

THE "OBSERVER" TURNS ON HIS FLASHLIGHT

Capron, of Multnomah, devotes a great deal of his oratory to flowery sentences. He is particularly fond of talking about the great state of Oregon. He may start off on some railroad or corporation bill, but will always end up on the subject of Oregon. He is very fond of referring to the state as the land of strippling lads and buxom lassies. Mr. Capron switched off one day last week and got to talking about some law on the statute books in Texas.

The following is part of his description of the Lone Star state without the least exaggeration: "The eastern and western boundary lines of the great and magnificent state of Texas stretch from the rising to the setting sun. Her northern extremities are chilled by the cold, sharp blasts of winter's bitterest breath, while her southern shores bask in the mild, warm sunshine from the glorious sun."

Scientists are claiming that baldness is a sure sign of superior intellectuality. Either the scientists are wrong or Oregon has a very common and stupid assortment of Senators and Representatives. Bald heads are very scarce in the House, the majority of the members being provided with a heavy, thick stock of hair. Of course, there are exceptions to all rules, so it cannot be said there are no bald heads. Several of the members are almost totally bald. Visitors who attend the House at first expect to find a lot of bald headed old men, but they were greatly mistaken. One of the reasons

why baldness is almost at a premium in the House of Representatives is the fact that the largest number of the members are middle-aged men.

A report was circulated in Salem last week that the ministers of this city had boycotted the Senate. For three successive mornings there was no pastor to lead in prayer and things began to look suspicious. It was finally learned, however, that the ministers had intended being present, but in each instance they had overslept. The House has been opened with prayer every morning since the convening of the Legislature.

As a general rule the privileges of the floor are extended to numerous members during the sessions of the House of Representatives. It is done upon the request of the members. In extending the privileges Speaker A. J. Miller is obliged to pronounce the names of the recipients. When he runs across a Smith, a Wilson or a Jones he speaks his name out so distinctly that it can be heard without difficulty. Sometimes, however, he encounters names that would stand comparison with the Russian names seen in the telegraph. In such cases he has to mutter a few unintelligible words and sits down in confusion.

Salem restaurants were grossly misrepresented at a recent session of the House of Representatives. A bill was introduced relating to surgery. The violator of the act would be liable a term of five years at the state pen-

itentiary or three weeks confinement in a Salem restaurant. This was at the session Thursday night, held by the Third House.

Representative Von der Hellen, of Jackson county, is the most unassuming and quiet man in the House. So far he has even failed to take the floor to advocate his bills when they come up for final passage. Mr. Von der Hellen, in spite of this peculiarity, is very popular.

Nearly all of the Representatives have a mania for introducing bills on certain subjects. Mayor so far has presented at least a half dozen bills relating to the protection of salmon. Smith, of Josephine, has presented an almost unlimited number of bills and resolutions relating to restriction of railroads. Linthicum, of Multnomah, is always thinking of some change in the code to remedy technical conveniences. He also introduces bills to more readily facilitate the business of corporations.

Smith of Baker, has the mania for presenting bills relating to mining. He used to be a practical miner. When Steiner introduces a bill a close investigation will show that it is aimed as a remedy for the range war now raging in certain portions of the state. Others have irrigation on their brains and some are continually entering claims of minor importance. The large majority of these bills also carry an appropriation.

When night sessions are held at the

House of Representatives, W. Lair Thompson and J. A. Finch take turns with Pat McArthur, the reading clerk. Finch, who is the fastest reader of the three, comes in particularly handy when charter bills are under consideration.

At the convening of the present session of the Legislature, resolution after resolution was carried in both the Senate and House. Representatives provided the members with every possible convenience. They are given pencil knives, paper cutters, free newspapers, stamps, stationery; in fact, almost everything they desire. Yet they are not satisfied. A Representative was heard kicking the other day because they were not furnished with "matches." He said the Washington members of the Legislature at Olympia were furnished with matches, and he couldn't understand why the Oregonians should be discriminated against.

