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What The Y. M. C. A. Has Accomplished In 12 Months

The Fall and Winter work of the Y. M. C. A. is opening with usual renewed spirit and vigor, members are renewing and many new ones are joining each day. The gymnasium work will be under full sway in a few days, all departments will be organized to render the best possible service to the association. President George Palmer and the directorate of the Association have the fullest confidence that the new fiscal year will be fully as good as the one just past.

The Y. M. C. A. suffered exceptionally hard in the membership with nearly one hundred of its members existing in the military forces of the government, yet with the financial loss, the directors believe that the people of La Grande will back the work more strongly than ever before.

The officers and directors and executive staff of the Association are as follows: President, George Palmer; vice president, George Cochran; recording secretary, George Gilbert; treasurer, S. D. Crowe. Directors, Mac Wood, E. E. Kiddle, E. D. Selders, G. L. Larison, George H. Curry, Henry C. Grady, Albert R. Hunter, Dr. E. F. Underwood, J. T. Williamson, Dr. J. B. Graham, Dr. H. S. Brownson, Fred J. Holmes, James Y. Walmum and Elmer Stoddard. The executive force consists of J. Garfield King, general secretary; Paul Courtwright, assistant secretary and Miss Gladys Black, office secretary.

Service is the great watchword of the Young Men's Christian Association all over the world today. It was founded to serve; service by men for men. The La Grande Y. M. C. A. is a link in this great chain, it has a large percentage of the 100,000 of the 750,000 members who are giving themselves to a large service voluntarily in connection with various committees, each man in a particular place for which his tastes or abilities best fit him—boys' work, social work, physical work, educational or religious work, besides the vast incidental service.

The Y. M. C. A. stands for the big things of life, its object has been defined in many ways, but can be expressed as having for its object "The promotion of healthful companionship; the making of Christian character; the development of all round efficiency, and the enlistment in service for their fellows of young men and boys. Tens of thousands of men, virile, intelligent, capable business men, physicians, lawyers, mechanics, laborers have been led into such service and fitted for service through contact with the Y. M. C. A. It gets a man to work also to do the thing he can do best for the sake of the larger efficiency and success which comes from every unit in an organization working together rhythmically, each doing his own part.

The local Y. M. C. A. has just completed another year of "service" work in La Grande, whether or not it has measured up to its greatest opportunities, that is up to its large number of subscribers, members, and friends to decide. Has the work of the Y. M. C. A. made good in La Grande?

Judge it by its growth, which means life.

Judge it by its service, which makes it worth while.

Judge it by its variety of service in its adaptation to various kinds of people.

Judge it by the testimony borne by others who have seen its work.

The Y. M. C. A. is today recognized as one of the great institutions responsible for the all round upbuild-



GEO. T. COCHRAN Vice President, Y. M. C. A.



Y. M. C. A. HEADQUARTERS

ing of the boy, its wholesome environments offsets to a large degree the effects of bad companionship, sometimes it takes the part of the home to some extent. Some homes may be too busy to claim the comradeship with their boy that he is looking for, the Y. M. C. A. helps to straighten this kink. The boy that has acquired certain bad habits find a curl to them when he joins the "Y," as he attends his classes and finds that this check is also in force, he soon makes up his mind that it is better "to cut" the habit. The boy's department of the local Y. M. C. A. is a "live" one, here one can find all kinds and sizes, all of them acquiring a proficiency in physical body building, some will develop into athletic stars, some have all the earmarks of expert baseball players and all will attest to the fact that the systematic and healthful training classes are contributing much toward the keeping of the mental faculties in perfect condition for the long continuous school term.

The boys department of the La Grande Y. M. C. A. has the same program of work as is found in Associations like Portland, Seattle or any of the larger Associations on the coast. Gymnasium classes are conducted for the Junior Juvenile groups, hikes and camps are held for the boys in the fall and summer months, athletic contests are conducted and social meetings are held from time to time. The boy has a very vital place in the "Y" of La Grande.

