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EXPERIMENT IN LAW MAKING

With the Oregon Legislature now in session it will be of interest to compare its work with that of the similar body in California which this year adopts a new and novel manner of procedure. After remaining in session a month for the introduction of bills, the California Legislature will adjourn for a month in order to give the members an opportunity to study the proposed legislation and consult with their constituents. Then in March it will re-assemble to act on the bills. To those who are acquainted with the mass of bills, good and bad, which are submitted for the Oregon Legislature to act upon at its brief bi-annual session it will be well worth considering whether California's method might not well be adopted here in Oregon.

ORANGES OR APPLES?

If the orange famine which is now predicted becomes a fact, an opportunity will be given to demonstrate that the apple deserves as great if not greater popularity as an article of diet than the orange. If apples could be made as popular as bananas and oranges the question of demand would no longer be in doubt, especially if the best apples can be placed within reach of the consumer at reasonable prices. Because of the many delicacies which can be prepared from the apple and on account of its health-giving qualities there is every reason why it should take precedence over all other fruits as an article of daily diet.

HOOD RIVER WILL BENEFIT

Portland has set out to complete her end of the Portland-Hood River road next year, expending \$75,000 this summer and whatever more may be needed in 1914. It is believed that the tourists who pass over the road in 1915 bound for the Panama-Pacific Exposition will pay for a large part of the work. Hood River will be the natural stopping place for these hundreds of tourists and this city will be advantageously located upon one of the most important arteries of travel in the country.

A CHANCE TO GET TOGETHER

It is Oregon's misfortune that although she has a splendid company of good roads boosters they are all working for the same end by different means, each faction convinced that its policy is the best and determined to fight for its adoption. With the convening of the legislature the stage is set for another encounter. War clothes are being donned and the same old issues will be dragged out for reconsideration. Inasmuch as all good road legislation came to naught at the recent election because of the conflicting measures submitted, it is hoped that a willingness to compromise will be manifested at the legislative session in order that some headway may be made in this important matter.

RAISING BETTER FARMERS

For the first time last year Oregon undertook to educate her children to be better farmers and housewives than their fathers and mothers. Hood River took part by holding an industrial fair which will be repeated this year and for which preparations are already being made. In this connection it is interesting to note the results of the corn-growing contest held in North Dakota where more than 500 farmers were entered. Their average yield was 52 bushels to the acre—almost twice the average yield of the country as a whole—and the prize winner was a 12-year-old boy who raised 71 bushels to an acre on a four-acre tract. The incident shows the value of the work which has been undertaken here in Oregon and Hood River. It merits the support and interest of parents and teachers and indeed of all who will benefit from an increased efficiency on the part of the country's real wealth producers.

USE OF DRUGS CHECKED

Realizing the terrible effects of the use of drugs, a new law has been enacted in China making the penalty for the use of opium death. The first execution was made last week when a woman convicted of using this drug was put to death. It is stated that in this country, too, use of drugs is increasing at an alarming rate. There is no doubt that more stringent control of their use must soon be enforced in the United States if this fatal tendency is to be checked. The effect of drugs in undermining the moral as well as physical standard of a race is too well known to need comment.

THE PRESIDENT'S GALLANTRY

There was a pleasing touch of human interest in the incident which occurred at the White House last week

when President Taft kissed a little Western girl in order to send her back home with her greatest wish satisfied.

CANAL WILL MEAN MUCH TO FRUITMEN

In a recent address to fruit growers Professor C. M. Morris of the Washington State College was particularly optimistic over the market possibilities which will present themselves upon the completion of the Panama Canal. The subject of his address was "Choice of a Site" and he said in part: "The real choice of locality gives opportunity for market and transportation with the least cost possible to the best market. A few years ago people in the Northwest thought very little about the possibilities of the market that would be opened to them through the Panama Canal and expected to grow and ship practically all of their fruit, either by boat clear around to the Orient, or by rail across the continent and ship the larger part of it in that way. You will notice before this conference closes this week that people are going to talk and work and think largely along the lines of opportunities that are going to be opened to them by reason of shipping through the canal, and the market that will be opened up. That will mean much in many points, and it will mean largely the use of many localities as fruit growing localities that have not in the past been considered as those of exceptional favor by their opportunities for transportation.

"We hear a good deal of talk just at the present time about fruit prospects going down in the West, because of our planting so much. I do not want to boost this afternoon; I am not talking from that point of view. Western people have a peculiar ability to get together and work together, and that tends to success in fruit growing.

Proven Section is Best

"The choice of the definite region in which you are to go may have many features for you to consider. One important consideration is, will fruit grow there? Now, in that respect you will find people who will go through the whole program and tell you "Yes, fruit will grow in this region," and they will tell you that a year before there hasn't been a tree planted in the entire district. That entire line of propaganda, because that is all it can be called, is very frequently unfortunate, because it leads to so many misfortunes. The only real proof that fruit growing can succeed in a definite region, because of soil, adaptation to climate and so forth, is by trial. Where a trial has been made and fruit has been grown, even on a few trees, fruit growing has proven successful, there you have a reasonable expectation of making a profit and a success of it.

"But many people in the Northwest unfortunately have been led to invest in lands that they hoped were fruit lands, without having any definite proof of it. Many of them are coming out all right; many of them are going to lose heavily by it. The great fruit, the great boom, the great clamor that there has been in the Northwest for fruit lands have led many people who are not fruit growers primarily, into the work. They have personal habits to overcome, in the first place, before they can make a success of their particular choice of a piece of land, and just for that reason it is especially important that they work to the very greatest ultimate success by correct choice of locality."