Spectators take great pleasure and delight in noticing the different characteristic attitudes assumed by the members in the House of Representatives. Linthicum, of Multnomah, has a habit of leaning far back in his chair and gazing at the ceiling. Burns, of Coos, sits with his feet on his desk and runs his hands through his hair. Nearly all the members have similar peculiarities in this line, which develops from the hard work imposed upon them while at Salem.

Capron, of Multnomah, in recently

making a speech, said: "I have in my life time lost two prohibition boats upon the troubled waters of political upheavals." He meant to use the word votes, but no one knew the difference until he afterwards remarked about it.

A number of members of the Legislative Assembly were sitting in the lobby of the Willamette Hotel the other evening availing themselves by telling funny witty stories and coincidences which resulted in rather peculiar and embarrassing predicaments. "Did you ever hear the circumstances of the S— affair," said a member of the House of Representatives from Multnomah. "Well, you know that they sold their home and both left town. I happen to know something about the case, as a particular friend of mine, a jeweler, played an important part in the affair."

"One day Mrs. S— was in the store and my jeweler friend thought he would do her a favor by giving her a tip. It seems as though Mr. S— had been in the store dickering over a diamond ring priced at \$250. He said it was too much, but would buy it if the price was cut down to \$200, and left the store saying he would be back to see about it later. The jeweler, naturally supposing that of course the ring was intended for his wife, told Mrs. S— about it when she happened in the store. She was greatly pleased and as she was very anxious to have the ring, gave the jeweler \$50 and told him to tell her husband

that he had decided to let him have it for \$200.

"Mrs. S— learned a few days afterwards that her husband had purchased the ring and waited in great anticipation for its presentation, telling her bosom friends what a liberal, considerate and loving husband Mr. S— was. Days went by and then weeks and no ring appeared or no mention of the matter from her husband. One evening he went home to find a note worded something like this: 'I could forgive you for giving that \$250 ring, which you got for \$200, away to someone else, but as I paid the difference out of my allowance and have waited for it for three weeks, I fell a thought, it is rubbing it in too hard.'

"Mr. Smith left for the East immediately in search of his wife, who presumably had gone to her mother. Later he sent back word to have his residence sold. It is not known whether they were reconciled or not, but the opinion prevails that Mrs. S— will never forgive him."

"Did you ever hear of a Portland girl getting switched off on the wrong car," said another Representative from Multnomah. "She was coming from the East on the O. R. & N. She stayed up on the Pullman reading a magazine, and it was about midnight before she started to go to bed. All the rest of the passengers had retired and as she was fully undressed behind the curtains of her berth she heard a familiar voice in the aisle, someone passing by. She looked out and discovered an intimate girl friend of hers

She called and they immediately began embracing, as they had not seen each other for several months. "After a hasty consultation it was decided that the girl who was in her berth would run in and sleep with her chum as they had so much to talk over and couldn't wait until morning. She slipped on her slippers and away she went.

"It seems that her friend was on a visit, and was going to stop off at Boise, Idaho. The porter, on his first trip, told them the steward was not switched off until daylight, and the girls settled down to a big long talk. They woke up before daylight and the Portland girl started for her berth in the car ahead. Imagine her dismay upon opening the door to encounter the coal car of an engine. The Pullman had been switched off at Nampa, an engine was taking it to Boise, twenty miles away.

"The poor girl, with only her night-gown, was compelled to hibernate in her berth all the next day, while her friend purchased a new and complete outfit. As she wanted to look as neat as possible when she returned home she bought an expensive outfit of clothes with borrowed money from her friend, and started again on her journey that evening, a sorrier, poorer, but wiser girl."

After this story a mock resolution was introduced and passed allowing the members to hit for their beds, as they had a hard day's work in front of them and had to be at the State House early—11 o'clock. —E. A. H.