The fiscal year just closed showed a growth that quite surprised the board of directors of the Association. It was the consensus of opinion of all the directors present at the annual meeting that the Y. M. C. A. without any ostentations or frills was rapidly filling a niche in the life of the community, as a center of activities, as a civic welfare institution, as

a community enterprise and as an organization that was willing to co-operate with any agency that stood for the best things of life. It showed progress in every department, the membership increased several hundred per cent over previous years, the social department had an exceptionally successful year, other departments gave encouragement for a still better improvement this coming year.

The general secretary's report outlined the work of the La Grande Association in several ways, the first part being devoted to the improvements that had been made in the building proper during the year, making the lobby congenial and homelike, a center of activity, a place where someone could find something to interest him—the placing of information boards containing material that was educational and interesting—rearrangement of the game section, buying more equipment for the game tables—installing the "Write A Letter Home" corner, thousands of letters have been written during the



ED. KIDDLE Chairman Finance Committee.

past year, contributed largely to the exceptional success that the Association had.

The second part of the secretary's report placed emphasis on the public "service" work of the Y. M. C. A. It showed the willingness of the Association to render assistance to any project that stood for the best in life. A few of the co-operative and public service acts that the Association played some part in are as follows:

1. A relationship was established with the public schools as never before, conferences were continually held with officials of the schools and the "Y" on matters that were of vital importance to the pupils, both morally and physically. Projects were promoted that helped both organizations considerably, the Bird House Contest was unusual; it is estimated that over 150 bird houses were made and placed in different parts of the city during this contest. The Y. M. C. A. and the High school conducted the lyceum course the past year and have arranged for a six number course the coming year. Supervision was given to the organization of Grammar school athletics. The teachers of the schools promoted the two biggest social events held in the Y. M. C. A. the past year, the Haloween and Valentine socials, with an attendance of over 2500 people.

2. The Y. M. C. A. in its relationship to the conservation committee and the county agriculturist, meet a need that will never be estimated. Of the 1029 positions filled by the Y. M. C. A. the past year, the larger percentage was for the farmer. This year the Association is even doing a greater work than last year.

In an issue of the Exchange Bulletin for the farmers, it speaks of the employment department of the Y. M. C. A. to some extent. In part it says: To be of the greatest service to the people of the county, we have made arrangements with the Y. M. C. A. to cooperate with us in the labor situation. The Y. M. C. A. has been acting as labor bureau for about a year and is becoming known as a center where labor may be secured. The Y. M. C. A. is always ready for the emergency and has responded to many calls of such a nature, especially during the apple picking and cherry picking seasons.

During the year the Y. M. C. A. through its membership and directorship, cooperated with many organizations—The Boy Scouts held their regular meetings and socials in the building. The excellent loyalty of the Neighborhood Club is due to co-operation; the "Y" co-operates with the Chautauqua management in scores of ways. Its interest in welfare work for the boys gives the Association an opportunity to work with the County Judge and the City Government.

No one can dispute the absolute need of the work of the Y. M. C. A. in the city of La Grande, in the way and manner it was able to handle the situation that confronted the city when the soldiers came to the city last April. The Y. M. C. A. was and is still being used constantly by the boys. By Company M the building was used as the supply department, the hospital and headquarters. No one can estimate the real worth of the "Y" to the soldiers and to the city during these critical times, the fireplace is going constantly, thousands of letters are being written, the "Y" is "home" to scores of the boys. With its clean environments its splendid bathing facilities, its well equipped game and reading rooms, the question as to what the Y. M. C. A. has done for the morals of the city is left for the reader to answer. The following letter from Captain Neer of Company M speaks of the gratitude that the officers and men of Company M have for the La Grande Y. M. C. A. Captain Neer writes as follows: The officers and

men of Company M, 3rd Oregon Infantry, owe a debt of gratitude to the La Grande Y. M. C. A. which, I am confident, they can never expect to repay, it is boundless. We have said the conventional "Thank You" and have told abroad of the innumerable kindly ally and the institution you represent ally and the institution you represent have done for us, but even so our words can only give an intimation of our feeling.

