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LA GRANDE Y. M. C. A. DEPARTMENT.



Y. M. C. A. News of Current Interest Noted Hereunder, Direction of J. H. Rudd, General Secretary.

Following is a letter from Mr. H. E. Dixon of this city, who has for years been in touch with the Y. M. C. A. and its work.

La Grande, Ore., Dec. 3, 1912—Mr. J. H. Rudd, My Dear Sir:—The question has been asked me as to the need and the possibilities of a Y. M. C. A. in La Grande. In answering this I will first state that I do not base such answer upon any specific knowledge of the condition of affairs here in La Grande, but upon my work in, and knowledge of, the Y. M. C. A. in other places, and the fact that the same things hold true in any community where there are men and boys that need a Y. M. C. A.

The need of a Y. M. C. A. and the possibilities of a Y. M. C. A. are so interwoven and so nearly alike, that with the exception of the financial part, what is true of one is true of the other.

First what do we mean by Young Men's Christian Association? We mean not only young men, but we include the boys, in order to give them the correct training before they become young men, and we also mean all men, for every man should be young in spirit though older in years and it takes the Y. M. C. A. with its associations and its younger men to keep the older men young in spirit, and ready and willing to help the younger members by their actions and advice.

Thus we need a Y. M. C. A. fully and completely equipped and directed, for these several purposes. That we may train the growing boys in the paths of truth, of honor and of patriotism; that we may help them in their mental, moral and physical growth. For it is while the boy is at the period of his most rapid development that he needs most in the way of help that he may develop into an all around man. For the men our needs are doubly great, as we need a Y. M. C. A. for the men whose work is in the city proper, and we need it also for the men employed upon the railroad, and who make this city their headquarters. The work of the Y. M. C. A. is a great help to the older men, not only for themselves, in keeping them young in spirit, but it gives them a new responsibility in the directing of the lives of those younger than themselves, and thus develops in them latent powers and ability that they would not otherwise have had. The interest of the older men is also a great help and benefit to the young men, for it makes them desire to follow the example thus set for them, and it also makes them feel that the older men are taking an interest in their welfare and helping them to work for the best that is in them.

Here in La Grande our possibilities are double those of many cities smaller than this and that have large buildings and membership. We have as large a population as they have, which is in itself enough to support a good Y. M. C. A., for all the purposes thereof and in addition to this we have the railroad men to draw upon, another factor, which of itself is enough to support a good Y. M. C. A., so that with these materials at hand for the building up of the membership of a Y. M. C. A. we should feel deeply humiliated if we go another year without having built the building and built up the membership of one of the strongest Y. M. C. A.'s on the Pacific coast.

Another advantage and use for a Y. M. C. A. building in La Grande, would be the same as is done in many cities of the same size, where they cannot also support a Y. W. C. A. as it should be supported, is to have one room in the building fitted up as a Ladies' room exclusively, that they can have a place to meet, and to have a rest room to which they may go, and then on one or two evenings of each week turn over to them the gymnasium and let them have the benefit thereof.

The Y. M. C. A. has a great field of need and endeavor among the business men as such. A great many seem to think that a Y. M. C. A. is only for the boys and preachers, when

as a matter of fact it is primarily an organization for and by the business men. In my former experience in Y. M. C. A. work we had gymnasium classes known as the Business Men's class, and basket ball and different athletic team composed of business men. The business man needs a place to go to forget the cares of the day, to be among companions whom he knows are of the best, and he, more than any other class of members in the Y. M. C. A. needs the gymnasium and the chance for athletic recreation.

As to the financial end some of these that have been here longer are better able to know about that, but I do know what has been accomplished in smaller towns than this without the resources that this city has, and in the line of railroad Y. M. C. A. where aside from the railroad men there was no town at all, and what others have done we can do.

It seems to me that with our city and our railroad men to draw from for membership, and with a city that is not excelled by any other of its size in resources, that here in La Grande we have the need, and the possibilities to have not only the best and largest Y. M. C. A. of any city the same size on the coast, but we have a chance here to build and maintain what would be one of the finest, for our size in the United States. And we must build not only for the present but also for the future, for if we believe in our city, and its exceptional advantages for growth and development, then we must build for that larger and more beautiful city, and build a Y. M. C. A. that in ten years from now will have the care of a city of 20,000 inhabitants. The need is here, the possibilities are here and what we must now have is the earnest and willing co-operation of the men of our city, with the spirit and the determination that we can and will have a large Y. M. C. A. not only in building but also in membership and in work.

Very sincerely yours,

H. E. DIXON.

Mens' Meetings.

Last Sunday afternoon at 3:30 forty men gathered at the Y. M. C. A. for the big sing and mens' meeting. After the quartet had sung a very pleasing selection Dr. E. B. Ryke delivered a strong address on "Manhood With Jesus Christ." Next Sunday afternoon all men of the city are invited to this Sunday afternoon service. Rev. A. J. Adams is the speaker and his subject will be: "Ye Are the Salt of the Earth."

Y. M. C. A. tag day is almost here. Every person living in La Grande should be properly tagged as a Y. M. C. A. booster. Some men will see whether or not they can wear more tags than any other man. Who can wear the most? Buttons, coats, hats, hat pins, all will share in the big event. The streets on Saturday will be completely under the control of those who are selling these.

All girls and young ladies who will volunteer to help in this tag day are requested to report at the Y. M. C. A. Friday afternoon before 5 o'clock. All Scouts report for duty at the Y. M. C. A. Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. Let La Grande know that something is happening.

"AS YOU LIKE IT."

Shakespearean Special Feature in Three Reels.

This splendid special feature picture is to be shown at Sherry's theatre on Dec. 6th and 7th, Friday and Saturday. It is a big Shakespearean dramatic comedy, produced in the midst of overhanging trees and untrammelled woods, flowers and vines. The whole production is superbly beautiful. The cast is an all star one. Rose Caghan, the famous stage favorite, plays "Rosalind," and Maurice Costello, the world-wide Vitagraph favorite, plays "Orlando" and they are supported by the very best talent in the Vitagraph company. The month of December is to be a month of features with this popular play house as a large number of multiple rel features have been secured and patrons are assured the very newest and best in photoplays at all times.

In through freight service a minimum wage of \$4.75 per day of 100 miles or less, with over time pro rata after 10 hours.

In local freight service, 25 cents additional to the through freight rate was granted.

In passenger service a minimum wage of \$4.25 for 100 miles or less, and over time at the rate of 50 cents an hour, with an average speed of 20 miles an hour.

Assignee's Notice.

Notice is hereby given that B. Frank Toney and C. H. Scranton, partners, doing business under the firm name of Toney & Scranton at La Grande, Oregon, have made an assignment of all their property to the undersigned for the benefit of all their creditors—and that all such creditors are

hereby notified to present their respective claims against such estate under oath to the undersigned at La Grande, Oregon, within three months hereafter.

Dated at La Grande, Oregon, November 6th, 1912.

C. C. PENNINGTON, Assignee.

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