Ideas Triumphant

War is fighting. Fighting is a natural trait. Man's very survival depends upon his ability to fight. Fighting is brave, manly, may be noble. It is noble for the victor to fight in defense of his hearth. Just as it was a manly virtue for the savage to die a bloody death in defending his home, so it was a manly thing for a nation to defend its liberties. Just as the survival of a tribe depended on its fighting qualities in primitive ages, so in later times the survival of a civilization depended on the wars in its defense against the attacks of barbarians. With the safety of civilization assured, the usefulness of war has ceased. The world cares not to have the world all Anglo-Saxon. Victors should rule the world, and there may be all any one of the older civilizations of Asia lessons for the Anglo-Saxon and the Celt.

The usefulness of war ceased when any peaceful progression was assured against the assaults of absolute savagery. Then, the world was ruled by states came rulers and a ruling class. There is in every state a ruling class. There is a ruling class in the United States. The world king has been banished, but a ruling class remains. Political machines are the engines of a ruling class. Right depends on might. If your homes are invaded, fight; if a robber has robbed you of your heritage and will not render it back, then, as a last resort, kill him and possess yourself of what is your own.

A nation is but a mass of men. There are no other morals for a million men than for one. Right depends on numbers. What it always was and still is noble for the man to fight for single-handed, it is right for the nation to fight for. The right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness against all invaders—this is the beginning and end of all fighting by man or nation. But war at the best is waste, corruption, debt. Man has progressed only through peace. War, being now useless save to gratify some ruling monarch or class, should be abandoned. It has no more place in the settlement of international disputes today than there is in the settlement of private disputes, in which the stronger was declared right. In the modern adjudication of individual differences there is no more reason that nations should not resort to courts than there is for the individual to resort to courts. And the lives and sweat and labor of the workers in the mine will be saved. War to settle a dispute is wasteful, stupid, back-breaking. It is international lynch law. The debt of Europe is supposed to be about twenty-six billions. Three-fourths of this was accumulated by fight in the world, and practically all of it is war debt. Think of that, you stupid makers of billions and payers of taxes, you supposed-to-be-self-governing, uncrowned kings, you "sovereign people"—C. E. Wood in the Pacific Monthly for February.

A NIGHT SESSION

SENATE PASSES BILL AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION OF HOME FOR FEEBLE-MINDED.

House Fixes Price for Berth in Sleeping Cars—State Board of Control Lost—Gamblers May Now Worry—Some of Work Accomplished.

Several weeks ago the practicality of shortening the session of the Legislative Assembly was talked of seriously by prominent members of both the Senate and House of Representatives. The impracticability of the proposed plan was plainly shown last evening when the two branches of the Legislature held night sessions so as to have the work completed for the final adjournment the last of this week. The Senate adjourned early but the House held session until 11 o'clock, passing over 20 bills. All day yesterday was consumed in the passing of bills, each House considering the bills in rotation only. This method of procedure was necessitated as the time set for the transferring of bills between the two Houses expired at midnight.

The Senate passed a bill last evening to authorize the state board of public buildings to erect a school for epileptic children at Salem. The bill carries an appropriation of \$15,000 to be used in the purchase of a suitable site and the erection and approval of the next Legislative Assembly. The board is authorized to employ an architect to draw plans and specifications for the necessary buildings for such an institute, and for its information in determining the probable cost of the construction and maintaining of such a school. The bill also provides to make a full report of its proceedings to the next Legislative Assembly, together with a bill to provide for the control and management of the institute for feeble-minded and epileptic children.

That it shall be unlawful for any corporation or person to charge more than \$1.50 for 24 hours for a berth in a first-class sleeping car, is one of the provisions contained in the Griffin bill passed by the House of Representatives yesterday evening. It also provides that the fare for seats in standard sleepers during the day time shall not exceed one-half cent per mile nor less than 25 cents for any distance. The violator of this act would be liable to a fine of not less than \$50 or more than \$100.

