

Newsy Items from Nearby Points

A DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Pleasant Valley.

Otto Smith, of the Tremont district, was in our midst on business one day recently.

Mrs. A. B. Olson, who underwent a serious operation at a Portland hospital sometime ago, has returned to her home and is on the road to permanent recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Campbell entertained Mr. and Mrs. John Macnemier, of Portland on Sunday.

Word has just been received that Ray Kesterson, son of J. H. Kesterson, has joined the marine corps and has been sent to Bremerton.

A. C. Ball, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. E. Ball, attended the Oregon Conference, of the Free Methodist Church last Sunday. This annual meeting was held in Hillsboro this year.

The names of Pleasant Valley boys who have so far placed their names on Uncle Sam's Honor Roll are, Lester Richey, enlisted from the O. A. C., commissioned second Lieutenant, Officers Reserve Corps; Boyd Brownwell and Ealis Forsgren, for the Aviation Dept.; Ray Kesterson and Jake Cornely, with the Navy, Veri Parker, in the Cavalry.

G. H. Kesterson has purchased a three-quarter ton auto truck, with which he intends to deliver his coming berry crop to the market.

Work on F. H. Gilchrist's new residence is progressing rapidly, notwithstanding adverse weather conditions.

G. H. Richey, of Corvallis, was calling on friends in the Valley Monday. Mr. Richey is on his way to Malheur County for a few month's stay.

If the attendance at last Saturday night's meeting at the Grange hall, pursuant to a call for the observance of National Defense Day, is any criterion by which to judge the patriotism of this community we certainly will not score many points to our credit.

Damascus.

The farmers' patriotic meeting at the Grange Hall Saturday was well attended and subjects pertaining to farming were discussed.

Mrs. Burr was shopping in Lents Saturday.

Miss Clara Lingel, who is attending the Lincoln High School, is on the sick list and has been absent from school for two weeks.

Mr. Schank lost a valuable farm horse recently.

Miss Mabel Elliott is recovering from an attack of the measles.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Roger were visiting at the Hall home on Sunday.

Julia and Louise Krotch drove out to Logan and spent Sunday visiting the Bridesmae family.

Mrs. Hilroy and daughter, Perl, were calling on Mr. and Mrs. Burr Sunday.

The news of the death of the seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Miller, formerly of this place, was received here last week. The family are residing at Vancouver, Wash. at present.

Miss Gladys Burr, who has been teaching at Linn's Mills the past three years, has returned home for the Summer vacation.

Mrs. Carlson and children spent Sunday evening visiting at the Burr home.

Mr. Colton recently purchased a new Chevrolet and was out initiating it Sunday.

Kendall.

(Too late for last issue.)

The Ladies' Aid is to meet at Mrs. Thomson's on Friday and will have a busy day as they have not been meeting for some time on account of sickness in some of the homes. There has been several cases of measles in the neighborhood.

School will be out soon and the children will be able to improve the vacation time by working in the garden.

Prof. Keenan, Principal of the school, has been secured for another year, to the satisfaction of all concerned. Miss Dawson, a new teacher, has been secured to take the place of Miss Chapman.

Mr. Maxson, formerly of Colton, has purchased a new home near Bell and is helping some of the neighbors do their plowing.

There will be considerable more land put under cultivation in this vicinity than usual. Mr. Ham is cultivating all the land on his new home place, the Oregon Home Acres.

Miss Morrow, who is employed with Woodard, Clark & Co., is having the two acres of one of the oldest homes in the Oregon Home Addition prepared for potatoes.

Mrs. Nelson, formerly Mrs. Burgeson, has rented her former home to new parties. Mrs. Orris has also rented her three acres. So there will be many more "spuds" grown around here than usual.

Mr. Thomsen, Mr. Newton, Mrs. Gowler, Mr. Carson and many others, have their gardens in in good shape.

Bellrose-Gilbert.

The "Unexpected" Club had a delightful meeting on Saturday evening last, the 12th inst., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Johnson. The attendance was not as large as usual as several of the members have been doing extra duty in the gardens during the nice days of the past week and in consequence have been forced to deny themselves some of the social pleasures of life for a time. However, those who were present had a good time.

As usual the "cats" comprised the first item on the program. Thirteen people set down to a well-filled table. No fears were expressed because of this unlucky number except that there might not be thirteen pieces to Mrs. Johnson's chicken pie, but when it was found that the supply was ample for every one to have a second helping all fears were dismissed.

Mr. Anderson brought his "ghost" along. This ethereal personage is coming to be a regular attendant at the meetings of the "Unexpected" Club, the members seeming to have familiarized themselves with its presence, but the stranger present for the first time is made the target for all the "ghostly" pranks. Mrs. Bruce was the victim upon this occasion.

Mr. Henderson was master of ceremonies for the entertainment of the evening. Every one present had their little stunt to get away with. Humorous stories were told. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson furnished the "gasoline" to start the "wheels" going around, which they certainly did in good shape. Elizabeth Hyde gave a couple of readings; Mr. Henderson provided a good deal of amusement by singing "Nellie Gray" backwards, and also by giving a practical demonstration of the difference between an ordinary song and an anthem. Mr. Jonsson read a little original poem, which follows this article. Music by the graphophone was much enjoyed.

Those present were, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Anderson and little son, Elwin, Mrs. Rindley, Mr. Ambler, Mrs. Bruce and daughter, Miss Dorothy, Mrs. Herrie, Mr. Henderson and daughter, Miss Stella, Mrs. Minnie Hyde, of the "Herald" and daughter, Miss Elizabeth.

MAY 12, 1917.

When days are dark and gloomy
And you get lonesome too,
This earth seems, Oh, so roomy
As if no one thinks of you.

