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P. O. Box 10, Prineville, Oregon

THE PLOWING SEASON

Ancient Superstitions of the Tillers of the Soil.

SACRIFICES TO THE GODS.

Customs That Were in Vogue Among the Romans of Old—Ceremonies That Are Observed in India and China—Rites of the Siamese Farmers.

The formal inauguration of the plowing season is very ancient and still is observed in some parts of the world.

Among the Romans by the institution of various religious festivals connected with agriculture the seasons came to be regarded with a sort of sacred reverence. Before the old Roman put the plow into the ground he went to the temple of the goddess of earth, Tellus, one of whose priests performed certain propitiatory rites. Virgil in his "Georgics" advises the Roman husbandman to observe the signs on heaven according to the crop he desires to produce. The time to plow for wheat, barley and the sacred poppy was when "balance" has equalized the hours of day and sleep and halves the world exactly between light and shade. When Taurus utters in the year with his gilded horns and Sirius sits facing the threatening bill is time for beans. For wheat and spelt the Pleiades should hide themselves from your eyes with the dawn. Many have begun before Maria sets, but the desired crop has baffled them with empty ears. But first of all the poet admonishes the farmer to "honor the gods and offer sacrifices to Ceres."

In India there are certain days when it is unlawful to plow. Mother Earth is supposed to sleep six days in every month, and on such days she refuses to be disturbed in her slumber.

In northwest India the cultivator employs a pundit to select an auspicious time for the commencement of plowing. Great secrecy is observed. In some places the time selected is in the night; in others daybreak is the customary time.

The pundit goes to a field, taking a brass drinking vessel and a branch of the sacred mango tree, which is efficacious in frightening away evil spirits that may haunt the field. Prithivi, the broad world, and Sesha Naga, the great snakes which support the world, are supposed to be propitiated and reconciled by this ceremony. The pundit satisfies himself as to the direction in which the great snake is lying, for it occasionally moves about a little to ease itself of the great burden of the broad world which it carries. The pundit then marks off an imaginary line. Five (a lucky number) clouds of earth are thrown up, and water is sprinkled in the trench five times with the sacred mango bush to insure productivity. Caution must be exercised lest the charm be broken and prospective fortune imperiled. The farmer must remain secluded during the following day; no salt must be eaten, no money, grain or fire given away.

Among the Karmas before plowing the farmer makes a burnt offering of butter and molasses in his own field and again at the village shrine.

The Chinese begin plowing on the first day of their solar year. Anciently the rites which were celebrated by the Chinese at plowing time were elaborate, but rationalistic sovereigns eliminated one expensive religious rite after another until nothing was left except the Imperial act of homage to heaven and earth and agriculture in the ceremonial plowing.

The Siamese observe a rite called Ranku about the middle of May, which is preliminary to the plowing season, and it is not proper for any one to plow until the ceremony is over. The court astrologers determine the time for it. On the day fixed by them the minister of agriculture, who is always a prince or nobleman of high rank, goes with a procession to a piece of ground some distance from the capital. Where the festivities are to take place a new plow, to which a pair of buffaloes are yoked, is in readiness, decorated with flowers and leaves.

The minister guides the plow over the field, closely watched by the spectators, who are especially interested in the length and folds of the silk of his lower garments, because the prosperity of the season and its characteristics, wet or dry, are to be predicted from these as he follows the plow. If the robe rises from his knee there will be disastrous rains. If it falls below his ankles there will be a drought. If the folds reach midway between knee and ankle the season will be prosperous.

After a proper number of furrows have been turned old women strew grain of different kinds in them and bulls are released from the yoke and allowed to feast upon the seeds. The grain which the animals eat most freely will be scarce next harvest, and that which they refuse to take will be abundant.

In Yorkshire it was considered unwise to disturb the earth with plow or spade on Good Friday.—Exchange.

A Shipwreck.

Muggins, gazing intently at a dead dog in a resigned tone at last said: "Here is another shipwreck." "Shipwreck! Where?" blurted out Juggins. "Where, my dear friend?" quoted M. "There is a bark lost forever." Juggins growled and passed on.—London Fun.

It is impossible for a man attempting many things to do all things well.—Xenophon.

THREE ARTISTS.

The Wonderful Success of Christy, Fisher and Hutt.