The Richie bill, to provide a board of control for the state institutions, failed to pass the House of Representatives last evening. By the Richie measure the members of the commission would be appointed by the Governor and receive compensation, the highest salary being \$1500 per year. The Kuykendall bill, which has passed the Senate and is before the House, provides for a board of control to consist of the Governor, secretary of state and treasurer. These officials would serve without compensation. The additional expense attached for the compensation of the appointed commission was the main objection to the Richie bill, which was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

Bets are being made as to whether the Gray gambling bill, passed by the House of Representatives last evening, will ever reach the Senate. A similar bill succeeded in passing the House at the last Legislative Assembly, but disappeared before it reached the Senate. The bill was never located. The Gray bill specifies that participants in all forms of gambling will be guilty of the charge of misdemeanor. This includes the playing of slot machines for trade checks. A bill was also passed by the Senate last evening requiring the entrances of all saloons to be in front. It is said this will, to a certainty, do away with the "rustling of the can."

There Are Some Simple Remedies indispensable in any family. Among these, the experience of years assures us, should be recorded Painkiller. For both internal and external applications we have found it of great value; especially in cases of colds, rheumatism, or from wounds, bruises, or sprains. Christian Era. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Painkiller, Perry Davis'. Price 25 cents and 50 cents.

We are somewhat surprised that the Colorado muddle has been settled without the assistance of former Congressman Glover.

MORMON OUT, METHODIST IN.

Former Umatilla U. S. Marshal Named as Successor to Woolly at Boise.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Senator Heyburn today recommended the appointment of Joseph Pinkham, of Boise, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of H. Smith Woolley. In all probability Pinkham will be appointed. Senator Heyburn says Pinkham is a Mormon, but a straight-up Methodist gentleman who has been United States marshal for Idaho and once marshal at Umatilla.

Senator Heyburn says no other candidates have yet appeared, and he does not think others will be considered. He has heard nothing whatever from Woolley, and is not aware, nor is the president, that Woolley cares for a further hearing. In fact, it is said at the White House that "Woolley's case is closed."

WINKS EYE AT IT.

Russia Pays No Attention to Japanese Offensive Movement.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 10.—The general staff attaches no importance to the Japanese offensive movement reported by General Karapatin, and believes it is probably in the nature of an harassing movement to interfere with the trench operations. According to the Associated Press Huanshan dispatches, "both armies are devoting feverish attention to strengthening their line of fortifications, which have grown up since the battle of Shakho." The Japanese measures for the blockade of Vladivostok, such as darkening the light houses and guarding the straits, excites no alarm, and the officials point out that a number of vessels will succeed in evading the blockaders and filling the fortress with ample stores for all possible contingency of a siege.

HOCH MAKES CONFESSION.

Man of Many Wives Weakens When Confronted by Living Witnesses.

CHICAGO, Feb. 10.—Confronted by living witnesses to his alleged duplicity at a Saturday evening trial, the man to the death of Mrs. Walker-Hoch, the next to his last wife, Johann Hoch, according to the police, has admitted his marriage to thirteen women during the last ten years. Eight of these women are now dead, but Hoch declares they died natural deaths.

With the exception of the identification of Hoch by several of his alleged victims, nothing new developed today. The charge of the coroner's jury and the inquest will be postponed until Wednesday.

BLACKMAILER TRAPPED.

Nineteen-Year-Old Tries Game and Is Landed in Jail.

SEATTLE, Feb. 10.—Detectives tonight caught Moses Hall, a 19-year-old boy, who was one of two who attempted to blackmail John Walther, a local court stenographer. Walther was warned that if he did not place \$200 in gold on a hydrant at the summit of Queen Anne Hill, in this city, his residence would be blown up with dynamite. At 8 o'clock tonight Walther placed a bag of washers on the hydrant and soon two young men appeared. The detectives caught Hall but his partner escaped after six shots had been fired after him. He fell twice in the chase and it is believed he was wounded.

CHILD IS NEGLECTED.

Florence Snyder, aged 15 years, was taken into custody by the police last night and provided with quarters in the city jail. An effort will be made today to have the girl committed to the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society at Portland. She claims her home at Jefferson is being neglected by her parents or guardian and the officers have interested themselves in her behalf.

