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"THE PAPER THAT EVERYBODY READS"

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THE RHYMING SUMMARIST

By Jerry Owen in Oregon Voter

As the sands of the Old Year slowly run
Thru the glass that marks the ages,
And the days grow short and dark and cold
And the blue sou'wester rages,
We hark us back to other years
And the old time institutions,
And memory
Dwells wistfully
On New Year resolutions.
In those days there was medicine
To banish gloom and sorrow,
And joy was free and unconfined,
Forgetful of to-morrow;
Old Bacchus was a two-time god,
The patron saint of liquor,
His devotees
Were thick as fleas,
And very often thicker.
It used to do a lot of good
When well meant counsel scorning,
We'd wound the Old Year up in style
To face the New Year morning;
How brave it seemed to contemplate
The friendships we would sever,
Sit up in bed
With aching head
And then swear off forever.
We'd promise for the whole long year
To be as good as candy
And never touch a single drop
Of Scotch or fizz or brandy;
But stick to cow and ginger ale,
Perhaps a little Vichy,
A solemn vow
That to the frau
Was always more than fishy.

CO. L. BOY WRITES LETTER HOME

Aboard Str. Tuscania, Somewhere on the Atlantic Ocean, Dec. 12, 1917.

My Dear Mother:

At last I have left the U. S. for the front. We left Camp Mills yesterday morning at 7:30 A. M. We marched to the Garden City depot where we boarded the Long Island train. This train took us to L. I. City where we left it and took a L. I. ferry, which took us down East River into New York harbor, past the Statue of Liberty, around Lower New York, up the Hudson river and consequently to the Cunard S. S. line wharf. Here we secured our berths and meal consignment tickets and marched aboard the British S. S. Tuscania. We are sailing under a British flag but we are hoping that it will be as good a protection as the "Stars and Stripes" altho' the boys do not feel quite as confident as they would if they were on an American vessel which was flying "Old Glory."

The boys are all very happy and the thought that we might

meet a German submarine does not worry them at all. We are going to stop at Nova Scotia where we will get a British convoy—a fleet of ships to protect us from submarines.

The mail will be collected at 8 o'clock tonight for the last time and will probably be mailed in Halifax. So this will be my last letter for some time but be patient and confident for I will write to you again, believe me, as soon as I get where a letter can be mailed. But you write to me each week, please, for your letters will reach me sometime when I will sure enjoy them.

This letter may be held up till we land and it might be censored but here's hoping it will reach you sometime. I received the box you sent me last Sunday and I wish to tell you I appreciate it very much.

Again I want to say it is remarkable how happy the boys are but it is no more than they are anywhere and wherever they go. But it is this spirit they will carry to the front with them and the spirit that will bring us victory.

Cyril Richardson.

PRIZE WINNERS AT CORN SHOW

Yellow Dent—100 ear lot—First, A. R. Southwick, Salem, R. F. D. No. 1; second, T. L. Hartman, Independence; third, Eph Young, Independence.
10 ear lot—First, A. R. Southwick, Salem, R. F. D. No. 1; second, T. L. Hartman, Independence; third, E. E. Tide, Independence.
1 ear lot—First, A. R. South-

wick, Salem, R. F. D. No. 1; second, Eph Young, Independence; third, Bert Wolf, Independence.

White Dent—100 ear lot—First, Gilbert & Patterson, Salem, R. No. 2; second, Eph Young, Independence; third, Thos. Fennell, Independence.
10 ear lot—First, Gilbert &

(continued on last page)

V. & S. ARRIVES

Two hundred people greeted the first regular train of the Valley & Siletz railroad upon its arrival in Independence New Year's Day. The crowd gathered at the intersection of Monmouth and Ninth streets, where V. & S. trains will stop. Superintendent Williams had charge of the train and was very much surprised to be so warmly welcomed. After thanking the citizens of Independence for their presence he said that the present schedule was only temporary and that in a month or six weeks, better and more frequent service would be in operation. The V. & S. will operate a motor from Valseltz to Independence but the car has not yet arrived. Citizens accepted the invitation of Mr. Williams to be his guests upon an excursion to Valseltz and return, a few weeks hence.

No provision has been made for a depot in Independence as yet, it being generally understood that the Espee station will be used as soon as rail connections can be made. A temporary shed will be erected at 9th and Monmouth streets where passengers and freight will be sheltered. The Wells Fargo Co. will handle the express business of the new railroad.

