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## FIRWOOD.

Claud Smith spent Saturday afternoon with the Wilkins family.

J. C. Smith received a telegram saying that his son Garfield was seriously ill with pneumonia. He is in the Providence hospital at Wallace, Idaho.

Ruby and Albert Wilkins spent Sunday afternoon at J. G. DeShazer's. The afternoon was spent in playing games and coasting. It is some fun coasting.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Malar and Jessie Clarke attended the high school program at Sandy, Friday evening.

Ruby Wilkins spent Friday night with the bachelor girls.

Mrs. Lampert purchased two fine pigs from J. G. DeShazer Saturday.

Bertha Stucki spent Sunday afternoon with the Wilkins'.

Walter Alt and Roy Mitchell went to the mountains wildcat hunting.

The Firwood school has been closed for a few days on account of the snow.

Ruby Wilkins is staying with Mrs. A. Malar during the bad weather.

Ruth Hart entered the Sandy school January 21st, in Mrs. Malar's room.

W. L. Wilkins killed a bobcat one day last week.

## THE BLUFFS

W. F. Severin came out from Portland and spent the week end at his home here. Mrs. Severin accompanied him back to town for a few days visit.

Mrs. A. W. Bell and little daughter spent several days of last week at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Dunn.

Henry Schwartz has been laid up with a sore foot.

A dance was held last Saturday night at the home of John Barnett in which nearly all the neighbors participated. A good time is reported.

The sewing club will hold its next meeting with Mrs. Paul Dunn on Wednesday, February 9th.

Willie Haley attended a party at Eagle Creek Saturday evening.

## DOVER

Violet and Edna Lee are having a tussel with chickenpox, also Charles, William and Irvin Updegrave are laid up from the same cause.

Lee gathered cream Monday in place of Charles.

Morrison is doing chores at the Updegrave's while they are sick.

The Firwood-Dover Telephone Company held their regular board meeting at J. G. DeShazer's home on Friday night and transacted business to the extent of about \$75.00.

A. J. Morrison has a horse sick with winter staggers. One should feed raw carrots and potatoes during this winter weather, it is a fine preventative.

## HILL CREST

Mr. and Mrs. German went to Portland last Friday.

Miss Harvey spent Saturday and Sunday at her home in Lents.

Mr. White has bought a new horse.

Mr. Hoffman came up and bought a beef steer belonging to Oscar Smith.

We are not quite snow bound yet.

## THE TREE ON THE ROOF.

An Old Building Custom to Propitiate the Pagan Gods.

Did you ever stop to think why a bit of ornament in the form of conventionalized fruit, grain or flowers is almost invariably added to the gable of a Gothic building and very frequently to the gable of any other type of building? Do you know why the lightning rods of our grandfathers were branched at the ends like little trees and why the old fashioned Scandinavian, Danish and German contractors contrive to fasten a branch of a tree or an ear of corn to the topmost peak of a house that has progressed so far in the course of construction that the rafters are in place? Usually the contractor laughs sheepishly when he is asked about the matter, giving no other reason than that his father always provided the birds with some grain or offered them a green branch to rest in.

The fact is that the birds have nothing whatever to do with the custom. It is purely religious in its significance and entirely pagan. It had its beginning before Christianity was "inflicted on the barbarians of the north." The gable of a building was exposed to both wind and lightning, so the gods must be propitiated. For Wotan there was a small evergreen tree and for Thor there was a bunch of flowers. If the favor of the god had been invoked while the house was still incomplete, the ceremony must be finished the day the house was done by the burning of the little tree or the withered flowers. Then a bunch of grain was tied to the gable to feed the white horse of the death god, so that he would hasten on his journey without stopping at that particular house.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

### Homemade Gas.

Spanish peasants living in the cork oak region use homemade gas obtained from cork refuse. As described by one authority, the process consists in filling several large tenkets with the waste bark and placing each in turn over the fire during the evening, burning the volatile gas as it escapes from the spouts. The carbonized residue forms the fine black-brown pigment known to commerce as "Spanish brown."

### His Golf Prize.

When the Duke of York was living in Edinburgh in 1681 he was told that a certain shoemaker named Paterson was the best golf player in Scotland, and him, the duke, later James II., chose as partner in a foursome, winning a huge stake. He promptly turned over the money to Paterson, who forthwith built a house in which the duke placed a stone with a Paterson crest bearing the motto, "Far and Sure."

### Always Wrong.

Manager—I'm disgusted with the mistakes that new man makes! He gets everything balled up. Assistant Manager—Oh, well, some of the best ones are that way at the beginning. He may bring home the bacon yet. Manager—He won't unless we send him for ham.—Judge.

### His Motive.

Judge—Why did you commit a second theft after you had just been acquitted of the first one? Prisoner—I had to pay my lawyer, your honor.—Boston Transcript.

### Their Work.

"What a noisy clatter children do keep up at the table!"  
"They certainly do put the din in dinner."—Baltimore American.

## TIMELY FARM NOTES.

Cover carrots, beets and other root crops lightly with dry sand to prevent wilting.

The man who lets his plows stand in the field during the winter should remember that manufacturers have not yet discovered iron and steel that will not rust.

Professor H. A. Surface says the use of pure white lead and linseed oil for borers and mice will not injure the trees.

The feed cutter should be in use on every farm. The corn shredder is an excellent thing. But why not put all of the corn crop in a silo as the best probable position to get every pound of value out of it?

The man who markets his products only when he has nothing else to do will never get the most out of his farm. The moments spent in reading market reports are golden.

Are you keeping up the fertility of your land? This is especially important to the fruit and vegetable grower. Study your fertilizer problem this winter and get ready to act next spring. It will pay.

