

THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

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THOSE ENGLISH SUFFRAGETTES

Pity and disdain are both due to the perverted English suffragettes from their more sensible sisters in this country. Americans, regardless of sex, can be profoundly thankful that the disgraceful and lawless acts perpetrated by the fanatical Englishwomen have not occurred here.

It is difficult for a reasonable man or woman to comprehend the motives for the utterly senseless acts which are being reported of the English suffragettes. Wanton destruction of the mail by pouring inflammable materials into the boxes and then dropping in matches has been only one of a series of similar acts. In the phraseology of the plains, the English suffragettes have apparently become "plumb locoed." What conceivable benefits they can expect to bring their cause through such wasteful acts is inconceivable. Thanksgiving Day is passed, but it is not too late for every patriotic American man and woman to offer up devout thanks that the character of the American woman, fostered by free institutions and a wider political horizon, has made her superior to such acts of fanaticism.

LOCAL CHURCH FEDERATION

More than usual interest in the subject of church federation has been aroused here of late as a result of the signing of the articles of federation by the Baptist church on the Heights and by another at Odell. These are now included in the federation which also comprises the two churches which formerly existed as separate organizations at Mosier. Rev. John R. Hargreaves, who came to Hood River three years ago from Iowa City to serve as pastor of the local Baptist church, is responsible for the movement towards federation and it is largely through his efforts that the several churches have allied themselves with the federation.

While members of the different denominations join the federation, each retains its distinctive denominational name and no one is asked to give up his or her denominational views or preferences, but on the other hand to federate in church and Christian effort for the extension of the Christian cause in the respective communities on the highest and most efficient plan. This plan is designed to decrease the number of churches that are struggling along to enlarge their respective denomination and paying pastors' salaries upon which they can scarcely maintain a livelihood. It is also calculated to decrease the number of preachers and place strong men in charge in even the smaller towns.

Added impetus is given this movement through the fact that increased liberality of religious views is the spirit of the times. This is particularly true in the Northwest because its citizens include the broader-minded and more progressive classes. Religious dogmatism is consequently less pronounced than in the older communities of the East and the opportunity for federation is correspondingly greater. That the splitting up of the Christian church into a great number of denominations has been and continues to be one of its greatest handicaps is self-evident and every effort to combine and strengthen these disintegrated forces is deserving of encouragement and support.

"UNITED WE STAND"

For several weeks there has appeared in both local papers a small space, the contents of which have no doubt appeared enigmatical to those who have noticed it. In the center appears the cut of an apple and beside it the statement "United we stand; divided we fall."

This insertion was made by a local rancher who desired that it appear thus anonymously. He did not divulge his motive further than to indicate that he wished to sow a seed. The fact that the picture of the apple is included leads one to conclude that the advice given refers to the apple industry and, indeed, it might truthfully refer to that industry throughout the Northwest, from which section is shipped a large proportion of the boxed product. Whether it could not refer with equal force to the Hood River Valley is a question which might also be asked.

It is conceded that the standard varieties of the Hood River Valley, are to a considerable extent, exclusive products on account of the far-reaching reputation which this valley has achieved.

During the past year the number of local shipping associations has been materially increased. Insofar as this has made possible increased storage facilities and other shipping advantages it has been of material benefit, but to the extent that it has increased

competition in marketing local fruit the natural tendency has been to render buyers more independent. Adoption of standard grading rules offset this disadvantage to some extent and has worked out satisfactorily. It is conceded that it was a step in the right direction and every grower and association has benefited in proportion as he has observed these rules. Further co-operation between the associations, so far as consistent, to the end that the price as well as the grade of Hood River apples may be maintained, is a further benefit which the future may bring about.

LINCOLN WOULDN'T BE SAFE

An Abraham Lincoln anecdote which has just been printed by the New York Mail would lead one to believe that the martyred president would not have been deemed a desirable citizen in some of the Western towns which will not countenance even a breath of criticism against their "city." The story says that Lincoln had occasion, while he was secretary of the State of Illinois, to answer an application of a certain minister to deliver a lecture in the hall of the house of representatives at Springfield. "What is the subject of the lecture?" asked Lincoln. "The Second Coming of Our Lord," answered the man. "No use here," said Lincoln, "you'll only be wasting your time. If the Lord has been in Springfield once, he will never come the second time."

THE DALLES WOMEN SET PACE

Women of The Dalles are setting the pace for their recently-enfranchised sisters throughout the state. Although they are not going to have an opportunity to vote until city election next June, the Equal Suffrage League holds weekly meetings, at which civic subjects are studied, and the Sorosis, the oldest woman's club in the city, has taken up the study of laws. As a Christmas suggestion local husbands might get their better halves a set of Blackstone or Lord's Oregon Laws, thereby making sure that her stocking will be well filled on Christmas morning.