Not only did we and do we appreciate the whole souled hospitality and the abundant good fellowship which surrounds and radiates from the La Grande "Y" but we are thankful for the things which are tangible, the athletic features, the bathing facilities, the club rooms and the many other amusements which were placed at our disposal. The "Y" was our home almost as much as our quarters and the splendid moral and Christian influence exerted was of inestimable value to us.

The La Grande "Y" is to this Company the embodiment in the truest and highest sense of that much abused term "practical Christianity" and during our four months with you, established itself unshakably in our hearts and memories. Signed, James P. Neer, Captain, Company M.

Service was rendered the people of La Grande in many ways during the year, the Association has received as high as 200 calls a month for help to carry in wood, to shovel the snow, and in many other ways that represent the service that can be rendered.

The third part of the Secretary's report showed the work that had been accomplished for its membership by the members. The gymnasium work was more systematic than heretofore, the attendance and the results of this department was very satisfactory. During the year 406 gymnasium classes were conducted. An outstanding feature of this department was the excellent basketball team that represented the Association during the year.

The social committee, the religious work committee and boys' committee reported a year's work, that showed an increase. Especially was this so of the social committee, during the year 18 socials were given, with a total attendance of 4,675—besides the social scores of get together meetings were held, the Haloween social that was given by the public school teachers was attended by over 2000 people.

The fourth part of the report consisted of the statistical and financial reports, which are as follows: Statistical Report—Attendance during the year, 125,000 Number of positions secured, 1,029 First aid classes, 41 Attendance at the classes, 840 Number of gymnasium classes, 406 Attendance at Gym classes, 10,350 Number of Athletic teams, 26 Number persons on the teams, 192 Number of different men using the "dorms", 77 Sunday afternoon meeting for men, 8 Attendance at the meetings, 400 Number of committees meetings, 35 Estimated number of baths taken, 24,000 Number of letters written, 6,500

Financial Report. Cash on hand, \$36.59 Receipts—Memberships, 2,379.10 Subscriptions, 1,869.12 Rent for rooms, 1,276.70 Social room, 97.20 Towels, 135.67 Physical department, 102.30 Miscellaneous, 78.25 Lockers, 10.99 Social department, 248.65 Total receipts, \$6,233.08 Disbursements—Salaries, 2,501.40 Lights, 348.93 Printing, 67.75 Miscellaneous, 95.50 Social department, 276.71 Laundry, 167.06 Office, 216.50 Insurance, 40.89 Interest, 982.03 Physical department, 121.09 Educational work, 36.25 Refunds, 13.05 Fuel, 484.35 Note, 50.00 Total disbursements, \$5,916.39 Cash on hand, \$316.59 Forest Grove—Contract let for 7th street improvement. Corvallis—Work of remodeling Corvallis high school to be completed at once.

practical lectures, 15 Number of socials, 18 Attendance at the socials, 4,675 Different organizations using the Y: Christian Endeavor State Convention, Ministerial meetings, Union dry organization, O.-W. employes, Boy Scouts, State convention Modern Woodmen, Modern Woodmen degree team practice, Teachers' meetings for convention, Automobile organization meetings, Young People's Class, Presbyterian Church, George Palmer Lumber Company, first aid class, Conservation League, Red Cross War Fund campaign headquarters, Organization of Honor Guards, Organization of the Hospital Corps, Cattlemen's committee for convention, Headquarters of the Honor Guards, Headquarters for the Army Y. M. C. A. campaign, Headquarters of the Home Guard, Farmer committee meeting place, Visiting teachers at the State Convention, Company M, O. N. G., Company L, O. N. G., Headquarters Union-Wallowa Counties Fire Association, Lutheran Church social and bazaar, Baptist Church dinner, High School Cadets—Number of hikes taken for the boys, 10 Sunday afternoon meetings for boys, 7 Attendance at the meetings, 210 Vocational lectures, 3 Outdoor classes, 95 Attendance at the classes, 1,100 Baseball games, 5

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