Just then a friend comes rapping,
A tap-tap at your door
You wonder if your napping
For there seems a dozen more.

And still they keep coming,
Until your little home
Is filled up full and bubbling
With grand, good, friends who come.

And then you bid them welcome,
You don't know what to do,
To thank them for their kindness,
In coming to see you.

If kindly words and greeting
Mean so much for you and me,
I've been thinking at this meeting
Oh! What must Heaven be?

Happy Valley.

The fruit trees of every kind are full of bloom and from all appearances the fruit is setting for a bumper crop.

The arrival of an 8 1/2 lb. bundle at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Deardoff, containing a young son, on May 11th, made glad the hearts of the proud parents. Mother and babe are doing fine, but the father don't know what size hat to buy.

Miss Lydia Zinser is attending the annual Woman's Missionary Convention of the Evangelical Church, which is being held at Tocomo, Wash., as a delegate from Happy Valley. Miss Perri Rebstock accompanying her and visiting friends in Tocomo and Seattle.

Last Friday evening the Light Bearers class of young people of the Evangelical Sunday school spent a pleasant evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Ulrich.

Fifteen of the Happy Valley people went to Portland on Monday evening to hear Bishop Lawrence Seager, of the Evangelical Church, of Naperville, Ill. Their efforts were well repaid as the Bishop preached a powerful and inspiring sermon to a large audience at the First English Church.

Mrs. Orville Johnson, of Oregon City, spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Ulrich.

Cherryville.

Every little bit of sunshine helps. Great weather for grass and grain, which are looking fine.

Fruit trees are unusually slow in blooming, but the prospects for a big crop are very good.

Your valuable paper contained an excellent editorial on the "High Price of Living" last week. It is hot stuff all right, and true in every particular. In the words of Billy Sunday, go after them "from hell to breakfast." In the meantime prices keep continually soaring. Where are the poor people of the cities to get off at?

(Continued on Page 6.)

Farm and Grange Notes

A DEPARTMENT DEVOTED TO OUR RURAL FRIENDS.

Lents Grange.

An interesting session of Lents Grange was held on Saturday of last week. A class of four was initiated at the morning session. The sumptuous dinner at noon did credit to the committee and was greatly enjoyed.

An interesting program was rendered at the open lecture hour, presided over by the Lecturer, Mrs. Darnall. The entertaining features of the program included a violin solo by little Miss Updyke; recitation, "Where Mother Is," Vernon Haygarth; duet, "Mother," Gladys Julian and Hilda Field; reading, "Mother" Myrtle McNeil; recitation, by Adeline Rogers. Laura O'Donnell and Mabel Smith gave a Flag Salute, after which the audience joined in singing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

G. B. Hegardt, Chief Engineer of the Portland Dock Commission, spoke in the interests of the Dock Commission's proposed elevator and shipping terminal. He succeeded so well in impressing his audience of the positive necessity of "putting the port in Portland," it we would keep the city on the map as a harbor city, that every last granger went out to boost henceforth from now until election for the measure.

Mr. Miller, a son of A. F. Miller, was present from Los Angeles and gave a very interesting talk on the "High Points of the World." Mr. Miller had visited the points about which he spoke and gave very vivid descriptions which were very entertaining as well as instructive.

Mr. and Mrs. Green, of Evening Star Grange, were present as guests.

Farming Idle Lands.

The Secretary of the Interior, Franklin K. Lane, has made an observation that is most practical and worthy of Government consideration. He says that no one should own land and hold it out of use. Secretary Lane calls attention to some 700,000 acres of tillable land in reclamation projects which have water available and urges that this land be made to produce crops. He further points out that these lands are not public lands, but owned by private owners. In his statement he says: "These lands are not public lands. They belong to private owners and if the latter do not utilize their property, the time will not be far off when our National needs will require confiscation and Government cultivation. No one is entitled to that which he does not use."

Here is a suggestion that our Secretary might apply not only to reclamation projects but millions of acres of tillable land throughout our Nation held by land speculators with no thought of making them productive. These men and groups of men are, in mild terms, merely modern buccaners, holding idle farm land adjoining improved farms, profiting by the rise in land values through the improvements made by industrious farmers and disposing of their holdings only when land values rise. Not only does this land prevent settlement by those who would be producers; it also prevents community development and prohibits contribution to a greater food production.

The present system of holding land for speculative purposes is wrong. The suggestion made by our able Secretary is a good one, but why not go a step further and right a wrong that has long existed, and reach out to a larger field, so that millions of acres of idle speculative lands may be put under cultivation, thereby increasing crop production, much needed at this time and for some time to come? Let's hope that out of the present agitation for greater production, our Government will see the light and remedy the present pernicious system now fastened upon a great agricultural country such as ours.—Western Farmer.

The Biggest Waste Is In Fruit.

"The biggest waste in food products in Oregon is in fruit," says Prof. H. P. Barss, Pathologist, of the O. A. C. Experiment Station. "The cause of the waste, says he, 'is chiefly worms, scab and scale. It may be reduced very materially by proper spraying. The first spraying of the most susceptible varieties can be done at once in most parts, if the weather permits. The Station would like to assist the growers in making this the one year for clean fruit without waste. Send to the College for copies of the bulletins on spraying."

Late Crops For Stock Feed.

There are several crops which may be planted very late which will afford a lot of stock feed. In many parts of Oregon corn may be grown for the silo and it affords a large yield of valuable feed for cattle and sheep. Nearly all parts of Western Oregon will grow good silage corn and the same may be said of all but the highest altitudes of Eastern Oregon. Roughage in Eastern Oregon has been especially scarce the past winter and the indications are that it will be scarce again next winter. A silo full of corn in connection with hay is a wonderful help in wintering cattle or sheep. The Eastern Oregon Experi-



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