

THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

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ONE YEAR IN HOOD RIVER

It was one year ago that the News passed into the hands of the present owners. For them the present season has, therefore, a double significance. The past year has been a pleasant one. Hood River has for all her adopted citizens a charm that is peculiarly her own and one the like of which can be found in no other community. Here are to be found a happy blending of many of the conditions which make for happiness. These have been too often dwelt upon to need repetition.

Now that we are looking forward to another year it is with a sense of confidence and supreme hopefulness for what the future has in store for Hood River, and especially the season upon which we now enter. It is rich in promise for the continued and rapid development of the almost limitless resources and possibilities of this favored community.

In the past the City of Hood River, because of delayed improvements, has prompted excuses rather than pride when compared to the high development and scenic beauties of the valley. During the coming year this will be changed. Improved streets and paved thoroughfares in the business section, installation of the new water system and proper lighting of the streets will transform Hood River into one of the most progressive and handsomest little cities of the Northwest.

The numerous projects, including the new power plant, the Hood River-Portland Highway, the cannery and the like, insure continued business prosperity.

Not the least among the accomplishments of the past year and the reasons for optimism in facing the new one are the rapid strides which have been made towards placing the apple industry upon a permanent and substantial basis. By the tremendous increase in facilities for local storage of fruit, Hood River is no longer at the mercy of the commission man. Preliminary steps toward organization of the Northwest Distributors' Association promise much in the way of a more satisfactory marketing conditions in the future. The apple industry in Hood River is no longer a matter of speculation. Its future as a lucrative commercial proposition is assured.

The new year, despite the possible hoodoo which the superstitious might attach to the '13, has only the best in store for Hood River. The News rejoices that it can share in and, if possible, assist in bringing, the season of prosperity that is ahead.

ORGANIZED LABOR PURGED

Nineteen hundred and twelve was an open season for organized labor leaders. Not a few of them have appeared in the limelight and have been convicted of heinous offenses against law and order. Last week's wholesale conviction of 38 union officials at Indianapolis was a climax to the nationwide dynamite conspiracy.

It has been a startling expose of the methods employed by organized labor, methods the enormity of which has been a terrible indictment against the leaders by whom they were sanctioned.

It is fair to assume, however, that these crimes have not been laid up against the rank and file of organized labor. It was the misfortune rather than the sin of this class that they have fallen under the leadership of unscrupulous and criminal officials.

Although organized labor has been placed under a cloud to some extent as a result of the expose that has been made, the year may well mark the beginning of better things. The lesson has been a severe one and organized labor throughout the country should now repudiate all such criminality, purge the organization of its unscrupulous leaders and insist upon decency. They will increase their ability to better conditions by stamping out once and for all this anarchistic element which has no respect for the laws either of God or man.

CREDIT TO THE FARMER

All credit is due the American farmer who made 1912 the most productive of all agricultural years in this country and crammed the nation's larder with the necessities of life. The earth has this year produced its greatest annual dividend, according to the report of Secretary Wilson.

The sun and the rain and the fertility of the soil heeded not the human controversies, but kept on working in co-operation with the farmers' efforts to utilize them. The reward is a high general level of production. The man behind the plow has filled the Nation's larder, crammed the storehouses, and will send liberal supplies to foreign countries.

The prices at the farm are generally profitable and will continue the pros-

perity that farmers have enjoyed in recent years. The total crop value is so far above that of 1911 and any preceding year that the total production of farm wealth is the highest yet reached by half a billion dollars. Based on the census items of wealth production on farms, the grand total for 1912 is estimated to be \$9,532,000,000.

During the last 16 years the farmer has steadily increased his wealth production year by year, with the exception of 1911, when the value declined from that of the preceding year. If the wealth produced on farms in 1899 be regarded as 100, the wealth produced 16 years ago, or in 1897, is represented by 84, and the wealth produced in 1912 by 202.1. During the 16 years the farmers' wealth production increased 141 per cent.

The wealth production on farms during the last 16 years reached the grand total of more than \$105,000,000. This stream of wealth has poured out of the farmers' horn of plenty, and in 16 years has equaled about three-quarters of the present national wealth.

PUBLICITY FOR APPLE MARKET

More and better fruit statistics for the use of the grower are being urged upon the United States government by W. T. Clark, president of the recently-organized Northwest Distributors' Association. Mr. Clark seeks to lessen the harm which exaggerated reports of the barrel apple crop do to the box apple crop and he would also give the grower, as well as the buyer, the use of the government figures.

According to Mr. Clark the growers do not at present place sufficient importance upon these reports, which are used by the commission houses to their advantage whenever there is an apparent increase in production over former years.

Another important factor which militates against the box apple districts, according to Mr. Clark, is the fact that probably not more than 50 per cent of the barrel apple crop is marketed while about 90 per cent of the box crop is shipped. This is where the hurt comes, for the buyers are able to show by government statistics (as at present compiled) that a tremendous apple crop is being produced and prices are hammered down, as was the case this year.

There is no doubt that the government would convey a more correct impression of actual apple crop conditions if, in addition to obtaining reports of production the statisticians would also submit a statement of the proportion marketed to those produced.

FOR OREGON FARMERS

To give Oregonians who cannot come to the agricultural college the benefit of its help, plans have just been made by the college extension division. It is planned to carry the college assistance into every town, every home, every farm in the state.

The plans provide for demonstration farms in different sections; demonstration trains, lectures, demonstrations at farmers' institutes, at commercial clubs and in co-operation with other organizations, traveling schools, correspondence courses, popular bulletins, educational exhibits for county fairs and meetings, local advisors, aid in organizing rural communities for betterment work, aid in industrial work in the schools, and co-operation with the federal government in assisting rural Oregon.