The distance between Independence and Valseltz is about forty miles and before reaching the timber belt of the Siletz basin a large farming community is given transportation out. Thus more territory is added to Independence for commercial purposes. Many thousands of logs are being shipped out over the V. & S. at the present time, going to Dallas and Falls City. The company owning the railroad have a site in Independence where a large sawmill can be built.

REBEKAHS INSTALL

Nearly 150 Rebekahs, their husbands and prospective husbands, assembled in the I. O. O. F. Hall Tuesday night where officers were installed with pomp and ceremony and dignity after which a war menu was placed before those gathered around the banquet board which seemed entirely satisfactory to all concerned for they ate long and hearty. When it comes to doing things in a democratic, informal manner, the Rebekahs take the prize. From the time you hang your hat on a peg until you pick up the nearest umbrella and go, you see the word "welcome" spelled out on the face of every good sister present.

The Odd Fellows installed their officers last night.

BUDGET APPROVED

The budget meeting at Dallas last Saturday was largely attended. The annual appropriation bill was approved with the exception of one item, the fruit inspector being eliminated. A number were present to oppose the appropriation for a county agricultural agent but ascertaining that they were in a hopeless minority, let the extra leg be put on the dog.

FORM AUXILIARY

An auxiliary of the Independence Branch of the Red Cross has been formed at Oak Point with the following officers: Mrs. J. J. Williams, chairman; Mrs. A. K. Chase, vice chairman; Miss Irene Williams secretary and treasurer. In charge of such energetic and patriotic ladies, Oak Point women will make a very creditable showing.

STORES MOVE

Max Goldman this week moved to the building on the corner of Main and Monmouth. Formerly occupied by Drexler & Alexander, Calbreath & Jones went into the place vacated by Goldman and the Williams Drug Co. will move into the building formerly occupied by Calbreath & Jones.

NEW SCHOOL BOARD

At a special meeting held last Wednesday night by the voters of school district 29, J. S. Bohannon was elected a member of the school board to succeed Dean Walker, resigned, and H. Hirschberg was chosen to take the place of A. L. Thomas, resigned. Two good men are Messrs. Bohannon and Hirschberg and the school will be fairly and economically conducted under their control. Mrs. G. W. Conkey is the third member of the board.

ROBERT GROUND DIES

A sorrowing throng of relatives and friends gathered at the little Christian church in Monmouth last Sunday afternoon to pay a last tribute of respect to one whom they loved—Robert Ground. The deceased passed the great divide last Friday at the Dallas hospital where he was taken from his home in Independence for treatment only a few days before. He had been suffering from heart affection for some time tho' his condition was not considered alarming but as the nurse was giving him nourishment he succumbed without a struggle.

Robert Ground was born in Monmouth, Ill., Jan. 14, 1840. He came across the plains with his parents in 1853 and the family settled in Monmouth, Oregon, naming it for their old home in Illinois. Robert Ground grew to manhood here and enjoyed the esteem and respect of all those who knew him. He has spent all his years at Independence and Monmouth with the exception of several winters spent in the South. He was a consistent and faithful member of the Christian church and was charitable to the extreme. He always went about doing good to those who needed it most. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Morris, pastor of the Christian church, who paid a beautiful tribute to the departed brother.

Interment was made in the Davidson cemetery.

"Sleep on Beloved, and take thy rest,
Lay down thy head upon thy Savior's breast,
We love thee well, but Jesus loves thee best."

He leaves two brothers, Luther and Frank Ground of Monmouth and two half sisters, Mrs. Shadoney at Fresno, Cal., and Miss Evelyn Ground of Portland, Oregon.

POSTPONED

The city council has postponed for two weeks action of foreclosing on the property of those who have failed to pay their street paving assessment. This was done with the hope that a number of the fourteen would pay the assessments and save the extra expense of advertising, etc. The council at its regular meeting Wednesday night also postponed for two weeks the election of city officers.

PITTMAN FOR SENATOR

Prof. M. S. Pittman of Monmouth is being boomed for the democratic nomination for U. S. Senator.

CHARMING NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES

The beautiful Christmastide festivities reached a delightful finale New Year's Eve, when Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Eldridge were hosts for a large and charming event, complimenting their son Shalor, who was home on a furlough from the Naval training station in San Francisco.