Howard Chandler Christy is said to have "cleaned up" \$80,000 in one year, which sum is something more than the combined salaries of all the members of President Roosevelt's cabinet. This may be an exaggeration. It probably is, and it should be. Yet that it is possible for Christy to make such a sum and that it is probable his income for a twelvemonth has climbed well up toward that figure are proved by the fact that his royalties on an edition of one portfolio of drawings, the execution of which probably occupied less than a month, was \$13,000 the first year it was out. The advertising value of Christy's name is so great that he has been offered handsome studio apartments rent free if he will move into them and establish the reputation of the building. Harrison Fisher is another popular artist who has found the public very practically appreciative. His career in many respects has been similar to that of Christy, also his income, though it is doubtful if the latter has ever reached the high water mark set by Christy's star year. Record has it that Fisher's brush brought him \$20,000 in seven months at one time.

Henry Hutt is also a member of this class. In ten years he is reported from a four dollar a week artist's "devil" in a Chicago engraving house all the way to a seat of honor in the real artists' club. While the first years of Mr. Hutt's "career" were somewhat stormy, at least they were proportionately short. He early found himself and fixed a rising scale of prices on his work. This proved an excellent plan, the only change necessary in the programme being a readjustment of the scale in order to frighten off the buyer with a limited purse. The real financial success of these three men—Christy, Fisher and Hutt—lies in their ability to produce. Except when selling studio on a royalty basis, the prices paid them, while seemingly enormous, are actually not record breaking.—Bookman.

A Story About "Fighting Bob."

The other day at Lake Mohonk a friend of Admiral Evans asked him: "Admiral, is there any truth that after the battle of Santiago you called out from the bridge of the Iowa to a captain of another battleship, 'Those Spaniards can't fight a thing except water?'" Admiral Evans laughed and replied: "I will tell you what I really said and what the incident really was. One drizzly day during the blockade we drifted in toward the harbor and shelled the shore batteries. It wasn't as exciting as it might have been, for whether we hit anything or not, I know the Spaniards did not quite come near us. After the shelling was over a press boat lay alongside my ship, and a newspaper man asked if we had been hit. I shouted back: 'They didn't touch us. The Spaniards didn't hit anything except water, and they couldn't have hit that if there wasn't so much of it.'"

Wolsey Is Hard Up.

Lord Wolsey, who used to be known in England as "our greatest general," is in straitened circumstances and has given up his residence, the Farmhouse, Glynde, Sussex, owing to the expiration of his lease, and the furniture and contents of the modest little mansion have been disposed of by auction. The distinguished soldier has received in his time several liberal grants from a grateful country for services rendered to it, but it is understood that his lot has now fallen on rather evil times, the more so as his state of health has prevented him from completing his "Life of Marlborough." Still, the suit of apartments that was granted him and Lady Wolsey at Hampton Court palace remains at their disposal.

Routed by Beggars.

Miss Anna Morgan, heiress to \$300,000,000, says a Vienna paper, was driven out of Berlin, where she hoped to study politico-social conditions, by the beggars, high and low, of nobility and otherwise, who no sooner heard of the arrival of the rich American girl than they set siege to her dollars. Individual, societies, churches, charitable institutions and promoters of business schemes wrote, telegraphed and sent messengers. It all looked funny to the young woman at first, but it became a nuisance, from which she escaped by means of her automobile, in which she hastened to a nearby summer resort.

Sheep Fattening Sheds.

At Aurora, Ill., there are frequently to be seen as many as 50,000 sheep at one time housed in fattening sheds, where they are put in prime condition for the market. Herds numbering 75,000 are to be encountered on the ranches of the far west, but at Aurora so many sheep in one bunch are right in the midst of a popular farming district is a novel sight. The sheds at this point have accommodations for 75,000 animals, but there has yet been no occasion to tax the establishment to its full capacity.—Baltimore American.

Australia's Wild Oysters.

Oysters are sometimes regarded as dangerous, but they are not usually considered so. A Queensland judge, however, has decided that they are wild beasts. Before a royal commission on the pearling industry, which has been sitting at Brisbane, a witness stated that eight years ago he had laid 100,000 shells in the neighborhood of Friday Island. The Japanese stole the shells, and the district court judge held that as pearl shell oysters were wild animals there was no penalty for stealing them.—London Globe.

High School News.

Editorial Staff

Social.....Agnes Elliott
Athletics.....Clark Morse
Alpha Society.....Louise Summers
Ochocoonian Society.....Wilford Belknap
Freshmen and Senior.....Emerien Young
Sophomore and Junior Classes.....Ethel Moore

A detailed account of the Oregon High School Debating League will take the place of the regular school news this week.

Thirty-seven Oregon High Schools have already entered to contest for the championship of the Oregon High School Debating League this year.