## GEORGE

The Social and Commercial Club held their annual meeting last Saturday night and elected the officers for the coming year as follows: President, H. C. Stephens; vice-president, A. H. Miller; secretary, Otto Jannsen; treasurer, Miss Sarah Howard; directors, H. Joyner, P. Rath, C. A. Johnson, Otto Paulsen. House committee: Mrs. H. C. Stephens, Fred Lins and Henry Johnson. Mrs. Leo Rath and Miss Gladys Joyner became members of the club at the last meeting.

Everybody enjoying themselves sleigh riding these days. The snow is ten inches deep.

Mrs. Scheel and children were visiting her sister, Mrs. Smith and family, on Friday. Miss Anna Pagh was also a guest at the Smith home the same day.

Mr. and Mrs. George Eilers were Sunday visitors at Leo Rath's.

Henry Johnson spent several days in Portland the first of the week.

Gladys and Harold Joyner and Mr. and Mrs. Theo Harders spent Wednesday evening at Rimer's.

Mr. and Mrs. Charley Herge are visiting the Klinker family for a week or two.

Mrs. Rhul and children called on Mrs. Leo Rath, Tuesday.

The members of the Christian Endeavor held election of officers recently and elected as follows: Rosie Jannsen, president; Harold Joyner, secretary; Will Lins, treasurer. The attendance at both Sunday school and Endeavor is very good. Miss Sarah Howard, the superintendent of the Sunday school, has not missed a Sunday since they organized.

Miss Adolphine Weiderhold has been visiting home folks for a couple of weeks.

### Sandwich's Wonderful Drum.

The eccentric Lord Sandwich had, according to his biographer, a strange passion for the thunder of big drums, for the gratification of which passion he had caused the entire side of one large music room in his mansion at Hinchinbrook to be covered with parchment, so that when it was struck with a massive stick it gave out a roar sufficient to terrify any sensitive soul. Many who heard this drum once struck positively declined ever to enter the apartment again lest they should be given a second performance.—St. Louis Republic.

### Our Biggest Industry.

Measured by the number of persons employed, what is the country's biggest manufacturing industry? Lumbering, with its 48,000 sawmills, its \$1,000,000,000 investment in these plants and its employment of 605,000 men to operate them. This does not include, says the Nation's Business, the standing timber, which brings up the total investment to \$2,500,000,000.—Wall Street Journal.

### Good Start.

"I'm going to start a comedy company on the road in a couple of weeks," said the theatrical manager.  
"What play?" asked the critic.  
"Oh, I haven't that written yet, but I heard a good joke today that we can use in it."—Exchange.

## AT THE CHURCHES

### METHODIST

Sunday School 10 A M  
Preaching 11 A M  
Preaching 7:30 P M  
Everybody invited.  
Rev. L. W. Chandler, Pastor.

### GERMAN LUTHERAN

Services are held every Sunday except the fourth of each month.  
Preaching at 10:30.  
F. Dobberfuhl, Pastor

### CATHOLIC

Mass is held at 10:30 a m in the Church of Saint Michael, Sandy, the first and third Sundays of each month.  
Rev. Fr. Basal.

### LITERARY HYPOCRITES.

Here's a Writer Who Frankly Admits He's One of the Clan.

How many of us if we were really honest could make a list of great books that we have tried to enjoy and couldn't rise to?

We have for our own part a greater sin than that on our conscience. There are a number of books that we habitually pretend we have read which we have never read at all. They are great books, we suppose. At least we've heard a lot about them and read a lot about them, and people who assume to know say they are great books. Some of them we have tried to read and couldn't read, but we have pretended at one time or another to have read all of them. Here is our list of shame:

"Tom Jones." We have tried to read it four times and could never get five pages into it.

"The Vicar of Wakefield." We have attempted it at least six times and taken the count—the first round every time.

"Dante's Divine Comedy." We have been going against the Cary translation, which we hear is a good one, at least once a year for twenty years, and we can't get interested in it. Yet up to the present moment we have always pretended that we had read all of it and liked it.

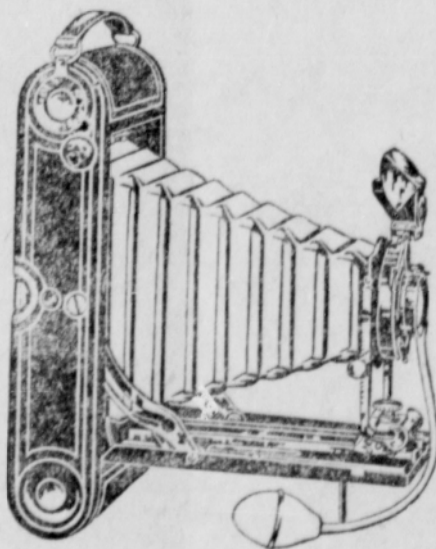
"Don Quixote." We have read a little of it, and we know all the usual things that are said about it, and we even wrote some stuff about it one time, saying all the things that are usually said about it, for which we got \$25, but we don't really like it. It puts us to sleep; it seems long drawn out and clumsy to us.

"Boswell's Life of Johnson." We never read any of it. But we have pretended to and have pretended at times to quote incidents from it and have got away with the incidents.

We have always pretended that we were familiar with Walt Whitman's poetry, but as a matter of fact we never read anything through, excepting "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed."—Don Marquis in New York Sun.

### Beat Him.

"My ancestors came over in the Mayflower," announced the man who prides himself on his blue blood.  
"Huh!" snorted the man of red corpuscles. "Mine sailed in the ark!"—Dallas News.



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**News Office**