

HOOD RIVER SUN.

Published Thursdays by E. R. Bradley.

Subscription Rates:

One year.....\$1.50
Six months.....1.00
Three months......75
(strictly in advance)
Advertising rates made known on application.

Entered at the postoffice in Hood River, Ore., Nov. 1, 1899, as second class mail matter.

HOOD RIVER, OR., DEC. 28, 1899.

GOODBYE '99—WELCOME 1900

Before the next issue of the Sun, the year 1899 shall have passed into history thus completing another century, with all its events of progress in science and art, of great successes and failures of individuals and of the advancement or retrogression of peoples and nations. Never in the history of the world has there been chronicled such genius in invention such achievement along all lines as the century now nearing its close records. The mind of man cannot conceive of so great advancement for the coming century and yet it is not only possible but quite probable. The grand march forward is noted on every hand, may the future not record still more notable events? Future history alone can determine.

During the year now nearing its close numerous events have transpired in our country which clearly mark its advancement and progress, and notwithstanding the fact that we have been at war during the entire year, peace is now near at hand and our people can look forward to the coming year with the assurance that no other such struggle threatens the nation. As a people—both nationally and locally—success has been ours and though the year for some has brought its difficulties and sorrows, its losses and disappointments, yet there much to be grateful for.

Therefore, as we say good bye to 1899 and welcome 1900, let us remember those things that are best in the past, and enter the new year with a determination to meet whatever it has in store for us, cheerfully and manfully, to the end that when it is gone we may be better, and others with whom we associate, may be better for our having lived and done the best we could.

What Wasco county needs is a good roads system. No county can advance without facilities for traveling. When the people take the matter in hand and build them, not mud, but macadam roads, business of the merchants will jump to a point never before realized and business generally will go hand in hand with it.

The above from the Antelope Herald contains a whole sermon in itself. There is probably no other one subject so fraught with importance to the whole people of any section as the good roads subject, neither is there anything that will draw trade to a town and increase the business of its mercantile or other industries than the fact that such town is surrounded with good roads. Some system or plan looking toward the betterment of our county roads should be inaugurated by those in authority and the columns of the Sun are open for an intelligent discussion of the subject by anyone interested and who may have something of worth to offer.

Agitation that measures for public good are brought about before let us keep this subject before the front that it may result in a decided and much-needed improvement of the public roads about Hood River.

The Christmas number of the Evening Telegram was a thing of beauty and will be a joy forever to all who have had the pleasure of perusing its columns. In addition to the regular sized paper, twelve beautifully illustrated and intensely interesting pages were contained in its make-up, every line replete with important facts relative to the resources of our great state, and every illustration a life-like epitome of some particularly important person, place or object. No better illustrations have ever been produced by any paper coming under our observation, and the Telegram should, and undoubtedly will receive a full measure of credit for its enthralling and wonderfully rich Christmas edition.

Speaking of this section the Telegram says "But there are other things than beauty in this locality. The fruit farms of the Hood River valley are among the most valuable in the West. Dozens of carloads of strawberries go East each season from this point, and the apples of Hood River are prized wherever they are known. There is also valuable timber in this locality, and large mills are taking advantage of the water power found here."

Observing, thoughtful and intelligent minds will, in four out of five cases, fully corroborate the following expressions from the Philadelphia Record, in regard to the English-Boer conflict. The Record says: "Sympathy with the Boers, who are fighting against a stronger power with undaunted courage, and so far with remarkable success, cannot be repressed. It need not be disguised. But let us not rejoice in the humiliation of England. Only a few months ago, in the day of our peril, she placed herself firmly on our side. The defeat of England, if her enemies should now turn upon her, would be a defeat of advancing freedom and civilization. It would be a calamity to the United States. Our laws and language, no less than our blood and trade, constitute a bond of amity and interest between us that we could not sever if we would."