We Are All Familiar

with the deep, hoarse bark, grimly called "a grave-yard cough." It is the cry of the tortured lungs for mercy. Give them mercy in the form of Allen's Lung Balm, a remedy for pulmonary trouble, so highly esteemed that it is recommended even in the earlier stages of consumption. In the later stages mortal skill is unavailing. Nobody can afford to neglect a cold.

STILL TALK HOPS

SEEMS TO BE GOOD DEAL OF BOTTOM IN MARKET AND HOLDERS ARE STRONG.

Reports of Sales at Very Low Prices in Washington Are Said to Be Without Foundation—Few Hops in Washington, So It Is Said.

Hops continue to be subjects of discussion in the regions about Salem, and there seems to be a good deal of feeling that there is life in the market yet. One heavy grower and buyer, and a prominent officer of the Hop Growers Association yesterday said he was prepared to offer ten cents advance on all hops not now under mortgage in this part of the country.

"I believe that hops will go up, and that soon," said he yesterday in conversation with a Statesman reporter, and I base my belief on the actual condition of the market in the Old World and the United States. This gentleman was none other than Mr. Winstanley, secretary of the Marion County Hop Growers Association, and he spoke as though full of confidence.

"I noticed a few days ago," added he, "that some hop men here said hops had been selling at North Yakima at 21 cents, and as I doubted this I telegraphed to Tacoma, the hop center of Washington, to find out, and the following is the reply I received from there:

(Telegram.)

"2P O. Q. K. 46. Paid.

"Tacoma, Wash, Feb. 1., 1905.

"J. Winstanley, Salem, Or."

"Referring to yours of eleventh, statements regarding Washington situation unfounded. Growers very firm. Reports of our selling untrue. Think market has reached bottom and our buyers cannot buy two hundred fifty bales in state under twenty-seven and a half. Not many at hand. The bears consider Oregon growers their only hope.

"ISAAC PINCUS & SON."

Poisons in Food.

Perhaps you don't realize that many pain poisons originate in your food, but some day you may feel a twinge of dyspepsia that will convince you. Dr. King's New Life Pills are guaranteed to cure all sickness due to poisons of undigested food—money back 25 cents at Dan. J. Fry's drug store. Try them.

STATEHOOD HELD UP.

ASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Statehood for Oklahoma and New Mexico will not be granted during this session of Congress unless it be on lines provided in the House statehood bill. The bill was decided today at a conference of Republican members of the House.

Stern Mother—Willie! Willie! Get back—Yes'm. "There's a whole lot of the contents of the jar missing. What did you take it for?" "I took it for jam, mamma; what was it?"—Baltimore American.

Erstwhile Sea Port

Salem, Mass., Feb. 11, 1905.—Few American cities are more keenly aware of the decay of American shipping than quaint old Salem. Its citizens appreciate the striking feature of the report of the merchant marine commission to the present Congress, that "only 10 per cent of our vast seaborne commerce is now carried by American ships." In 1810 the American proportion was 91 per cent. This astounding shrinkage forcibly illustrates the decline and fall of our merchant marine.

To show what this deplorable falling off in the deep sea carrying trade means the experience of Salem affords a notable illustration. In 1807 it could boast of 252 vessels engaged in the deep sea trade, probably the largest fleet owned by a community of its size in the world. In 1900 this city had not a single vessel. The last arrival at Salem from a South American port was on March 21, 1877. The last entry of a vessel from beyond the Cape of Good Hope was on May 1, 1870.

The year 1810 saw the arrival of the first great trade in Para rubber. The Australia, in 1860, was the last Salem ship to visit the coast of Sumatra, where for more than half a century an extensive and profitable pepper trade had been carried on.

On his second trip Captain Carnes visited the northern ports of Sumatra for this point, but found that little pepper was actually raised at Padang, but that it was brought there in small quantities from points farther north by the natives in their "proas."

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In time vessels were fitted out at Salem and Beverly for Benocoolen where it was understood Carnes first heard about Sumatra pepper, and by the first of the nineteenth century many ships turned their prows toward Sumatra for a share in this lucrative trade.

