WOMEN'S COLUMN

EDITED BY OREGON CITY WOMEN'S CLUB.

PROGRESS.

The following paper on Progress was read at a recent meeting of the Women's Club, by Mrs. T. E. Beard:

When I was a child in Wisconsin, we used to enjoy climbing to the top of a neighboring mound. At first the assent was very gradual, but the later climb was steep—so steep that we were obliged to wind backwards and forward to get a footing in the loose sliding gravel and rock. At first we enjoyed the struggle of climbing up two steps and slipping back one. But after a time we became tired and out of breath. It seemed like we were not getting any nearer the top. At last we would stop for a rest, and to catch our breath, and look back down the way we had just came. Then, when we saw the long stretch of path winding away down—down until it lost itself in the brush of the pasture below—we saw that we had already come a very long way up the hill. We have all had similar experiences, I feel sure.

Just so we, the human family, have been trying to mount the hill of knowledge—the knowledge of the world in which we live, the universe, matter around us, the human family and all of the laws of nature and art applying to things about them for the aiding, comforting, healing, clothing, feeding, housing, educating, governing, subduing the evil propensities and strengthening the good in all mankind. As we stand in the present and look back down the years, the way the human family has come until the way is lost in the early ages. We see at first a very gradual assent indeed, but in the last few centuries the incline becomes much steeper and we can see the world is making much greater progress up the hill of knowledge.

We stand in 1908 today. Let us compare our position and progress with that of the 19th century that we may more readily see the advancement we have made. The field is too large for us to touch upon more than a few of the many line of wonderful improvements and discoveries made by man in the last few years.

We will consider for a few moments the subject of light. It is almost impossible for us to grasp a correct idea of the literal darkness of the world up to the 19th century. Even the 19th century was ushered in with the tallow candle, wax taper and small oil lamp for inner lighting and torches for street lights when there were any. The oil lamp was a cup containing oil and a wick which carried the oil out of the flame, but there were no lamp chimneys so the light was very dim. In Pickwick Papers we are given a picture of a large hotel in England in 1830, where the halls and many passages and stair cases were all dark. Each guest was given a single candle on retiring for the night. If the building had been lighted as hotels are today poor Mr. Pickwick would have been spared that memorable scene with the Lady—the Yellow Curl Paper and his awkward and distressing meeting with Mr. Peter Mangus the next day.

The lamp with a chimney was made early in the 19th century, but did not come into general use until much later. Gas was used some in the early part of the century, 1807. A few gas lamps were placed on the streets of London, but people were all afraid of the new light. Philadelphia fought for more than 20 years against the introduction of gas as a means of lighting the city. The U. S. Gazette declared it a folly and a nuisance and insisted that common lamps would take the shine off all the gas lights that ever exhaled their intolerable stench. The newspapers declared that the introduction of gas would result in terrific carnage and destruction and that the refuse of the works would kill all the fish in adjacent streams. On March 23, 1833, a formal petition of remonstrance signed by 1200 of the wealthiest citizens of Philadelphia was carried to the State House. The contention was so hot that a special commission was sent to investigate the lighting facilities of London and Paris. On his return he reported favorably and the council reluctantly granted the long sought ordinance. Then the use of gas spread rapidly to other cities. The middle of the 19th century also saw the discovery and introduction of kerosene oil, which gave a better and cheaper light than the animal oil, although it was dear and crude enough then. When people became accustomed to coal oil it was used for lighting streets, too. Then streets of smaller towns and cities—before dark—were now dimly lighted with oil lamps. I have no doubt we can all remember them.

In 1895 T. L. Wilson while overseeing some work in a smelter discovered what is known in commerce as acetylene gas, a powerful illuminant. It is dazzling in the brightness of its flame, and for this reason is much used to light bicycles and carriages. From an economic point of view this gas is of great value for it can be generated in a home as needed by a very simple operation. It can be liquified by pressure and put in cans to be tapped as the gas is needed and can be manufactured at one-third the present cost of coal gas. Although Davy discovered the arc light as early as 1800 and many others have made arc lights differently constructed, it was not until 1880 when Edison placed his incandescent electric light system before the people that electricity took its place in the commercial world as a light of value. Now we may say the large cities of the world and many of the smaller one are lighted by electricity. We have the brilliant arc lights on our streets, not merely the main streets, but all the streets are supposed to be lighted. Isn't this a stride for a century? In our homes—1800 ushered in with the candle its best light—1900—any where within connecting distance with electricity has 16, 24, 32-candle power electric lights and those not singly but in chandileers. Our Christmas trees may be beautifully, and best of all, safely lighted by tiny electric lights—colored bulbs. For public affairs, buildings, and grounds are decorated with millions of electric lights, with most beautiful effect.

