to a small farm on the John Day river. He was a resident of this city until about a year ago, since which time he has made his home in Portland.

At the time of his death, Mr. Dunn was past 75 years old, having arrived at that age on January 7th, 1924. Surviving him are: Three sons, Ray, Dunn, of Clisco, California; Ralph and Earl Dunn, of Bend, Oregon; a grandson, Hildred Zell, of The Dalles; one brother, B. W. Dunn, of Grass Valley; two sisters, Mrs. L. McVicker, of Portland, and Mrs. Emma Lee, of San Francisco; one brother-in-law, Monroe Messenger, of Portland.

Immediate cause of death was leakage of the heart, induced in part by high blood pressure. His last sickness was of less than two week's duration, having been affected by an attack of heart failure while taking a bath at his home in Portland on Saturday, August 16th.

In the city of Chicago, which now has 700,000 telephones, it took 27 years to get the first hundred thousand subscribers and only two years to get the last hundred thousand.

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