Prof. A. M. Sanders, Superintendent of the Albany schools and president of the State League, has received reports from several other schools that will probably enter the race for rostrum honors during the next few days. The outlook is more favorable than ever before for a splendid series of debates.

The schools of the state are divided into five districts for the purpose of debate, as follows: Eastern Oregon, Columbia River, Central Oregon, Southern Oregon, and Coos County. Each school will contest for the championship of the district in which it is entitled, and the district champions will compete in the inter-district debate and the champions there will compete for state honors.

The school winning state honors, the debate to be held at the University of Oregon, receives the Regent cup, presented by the Regents of the University of Oregon to stimulate debating among the high schools of the state. This cup is to become the permanent property of the school winning it twice. It was offered in 1908 and was won that year by Lebanon, with a team consisting of three young ladies; in 1909, it went to Grants Pass; 1910 remains to be decided but we hope to see it grace the halls of the Crook County High School.

The question selected for debate at the inter-district contests and the final debate for the state championship is: "Resolved, That the voters of Oregon should give their endorsement to the proposed law for state guarantee of bank deposits."

As before stated, each school will have two teams, an affirmative and a negative. On the same evening, each school will meet a team from each of the other schools in the same triangle. Victory will be determined upon points. The decision will count one point and the vote of each judge one point, making it possible for the two teams from one school to score eight points. The school scoring the most points wins the triangle championship and as there are eleven schools in the eastern Oregon section, there will be a second triangular debate to determine the inter-district championship; the victors here will compete with the other sections of the state and then, lastly, for state honors.

The schools making up the eastern Oregon section are: Athena, Baker City, Crook County, Enterprise, Elgin, LaGrand, Ontario, Pendleton, Sherman County, Union and Wheeler county.

Crook County High School, as before announced, is in the triangle with Sherman and Wheeler counties. The question proposed for the debate to be held, according to the constitution, sometime between the 1st of November and the 1st of February is: "Resolved, that the 'commission plan' for city government insures increase of efficiency and decrease of corruption in city offices."

A Chance For High School Students.

Here is a chance for some of the bright young students at the Crook County High School to win some prize money.

The Oregon Society of the Sons of the American Revolution offers prizes totaling \$100 to the pupils of the public schools of the State of Oregon, for essays on subjects connected with our war for Independence.

One prize of \$10.00, and three of \$5.00 each will be awarded for the

first, second, third, and fourth best essays, respectively, written by High School pupils on one of the following subjects:

1. The influence of Alexander Hamilton upon the Republic.
2. The turning point of the Revolutionary War.

The committee has divided up the state, exclusive of the High Schools, into three districts comprised of the following counties:

- District No. 1—Multnomah county
- District No. 2—All the counties lying east of the Cascade mountains.
- District No. 3—All the counties lying west of the Cascade mountains except Multnomah.

One prize of \$10.00 and three of \$5.00 each will be awarded in each district for the first, second, third, and fourth best essays, respectively, written by grade pupils on any one of the following subjects:

1. The capture and trial of Major Andre.
2. The winter at Valley Forge.
3. The women and children of '76—Their trials and privations.

The essays are limited to three thousand words each, must be written in the student's own handwriting on one side only of the paper and accompanied by a certificate from the writer's teacher, stating that the writer is a pupil in a designated class and that the teacher believes the essay to be the pupil's own unaided work.

The essays must be signed by the writer, giving also his or her post office address (including county). They should be forwarded to Mr. B. A. Thaxter, Chairman of Committee, 443 Eleventh street, Portland, Oregon, and should reach their destination not later than February 10, 1910. Essays not complying with these requirements will be rejected.

In awarding these prizes the committee will be governed by considerations of:

1. Originality.
2. Accuracy of statement.
3. Manner of treatment.
4. Orthography, syntax and punctuation.
5. Neatness and legibility.

These prizes are offered to encourage love of our country and the study of its history.

Any additional information which may be desired will be cheerfully furnished on application to the chairman of the committee.

B. A. Thaxter,
W. D. Wheelwright,
Benj. I. Cohen,
Committee.

Gentleman Gray's Thanksgiving.