In 1802 at least thirty American vessels made voyages to Sumatra for pepper.

The ship Recovery, Captain Joseph Ropes, was the first American vessel to enter the harbor of Moecha, on the coast of Arabia, just inside the Red Sea, opened the commerce in that pungent berry which forms so valuable a part of the American breakfast table. From Salem sailed the first American ship to open commerce with Hindostan, Java and Japan. Its vessels were the first from this continent in the Islands, Madagascar, New Holland and New Zealand. They were among the first on the west coast of Africa and in South America. From Salem, too, sailed the first American vessel to round the Cape of Good Hope, and the first ship to carry our flag through the Straits of Magellan. A

Salem ship, the Atlantic, in command of Captain Elias Hasket Derby, J. was the first to display the stars and stripes in the harbors of Bombay and Calcutta. The Peggy, another Derby ship, brought to New England the first cargo of Bombay cotton. Still another Derby ship, the Astrea, under Captain Henry Prince, as early as 1796 voyaged to Manila and forged the first links of that chain of commercial interest which has finally bound to this country the Philippine archipelago.

Such a service developed a fine type of manhood and no American city in the early years of 1800 could boast of prouder names than the Derbys, Crowns, Inshields, Forresters, Thorndikes, Peabodys, Pickmans, Wests and Silbesses of Salem. The very nature of those voyages gave a peculiar character to the people. From among the masters, supercargoes and other officers of these Indianmen it is said there have been from the town of Salem a great number of the members of each branch of the Legislature of the state, three members of Congress, two secretaries of the navy, a United States Senator, and a United States Representative. There is no one in ancient or modern times, who has corrected the works of Newton and enlarged the heavens of La Place.

Moreover, in the dire need of war to merchants of Salem and the neighboring towns, the patriotic spirit of the people were the first to take out letters of marque and reprisal and form that fleet of privateersmen whose service turned in our behalf the trembling scales of war in both of our conflicts with England. The privateersmen of New England won more victories and captured more prizes in the wars of the Revolution and of 1812 than the entire fleets of our navy, and without them the annals of those days would not have added such renown to the sea power of America.

The patriotism of the Salem merchants was again illustrated when, in October, 1798, at a mass meeting in the Salem court house, they voted to build by private subscription a frigate of thirty-two guns and present her as a ship-of-war to the United States navy to suppress the French ravages on our West India trade.

It is from instances such as these that the value of a merchant marine to the prosperity and security of a nation is made evident. A country whose sons are trained in the hard school of the sea and has as a nucleus for national defense its own native born sailors, need not fear when the ships of any foe sail toward her shores. It is to bring back our old prestige on the seas; to open to Americans of today the channels of trade closed for a generation or more; to develop, with wide forethought for national defense, that sturdy manhood which comes to those whose life and love is for the ocean, who go forth "in the teeth of the hard, glad weather, in the blown wet face of the sea," that the commission appointed to investigate the American merchant marine urges upon Congress the adoption of the recommendations embodied in its report.

New York is threatened with a bear famine, but no one hears of prayers being uttered for it to be broken.

THEATRICAL BLAZE.

Old New York Playhouse Afire—A Chorus Girl Injured.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—The Casino theater, one of the most historic New York playhouses, was damaged by fire today, loss \$50,000. The blaze began in the dressing room of the third floor, over the stage, while a rehearsal of chorus girls was in progress. Though thrown into a panic, the members of the company escaped uninjured with

the exception of one chorus girl, who fell while going down stairs toward the stage entrance and was painfully hurt. The stage carpenter, who lingered too long in an effort to save some of the scenery, was overcome by smoke, but he revived on reaching the street. About 40 chorus girls were crowding up a narrow stairway when flames burst from the dressing room and drove them back. In the frantic haste one girl was down and had to be carried out of the theater. No spectators were in the theater when the fire broke out.



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I am a new man in Salem and will try to merit your patronage. Special prices on Stoves and Ranges this week. If you want a range at cost, come this week.

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