

Lots Near High School Grounds

I have for sale all of the lots belonging to Mrs. Hannah Tyszkiewicz, many of which are near the site of the high school. Now is the time to buy at reasonable prices and on easy terms. Make your selections before the best ones are gone.

I am also agent for the view lots belonging to Mr. J. B. Godfrey. Now is the time to buy as prices will advance after the new school house is built.

FOR PRICES AND TERMS SEE

GEO. H. SHINN, St. Helens, Oregon

The Oregon Mist

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County Official Paper

Through the columns of the Mist your correspondent wishes to give utterance to a thought that has come into the mind of a former resident of Columbia County, who has returned after an absence of some 15 years.

In the result of the recent election, when bonds in the sum of \$20,000 were voted for the construction of school house, your correspondent sees this community taking a step in what he believes to be the right direction.

Now the floating of bonds for the development of the resources supplied by nature, for the development of commerce, for the improvement and establishment of public utilities, or establishing of educational institutions, is not an experiment by any means.

We have seen the great financiers of this country develop and utilize the water power, build great railroads and steamship lines, spend millions of dollars in building the necessary terminals and docks, not with an eye alone to present needs but with the thought always in mind of the future, the demands of which, in a country which is growing and developing even at a rate to astound the most optimistic enthusiast, make the flotation of bonds an absolute necessity for many reasons. First, the American people have no time to await the provision of transportation after it is needed, it must be ready when required. Secondly, these men are in the business for profit therefore they mortgage the future earning capacity of their enterprises and build in excess of present demands realizing that this method is more economical in the long run. There also enters the element of competition. The man who would cater successfully to the requirements of the public must keep his facilities therefore, abreast of or a little ahead of his competitor.

But what has all this to do with building school houses? Institutions of learning are recognized today as one of the chief assets of society whether regarded merely as a necessity or as a dividend payer. Of course a dividend of this kind does not come in the form of a check; but it comes just as surely in the way of a higher earning capacity of our posterity, in the lessening of crime and the satisfaction of knowing that we are keeping pace with the world's progress. Here also enters the element of competition. We must keep abreast of our neighbors else we will not reap the benefits to be derived from a high class of emigrants; one of the first demands of the desirable emigrant is good educational facilities.

We have here a community, one of oldest settlements in the state, with many natural advantages, where, until within the last few years we have been content to stand still and watch our neighbors grow, we have seen great cities grow and prosper on this great Pacific Coast whose natural advantages were no better than ours.

Why should we not at least take advantage of the experience of our neighbors and develop the wonderful resources with which nature has so generously endowed us? Why should we not build municipal docks not altogether

for present needs but with an eye to the future; The future will take care of itself in so far as using them is concerned. Many years ago the founders of San Francisco realized that cheap dockage rates would help immensely in the building of a city; today we see her with the finest systems of docks on the Pacific Coast and one of the finest in the world; municipally owned and with a dockage rate of five cents per ton. At a recent election the city of Seattle and King county voted more than one million dollars for harbor improvements and municipal docks. Now when Seattle, in the shape of an Indian chief was roaming the hills of Puget Sound, there was quite a settlement on the Columbia River some 28 miles below what is now the city of Portland.

Again, Mr. Editor, let me say that I think I see a step taken in the direction of progress. To what other steps will this one, small though it seems, lead? This remains largely in the hands of the progressive element, of which I believe this community is well supplied.

A PRODIGAL

For Sale—

One team of good sound horses, weight 2500 pounds, ages 9 and 10 years. Wagon, new 3 1/4 inch. Harness new. All for \$650. Address Ernest Slesman, Scappoose, Oregon, Route 1.



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SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

The following are some of the items contained in the annual report of County Superintendent Collins made to the State Superintendent for the school year ending, June 19, 1911:

Number of children between four and twenty.....	3283
Number registered.....	2598
Average daily attendance.....	1725
Number of eighth grade diplomas issued.....	90
Average number days of school taught.....	147
Number of organized districts in the county.....	63
Number of school houses.....	57
Number of new school houses built.....	1
Number of school rooms in operation.....	65
Number of teachers employed.....	62
Number of library books on hand.....	6889
Amount paid out for salaries, buildings, supplies, grounds, etc.....	\$78,816
Estimated value of school property.....	140,000
Average monthly salaries of teachers, men.....	72.60
women.....	55.50
Average number of mills tax levied.....	3.77

The schools throughout the county are making progress; in some localities great progress has been made during the past year. There is a growing tendency in Columbia County to raise the standard of efficiency in the schools. The coming school year gives promise of being better than the past.

We are indebted to Mr. H. C. Wilcox this week for a number of local items from Healdton, for which we are duly thankful. The Mist would like to have items from every locality in Columbia County.

WRESTLING



City Hall, St. Helens

Saturday, Evening, July 29

JOHN BERG

Champion Light Heavyweight of the World

PETER BUZUKOS

World's Champion in the Lightweight Class

\$1000 PURSE

Berg to Throw Buzukos Three Times in One Hour
Winner Take All

Admission 75c.

Ringside \$1.00

Announcement

About September 15th this store will put in a complete and up-to-date stock of the latest and best in Millinery. A new line of men's hats will be here in a few days.

JAS. MUCKLE AND SON

Department Store. St. Helens, Ore.