A copy of the second issue of the Columbia River and Oregon Timberman, is one of the latest visitors to our exchange table and is very welcome. As its name indicates it is a journal devoted to the interests of the lumber and timber trade, and a glance at the contents convinces us that its publisher, Geo. M. Cornwall, is the man that can make the journal a sure winner. The copy of the Timberman before us comprises twenty-four pages, including covers, and is gotten up in a particularly neat and attractive manner. "The half-tone cuts are good and the matter deeply interesting not only to timbermen but the general reading public."

The English are passing through a crisis at present that will try them in every fibre of their make-up. With the losses they have been called upon to bear in their conflict with the Boers, the threatenings being made on every hand by their enemies, and the lack of sympathy from their supposed friends, they find themselves in a position far from enviable. That they will conquer in the end we do not question, but a hard and determined struggle is before them with great loss of life and untold expense, neither can be questioned.

Dwight L. Moody, the great evangelist, died at his home in East Northfield, Mass., at noon last Friday. Since his break down in the pulpit at Kansas City a few weeks ago a general failing of health had taken place, and his death was therefore not altogether unexpected. The greatness of his life's work can only be measured by the Eternal record, and the testimony of the thousands of souls he has been the means of rescuing from sin.

The Denver man who proceeded to dig his own grave intending to commit suicide in it changed his views of life as soon as he struck a lead of sylvanite in it which brought a \$20,000 buyer to the front. Digging ought hereafter to be prescribed as a remedy for despondency.

Southern California experienced a severe earthquake shock early Christmas morning, causing the loss of a number of lives and much property. It was the severest shock felt in a number of years and was over a large portion of the state.

The Ibox mine near Sumpter, was sold last week to S. W. Ray, of Port Arthur, Canada for the modest little sum of \$300,000. It was sold in February last for \$65,000. The present sale shows a pretty rapid advance in less than one year.

Exchange Clippings.

Interesting Paragraphs Gleaned From Various Sources.

Progress of the South.

Thirty years ago the South was crippled and poverty-stricken. Its natural resources of wealth were unsurpassed. But it was without strength, opportunity or implements to develop them. Imperfect means of transportation and communication, a disorganized labor system, the ranks of the most vigorous element in the population depleted, practically no ready money and the absence of the outside helping hand were enough to appal a most sturdy people. But from wreck and ruin the South has emerged energetic, progressive, sanguine. Today it has \$1,000,000,000 invested in manufacturing, with an annual output valued at \$1,500,000,000 and paying \$350,000,000 in wages. Its cotton mills, with 5,000,000 spindles, representing an investment of 125,000,000 already consume yearly 1,400,000 bales of cotton. It is producing about 2,500,000 tons of pig iron a year, 40,000,000 tons of coal, from 10,000,000 to 11,000,000 bales of cotton, probably 10,000,000 feet of lumber and 750,000,000 bushels of grain, and its railroads, steadily improving and increasing length, have already a 50,000 mile-age.

The South has accomplished much.

It has much more to do before its full growth shall have been attained. That it will be equal to its mighty task is proved by its present lustiness.—Telegram.

The delegation from the Pacific states in congress, to a man, ought to fight the proposition to grant to France the practically free entry into that country, of American coal oil. It is the Standard Oil Company against the prune growers of this country and the prune growers of this country are mostly west of the Rocky mountains. Our members of Congress must not stand this imposition. The competitors of our growers are in France. The people of America are not particularly interested in the further enrichment of the Standard Oil Company; especially not at the expense of the producers of prunes in this country. Such a concession would be an outrage of the rank and kind. There is no sort of justice in the demand.—Statesman.

Rev. Frank Spaulding, of Hood River, was in the city today, and goes to Boyd tomorrow to dedicate the new church at that place.

The Dalles land office holds the record of having received more homestead and land grant applications during the last fiscal year than any other land office in Oregon, Washington or Idaho. The year ended June 30, up to which time over 800 applications had been filed. Receipts amounted to considerable more than \$100,000.—Times-Mountaineer.

We have heard about the "biggest dog in the piddle;" the "only pebble on the beach" and like expressions; but the "fattest hog in the pen" must have been that which now hangs in Woods Bros.' butcher shop, having turned up its toes Thursday in order to furnish pork for their patrons. It is perhaps the largest hog ever butchered in the county, being 2½ years old and weighing 810 pounds.—Chronicle.