A distribution of branch experiment stations as required to solve the problems of different parts of the state is also planned. Conferences with representatives of various sections will be held, and a plan drawn up to submit to the board of regents.

Hood River is one of the communities of the state which wants one of these experiment stations and is heartily in sympathy with the extension movement now planned by the O. A. C. That institution is doing much, if not more than any other agency in the state to encourage scientific agriculture and to co-operate with the farmer in getting the best there is from the soil.

WHITE SALMON

(From the Enterprise)

Mr. and Mrs. Collins of Dee, Hood River Valley, spent Christmas with Dr. Dean and wife.

Messrs. Hayes, Dean, Sutherland, Tate and Van Vorst have been appointed a committee to look after the interests of county division and a bill will be drawn to present to the legislature which meets January 13.

L. G. Pyatt's Jap cook has left on a trip to Japan, and A. R. Miller notes a marked diminution in the birth of his neighbor as a result. After visiting in the land of flowers and chucking a few choice Spitzenbergs to the Mikado the little brown man will return to this country.

Justice A. B. Groshong was invited to dinner at the S. P. Stockton home Christmas day, but before sitting down he performed the ceremony which united in marriage Lella, their daughter, and Walter Talbert, one of the drivers in the employ of the Weyer's Livery & Stage Line. Miss Hopkins of Hood River was bridesmaid.

Congregations were slim.

HOOD RIVER ENTERS THE ROAD CAMPAIGN

At a meeting of citizens held Saturday afternoon at the Commercial Club Hood River road enthusiasts enlisted in the fight which will be made at the coming session of the legislature to secure an appropriation which will make possible the completion of the Pacific Highway through this state by way of the Columbia River and Central Oregon.

Major Bowley, executive officer of the Pacific Highway Association, submitted the proposition to an informal meeting. He spoke particularly of the necessity of building such a road before the exposition in 1915. He declared that every cent expended by the state for such work would be returned with interest by the thousands of tourists who would thereby be brought in to this state.

Major Bowley stated that an expenditure of several million dollars would be necessary to open the route from Portland south through the Willamette Valley to California. The worst piece of road, he said, was between Roseburg and Grants Pass.

That at least 150,000 automobile tourists will come to the coast in 1915 was the estimate made by Major Bowley. He said that unless Oregon opened up some artery of automobile traffic she would lose all the advantage of this tourist trade and he recommended that influence be brought to bear upon the representatives and senator from this section to have them use their influence in favor of an appropriation sufficient to put the Central Oregon road in shape. He said that assurances had been given that Multnomah county, having appropriated \$100,000 for the completion of the Columbia River road in that county, would finish that portion of the highway before the expiration of next year.

Cascade Locks Cited
Attention was called by Roy Smith to the fact that Cascade Locks failed recently to vote a district road tax for the completion of the road west of that place. In explanation of this it was stated that the people of that place were not opposed to the road, but did not care to vote the tax until they knew Multnomah county would build to the county line.

In this connection Major Bowley made the statement that Multnomah will complete its end of the road next year and he urged that all of the road in this county be completed without delay in order that traffic may not be held up by any uncompleted portion. Major Bowley said that there would probably be several road measures submitted at the next session of the legislature, but he urged that all communities in favor of the north and south state highway favored by the Pacific Highway Association unite in action.

On motion it was expressed as the sense of the meeting that the local Commercial Club should assist in the work of the Pacific Highway Association. Secretary Scott was present and assured the meeting that he would be glad to render such assistance in behalf of the club.

Some discussion was had of the Shell Rock work. It was stated that the convicts have been withdrawn during the winter months. The work has been about half done and about \$7,000 of the Benson fund has been expended. There remains in addition to the \$3,000 unexpended an equal amount raised by district road taxes in this county. This will be sufficient to complete the work next year.

Bee Bill Before Legislature

The State Beekeepers' Association of Oregon is preparing a bill to present to the legislature, providing for the appointment of a state bee inspector, says Professor H. F. Wilson of Oregon Agricultural College, who is secretary of the association. The purpose of the bill is to check the advance of the dread disease, foul brood, which has wiped out the bee industry in some sections of the country.

"Foul brood, the worst disease to which bees are subject, is a bacterial trouble," says Professor Wilson. "It attacks the larvae and destroys them so that they never mature. In California it has destroyed entire apiaries of 500 or more colonies. Oregon is thus afflicted in some districts, and it is necessary to provide for its control before it becomes the menace to the bee industry that California has found it."

Health Resort Planned
Bandon.—A modern sanitarium is to be erected at Bandon by H. C. Dipple. The sanitarium will contain one of the largest covered swimming pools on the Pacific Coast.

Every summer a large number visit Bandon-by-the-Sea to recuperate. The climate is mild, never hot, the air bracing and the scenery beautiful. The erection of a sanitarium with a swimming tank open to the public will no doubt do much to increase the popularity of Bandon as a seaside resort.

Fear of wet feet was stronger Sunday than fear of the hereafter.

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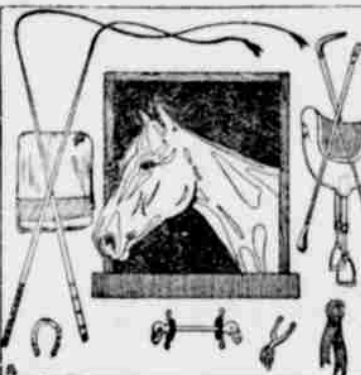
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