(Continued in next issue.)

BEST OF PROOF.

That Hyomei Will Cure All Forms of Catarrhal Diseases.

Testimonials could be printed by the thousand, many of them from Oregon City and nearby towns, saying that Hyomei absolutely cures all catarrhal troubles. The best proof of its unusual curative powers is the guarantee that Huntley Bros. Co., give with ever youtfit they sell, "Money back if Hyomei does not do all that is claimed for it."

Hyomei is not a secret remedy. Its formula is freely given to physicians who want to know what they are using when they prescribe Hyomei. It is guaranteed under the Pure Food and Drug Law by Serial No. 1418.

There is no dangerous stomach drugging when Hyomei is used. Its healing medication is breathed through a neat pocket inhaler, reaching every part of the air passages, destroying all catarrhal germs and curing the disease.

CIRCUS COMES SATURDAY.

Norris & Rowe's Aggregation Will Play to Crowds at Oregon City.

The Barnum & Bailey circus played an extended engagement at Madison Square Garden, New York City this spring.

The Ringling Brothers Circus began their season at the Colliseum, Chicago. It is reported that their business was very large.

The Greater Norris & Rowe circus, museum, menagerie, hippodrome and congress of nations, began their season in San Francisco this year. In thirty days the big show played to 279,873 paid admissions. The press of the city were enthusiastic in their praise of the new big show.

It is estimated that with the three big circuses of the country there are 1800 people, 1000 horses, 100 elephants, 175 cars, besides hundreds of other animals used. It costs about $12,000 a day to operate these shows. They are about of equal size and importance this year.

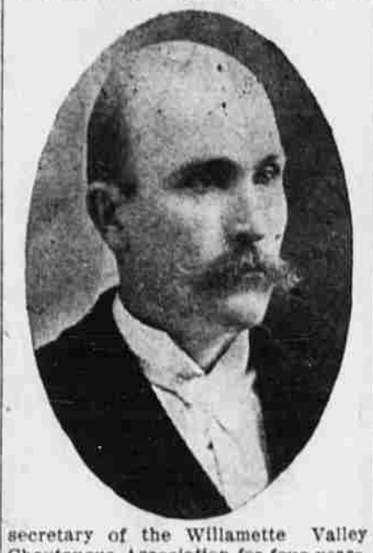
It is estimates that the distance covered by the three big shows this season will exceed in the aggregate 45,000 miles. The Greater Norris & Rowe Circus will exhibit at Oregon City May 9th.

THE MAN FOR THE PLACE.

J. W. Gray Has Had Many Years of Experience in Educational Work.

Joseph W. Gray has announced his candidacy for County School Superintendent and his name will be on the ballot for this office at the June election. Mr. Gray, who is an independent candidate and is independent in every sense of the word and is not affiliated with any parties or factions and solicits the support of all voters who desire to see the office of School Superintendent occupied by a man who is highly qualified for the position.

Mr. Gray stands high in the educational ranks of the State. He was for many years identified with the educational interests of Clackamas County as vice-principal of the Oregon City schools, and was for nine years principal of the Parkplace high school. Prof. Gray was one of the originators of the Clackamas County Teachers' Association and when he resigned his position to go North, he was serving on the county examination board. As



secretary of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association for four years, Prof. Gray formed a wide acquaintance.

He was educated in Northern Indiana Normal School and also in the Business College of the same place. He holds a life diploma from the State of Oregon and is in every way qualified for the position to which he aspires. Prof. Gray is a man of family, 44 years of age, and a taxpayer of Clackamas County. He has served 17 years in the schoolroom as a teacher and knows fully the needs of the common schools.