FAMILY SOCIAL ENJOYED

Interesting Address Followed by Musical and Literary Program

On Tuesday evening, January 7, of last week at the U. B. church was held the second neighborhood or family social with musical and literary program together with an excellent address by our fellow townsman, C. D. Nickelsen, on the "Boy," the boy of the present and the man and citizen of the future, which was timely and instructive. In addition to all this was a general good social time.

The object of these socials is to get the parents, citizens, young men and women and past High School graduates together in order to promote intellectual development and open up the gymnasium for the encouragement of athletic exercises and innocent games and amusements. This is strictly a non-sectarian association to which everyone is invited who desires to promote the general welfare of the city and surroundings and build up a higher standard of morals and moral honesty, progressing all the time toward higher ideals.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, January 21, with the usual interesting program, literary and musical, with an address by Attorney E. H. Hartwig, whose subject will be announced later.

BY THE COMMITTEE.

A man who does things makes many mistakes—but he never made the biggest mistake of all—doing nothing.

DALLES TO BENEFIT FROM NEW PLANT

The Dalles, Ore.—Announcement that the Pacific Power & Light Company is to build a 7,000 power plant at Hood River was the culmination of extensive improvements which the company has been making in The Dalles and contiguous territory.

Since the Dalles-White River system was taken over by the Pacific Power and Light Company in 1910, the company has made some very material improvements for the purpose of benefiting its service. The White River plant has been entirely rebuilt and additional power equipment provided. The transmission line from Tygh Valley to The Dalles is now being reconstructed and will be equipped for 66,000 volt operation within a few weeks. The Dalles substation has also been remodeled and a new 66,000 volt line has been built from The Dalles to Hood River. The final act of putting The Dalles-Hood River system in the best possible operating condition is the construction of a modern, up-to-date powerhouse at Hood River which will give the company ample generating facilities at each end of its transmission line, thus insuring continuous service for all the cities located on this power system.

The immediate benefit The Dalles will secure from the re-construction of the lines and powerhouse in this territory is the assurance that can be given to large power users of the actual continuity of service. Advantage has already been taken of this fact by the Granddalles Land & Irrigation Company for 350 horsepower to be used in operating centrifugal pumps to supply the Granddalles tract across the Columbia River. The irrigation company realizes that the Pacific company will be in a position to furnish ample power at both ends of its transmission lines. And, should an accident happen at one plant, the other plant will be amply able to carry the load. The White River plant has machinery installed to produce about 3500 horsepower and the new plant at Hood River will have a capacity of 7000 horsepower.

While the Pacific Power & Light Company has not been in the habit of building interurban or street railway systems, yet it is understood that this company has strong financial connections in the East which are interested in railway developments, and it is believed plans are already on foot for electric lines in the neighborhood of The Dalles, and there is talk of electrifying the Great Southern. The power company has been desirous of securing a permanent market for its increased power and the railway people in question have looked over the ground carefully, with a view of building several lines that would be of material benefit to the people of The Dalles. It is understood that surveys have been made in the neighborhood of Hood River for the same purpose.

OBITUARY

James R. Belshe

James R. Belshe died suddenly on Wednesday from an attack of apoplexy. His home was on the Heights. Mr. Belshe was a retired farmer and a man of apparently rugged physique, his death coming as a surprise and shock to many friends in this community.

Mr. Belshe spent most of his life on a ranch near Moro, Sherman county. A few years ago he moved to Monmouth. There he resided with his family until June, 1912, when they moved to Hood River and bought Mrs. Emma C. Willis' place on the Heights. Besides his wife, he is survived by two sons, H. C. Belshe of Moro and Wilfred of this place, also two daughters, Mrs. Lou Kenney of Valley, Idaho, and Miss Nellie Belshe of this place. The remains were shipped Friday to Moro, where interment will be made.

Clarence A. Ide

Clarence A. Ide died January 7 at his home on the Heights. He had been in failing health for some time. Mr. Ide was born in 1856 and lived until he was 11 years old at Elgin, Ill. He then moved with his parents to Iowa and moved again to South Dakota in 1885. In 1910 Mr. Ide and family came to Hood River. He will be better remembered by many as having conducted the popcorn and peanut stand on the Butler Bank corner last fall. He leaves two sons, Irving and Errol, of Hood River and one daughter, Hazel, of Montmatre, Canada.

Rev. J. R. Hargreaves officiated at the funeral services which were held from the Bartmess Chapel Thursday.

Bessie Might Object

"I wouldn't drink out of that cup," said little Johnnie to the well-dressed stranger; "that's Bessie's cup and she's very particular who drinks out of it."

"Ah," said the young man as he drank the cup dry, "I feel honored to drink out of Bessie's cup. Bessie is your younger sister, isn't she?" "Not much! Bessie is my dog."

INDIAN SKULLS UNEARTHED

Remains of Early Americans Brought to Light at Bingen

Contractors who are making the fill of a trestle to the east of Bingen, have unearthed the skulls and other bones of two or three Indians while removing the sand with a steam shovel on the immense sand pile on the C. D. Moore farm. They have unearthed bones thereabouts before, and the railway builders frequently ran across bones when building the North Bank Road. Arrow heads and other crude things of use to Indians have been thrown out or picked up along the river shore. Historians declare that there was an Indian population along the Columbia of over 40,000.

Read the News—it tells it all.



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