As the guests entered they were impressed with the extreme beauty of the surroundings. The already exquisite interior of the elegant home had been transformed by artistic minds and hands into a woodland bower or a veritable Kris Kringle land. Large crimson ropes intertwined with trailing ivy were festooned from the chandeliers to the ceiling, clusters of traditional mistletoe with red streamers hung gracefully from the archways. Tiny fir trees with a glitter of tinsel were banked in every available place. Baskets and jardiniere of crimson berries and vases of poinsettias and red carnations added beautiful color to the scene. Nor did the decorators forget to give "Old Glory" a prominent place in their scheme. Numerous flags, large and small, floated about blending other colors most beautifully into those of the Yuletide. Every little detail complemented the other in such a perfectly splendid manner that the entire ensemble, the spacious drawing room, the dining room, the reception room and the large library formed a picture of rare beauty, while hundreds of cluster lights radiated a glow over the smartly gowned assemblage.

Strains of cabinet music added merriment to the occasion as the sixty guests found their places at the card tables. An exciting season of auction 500 was followed by an exquisite luncheon served by a bevy of pretty maids, handsome beaux and attractive matrons. Just before twelve an improvised aisle was formed throughout the lower suite and a program of patriotic airs was rendered. At five minutes before twelve, midnight, all was hushed as in silent reverie. When the chimes began slowly the hour of twelve, voices raised to a crescendo and spontaneous applause followed as "Old Father Time," cleverly portrayed by Mrs. J. E. Hubbard, marched with slow and uncertain step down the aisle. Just behind "Old Father" came "1918" pleasingly pictured by the pretty little 6-months-old K. C. Eldridge III. of Portland, who was borne in the arms of Shalor, the honoree, and one of Uncle Sam's boys. Everybody joined in a demonstration to the newborn and continued until the fledgling was escorted to an illumination bearing the following:

McFADDEN-CORNELIUS NUPTIALS

The many friends of Mr. Roy B. McFadden of Tacoma, will be interested to know that he was wedded to Miss Lila Cornelius of Portland Dec. 14. The nuptial vows were exchanged in Chehalis. Mr. and Mrs. McFadden came to Independence Christmas day and spent the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Sherman Hays. Thursday they left for San Francisco where they will spend several days at the St. Francis.

"A Happy New Year, 1918." As the last stroke of the hour pealed, "Old Father Time" passed out of view leaving his ambitious offspring to rule supreme. Later those who cared to repaired to the billiard room where the hours were given over to terpsichorean pleasures. Groups of men found their way to the den where the first smoke of 1918 awaited them, while still others indulged further in cards until the New Year had been escorted well on his way on the march of time. Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge are host and hostess a la mode and the function as a whole was one of the most effectively planned and perfectly executed events Independence society has had the pleasure of being participants of.

The attractive M. C. Williams home was given over to New Years revelers Monday evening, when Mr. and Mrs. Williams entertained the members of the Close Tillicum Club at a delightful "watch party." The house was beautiful with Christmas garlands and flowers and a spirit of gaiety pervaded the occasion. Tables were placed for 500 and the game enthusiastically indulged in until a late hour. When the guests duly ushered in 1918. Every one present added a carol to the general enjoyment and the entire evening was one of extreme pleasure. Mrs. Williams was assisted by her daughter Thelma in serving an elegant midnight luncheon.

A pretty club event of the holiday season was that given by the members of the Kensington Club for their husbands and several additional guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Baun on New Years Eve. The house presented a festive appearance with decorations apropos to the merry Yuletide. Arranged among the Christmas greens were four tables appointed for 500. At the close of the games Mrs. Grider held ladies top score and was presented with a beautiful vase. E. E. Tripp captured the gentleman's prize, a handsome deck of cards. At 12, midnight, the gathering joined in the revelry of "Ring out the old and ring in the new."

A splendid two-course luncheon concluded the very pleasant evening.

House guests and several intimate friends enjoyed an informal New Years party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Cooper Monday evening. The rooms were enhanced with garlands of Christmas greens and card tables arranged for the players. At a late hour a dainty luncheon was served.

DR. BELL HAS MUCH TO ANSWER FOR

Exchanges credit Rev. Bell of this city with having performed a thousand marriages. What a lot he will have to answer for some of these days. He should

endeavor to get a circuit court judgeship and undo as many of these jobs as possible to partially square himself.—Benton County Courier.