Said old Gentleman Gray, "On a Thanksgiving Day, If you want a good time, then give something away;"
So he sent a fat turkey to Shoemaker Price,
And the shoemaker said, "What a big bird; How nice!
And since such a good dinner's before me, I ought
To give Widow Lee the small chicken I bought."
"This fine chicken, oh, see!" said the pleased Widow Lee,
"And the kindness that sent it, how precious to me;
I would like to make some one as happy as I—
I'll give Washwoman Biddy my big pumpkin pie."
"And oh sure," Biddy said, "'tis the queen of all pies,
Just to look at its yellow face gladdens my eyes.
Now it's my turn, I think; and a sweet ginger cake
For the motherless Finigan children I'll bake."
Said the Finigan children—Rose, Denny and Hugh—
"It smells sweet of spices, and we'll carry a slice
To poor little lame Jack, who has nothing that's nice."
"Oh, I thank you, and thank you!" said little lame Jack;
"Oh, what a bootiful, bootiful, bootiful cake!
And oh, such a big slice! I will save all the crumbs
And give them to each little sparrow that comes."
And the sparrows, they twittered, as if they would say,
Like old Gentleman Gray, "On a Thanksgiving Day,
If you want a good time, then give something away."

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Fred Schneider, a professional sausage maker, has been employed by Horgan & Still to make all kinds of sausage. He is turning out the finest kind of headcheese, liver sausage, pork sausage, link sausage, summer sausage, etc. Try some of his make. You will want more.

Heifer Estrayed.

Light roan heifer about 15 months old, came to my place about the middle of Feb. 1909. No brand noticeable. Ear mark, crop off right, under slope left, owner call and pay pasture bill and costs, and recover.

W. S. CARROLL,
Prineville, Or.

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Notice

Notice is given that subscriptions will be received at the office of the undersigned Company, or through the Security Savings & Trust Company, Trustee, Portland, Oregon, for \$800,000.00 First Mortgage 6 per cent bonds of the Portland Cement Company, of Portland, Oregon. These bonds are \$500.00 each; will be sold at par or face value, plus accrued interest. A bonus of 100 per cent common stock of the Company will be given with the bonds, to-wit: \$500.00 of stock with each \$500.00 of bonds.

Subscriptions may also be tendered through either of the following named banks of the City of Portland, to-wit:

BANK OF CALIFORNIA
CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE
FIRST NATIONAL BANK
HIBERNIA SAVINGS BANK
HARTMAN & THOMPSON, Bankers
LADD & TILTON BANK
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK
UNITED STATES NATIONAL BANK
CROOK COUNTY BANK,
Prineville, Oregon.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK,
Prineville, Oregon.

The following well-known men are the officers and directors and more prominent stockholders of the Portland Cement Company:

AMAR MOORE, President, ex-Gen. Mgr., Colorado Portland Cement Co., Denver, Colo. Ex-Gen. Mgr., Union Portland Cement Co., Ogden.
THOS. B. WILCOX, Vice President, Pres., Portland Flouring Mills Co., Portland.
ALEX. NIBLEY, Secretary, ex-Treas., Grande Ronde Lumber Co., Prineville, Oregon.
L. A. LEWIS, Allen & Lewis, Portland.
C. W. NIBLEY, Pres., Union Portland Cement Co., Ogden, Utah.
A. L. MILLS, President, First National Bank, Portland.
JOS. N. YEAL, Attorney, Portland.
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TOM RICHARDSON, Manager, Portland Commercial Club, Portland.
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C. LEONARD, Pres., Southwestern Portland Cement Co., La. Angles.
O. C. BRENN, Cashier, Zion Savings Bank & Trust Co., Salt Lake City.
THOS. R. CUTLER, Pres., Utah-Idaho Sugar Co., Salt Lake City.

A document giving full particulars concerning the Portland Cement Company and its bonds will be mailed or may be had upon application to the

PORTLAND CEMENT CO.,
607-609 Lumbermen's Building
Portland, Oregon.

CROOK COUNTY BANK,
Prineville, Oregon.
FIRST NATIONAL BANK,
Prineville, Oregon.

Low—Watch and chat between Jas. Faught's and Prineville. Gold hunting case, bird on one side. Double lapped gold link chain, silver half moon slide, with stars on. No bar on chain. Reward for return to this office. 31 028

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Statement of Resources and Liabilities of
The First National Bank
Of Prineville, Oregon
At the close of business Nov. 16, 1909

RESOURCES	LIABILITIES
Loans and Discounts.....\$200,910 55	Capital Stock.....\$10,000 00
United States Bonds..... 32,500 00	Surplus Fund..... 50,000 00
Bank & real estate..... 32,957 12	Circulation..... 8,100 00
Redemption fund..... 825 00	Undivided profits..... 20,282 97
Cash & Due from banks..... 247,872 83	Individual Deposits..... 79,822 83
\$207,175 50	\$207,175 50

B. F. Allen, President
Will Wurzwiler, Vice-President
T. M. Baldwin, Cashier
H. Baldwin, Asst. Cashier

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