Talking about health insurance, why wouldn't a few boxes of Hood River apples in the cellar make a pretty good policy?

WANTS CHILDREN TO RAISE POULTRY

Believing that the children of Hood River cannot begin too early to prepare for the county industrial fair to be held next year, County Superintendent C. D. Thompson announces that poultry will be made one of the specialties at the show. He will cooperate with State Superintendent Alderman in this matter and quotes the advice of the latter for the benefit of Hood River school children as follows: "If you would catch a train start in time. No matter how fast you run if you start too late. If you would win a prize in the school children's industrial contest next year, begin now. Parents, if you would have your children grow up to be industrious, law-abiding, useful citizens, winners in the race of life, start them early in the right direction."

"While it is not the intention to slight any of the other lines of activity taken up this year, it is the plan to make poultry-raising the leading feature of the school children's contest the coming year. There is scarcely a boy or girl in city, village or country, but what could take care of a few chickens or ducks without interference with their school or other work. It costs the state about \$9.50 a pupil each year to carry on our public school system, and it is our ambition to have the school children increase the production of poultry and eggs enough to cover that expense. Children, wouldn't you be proud to be able to say 'It doesn't cost the state anything to educate us. We pay the bill with our chickens and eggs?' The result is easily possible, and to reach it each school boy and girl would only have to keep a few fowls. I do not know of anything that would attract more favorable mention to Oregon than the fact that all her school children are raising poultry and producing thereby more than enough wealth to meet the expense of the public school system."

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SOUTHWEST LEARNS SOME LESSONS HERE

Charles W. Holman, representing "Farm and Ranch," a magazine published at Dallas, Texas, recently visited Hood River to study the methods of apple selling here. A couple of articles have appeared in the magazine and an extract from one of them follows: "The secret of apple selling? Here it is: Build a confidence in your product as we have in ours. Establish your trademark. Make it mean something. Hit the ball!"

"Have the right kind of salesmen to push your orchard wares. Make your advertising punch hard. Put conscientious work upon the apple from orchard to car. "You've got to begin with the idea of quality, and you will end with the same idea plus equal distribution. To have either or both requires an organization."

The above was the substance of Manager Sieg's message to Southwestern growers through Farm and Ranch. Mr. Sieg is the jovial, bustling head of the Hood River Apple Growers' Union up in Oregon. His group of growers are perhaps the best equipped with the instruments of marketing and the facilities for storing of any co-operative selling agency in the Northwest. Our conversation took place just after the Northwest apple crop had begun to move. Every available worker in the fruit valleys was "hitting the ball," for the apple crop, in the phrase of a Southern dandy, was "jes' reahin' to go."

Every little while an assistant laid telegrams upon the managers desk. The phone at his elbow rang constantly. While he talked he dispatched the business of his position with celerity and ease. A less competent man would have "gone in the air," but Sieg kept as clear a head as the city editor of a metropolitan daily. We were on the firing line of the Northwestern apple campaign, and something was doing all the time.

"If you want to know anything else, fire away," said Sieg. "Do your selling methods differ from those private sales agents—I mean in finding markets?"

The Hood River man leaned back in his chair with pursed lips. Before answering he opened three telegrams and called a clerk to whom he gave instructions. Then he began: "To that question I will have to answer both 'yes' and 'no.' We are doing business to make money. So are the private sales agents. The difference lies in who makes the money. In the Union all profits become saved expenses, after they exceed seven per cent, and all growers share in this saving, according to the volume of their shipments. A private sales agent uses this profit or himself. If he cannot make a profit above the cost of selling he doesn't stay with the game. But a co-operative organization has no particular reason for making money for itself. Its mission is to do its work as cheaply as possible and sell its stuff as high as it can."

A Guaranty-Pack and Ability to Store. "One of the great reasons why your fruit men in the Southwest don't get as much money for what you grow as we is that your disorganized condition makes it a sheer impossibility to guarantee your pack. Chaos in a producing region makes prejudice in the consuming. That in turn reacts upon competitive producers. The average grower doesn't realize that to bring in a few boxes, or barrels, of apples packed carelessly is selling goods under false pretences. In this valley our growers have long realized that to bring in such a box will mean sure detection. Detection will result in the Union repacking every box on his wagon under rigid supervision. We have made it expensive to put up inferior packs. And your people must do the same."

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