A number of Hood River people are planning to visit our city and attend the Glee Club concert Thursday night. Among them will be several students of the university from that place. We imagine, with the assistance of the students who will be home for the holidays, the audience will not be lacking in enthusiasm.—Chronicle.

Correspondence.

News of the Week Gathered by Our Local Writers.

Belmont Breezes.

Will and Howard Isenberg are home from Portland to spend the holidays.

G. S. Woodworth and G. J. Gessing are each putting in several hundred feet of blind drainage ditches.

E. E. Savage has about as fine a flock of pure bred Buff Wyandotte chickens as you could wish to see.

The Christmas tree at the church Saturday night was an enjoyable affair for all present. Many useful and valuable presents were distributed.

The typhoid fever patients, on Phelps creek are improving slowly. The Eastman boys were able to sit up to the dinner table, Thursday for the first time.

Mrs. John Castner came up from Portland last week and is visiting friends in the valley. They expect to move to La Grande shortly where Mr. Castner has secured a position in the railroad shops.

We have in our pleasant neighborhood two of the fathers of the Republican party, Uncle John Smith and Grandpa Eastman. They are both quite brisk in spite of their age of about 80 years. They were both on the streets of Hood River last Saturday.

Our community is soon to become one vast chicken yard. Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Nickelsen are already in the field with incubators. M. P. Isenberg expects to get an incubator of the greatest capacity obtainable and if he can swipe enough eggs to fill it he will eschew politics and raise chickens by the thousands. He figures that chickens are worth \$3.50 per dozen and that he could easily raise a hundred thousand dozen and that would be an easier road to affluence than by the political route. G. Y. E.

Cascade Lox Explosions.

A. Traverso is on the sick list but is improving.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

A camp of Women of Woodcraft has been organized in the Lox.

H. W. Taylor, the contractor, paid off the men last Wednesday and everybody is correspondingly happy.

A grand ball was given last Saturday night by Jno. Anderson in Leavins' hall which was a decided success. Music was furnished by the Latourelle orchestra.

Robt. Black purchased a gramophone on his last trip to Portland, and now he and his friend, D. L. Cates while away the weary hours listening to "His Little Wife was with him all the time."

Nick Stokoe was knocked down and maltreated by two thugs last Sunday evening and thrown down a 30 foot embankment where he lay for several hours until help came and removed him to his home where he now lies in a very precarious condition. Though robbery was their object they secured nothing for their trouble.

THE STRIPPER.

East Side Snapshots. (Pine Grove)

Wm. Sears was doing business in Sherman county last week.

Mrs. Will Scobin was visiting in The Dalles a few days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Mason came up from Portland last Saturday.

Geo. Knapp has gone to Sherman Co. where he is engaged doing carpenter work.

Warren Wells has been quite sick for the last few days, but at this writing he is reported much better.

Miss Matilda Mohr went to The Dalles last Saturday and will visit her acquaintances there for several days.

Born on Dec. 18, to Bert Boardman and wife, a son. Bert is looking real spry but says he does not get enough sleep now.

J. B. Jackson was a Christmas eve visitor in The Dalles. John went up to the city (some say) to do some business with the County Clerk, but before starting he forgot to remember that the incumbent of the clerk's office is off duty on Sundays and holidays, and John not being able to stay away any longer from this special part of the valley, was seen making tracks toward home, and from the way he was walking he evidently

thought someone else would get there first.

The basket social at Pine Grove last Friday evening was a grand success financially and otherwise. The program was nicely arranged and exceptionally well rendered. The baskets brought from \$1.25 to as high as \$5.00, and after all expenses were paid the committee reported \$61.00 on the right side of the ledger. This enables the district to purchase a new bell and make other improvements which have been needed. Those attending from a distance have the thanks of the district for their liberality. G. Waiz.

A pound social will be given at the home of Mrs. R. R. Erwin tomorrow (Friday) evening for the benefit of Rev. Frank Spaulding. Everybody come.

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