

THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

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INDUSTRIAL TRAINING HERE

It is a splendid thing that Hood River is taking such an active part in the great movement in our state in favor of industrial education.

The movement was inaugurated here for the first time last year upon a small scale but the results were most successful and encouraging. All who attended the school children's industrial fair last fall were impressed with the value of the work.

This year the work will be carried on in similar manner but upon a larger scale. All the schools of the county will take part and the teachers are making an effort to interest as many of the pupils as possible. This is one of the movements which depends largely for its success upon the co-operation of the home. Children may be anxious to enter the contest, but in many instances they cannot do so unless their parents provide the garden plot, materials and advice as needed. It is to the interest of all parents to do this because the children are thereby given valuable instruction in the practical things of life. As has been pointed out, it provides a good attitude toward everyday work around the home; it educates the child to become a producer; it will help to keep him off the streets; it will be an inspiration to right thinking and it will help in getting the child to do other work around the home and garden.

All of a child's education cannot profitably be left to the school and this is one of the instances in which the parents are called upon to do their part.

THE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE

In reading our newspapers we have yet to find a newspaper in the state that has not expressed regret at the attempt that is being made to again drag the University of Oregon and the Oregon Agricultural College into the political arena.

A surprised attention is being directed at Hood River for the reason that certain local citizens have seen fit to lend assistance to the move. Hood River is getting a considerable share of the credit, or discredit, for the unfortunate movement and our prestige as a community noted for its intellectual standard is at stake.

So far as we can determine it is the overwhelming opinion throughout the state that the move should be dropped before it goes any further.

Under legislation already enacted both schools are placed upon a millage tax basis and each institution is left as at present under the direction of its board of regents. They are placed in a fair way to become a credit to the state. If left to work out their future upon the basis now existing the outlook for real accomplishment along the line of higher education in Oregon is bright. But if the present move is taken up with any show of strength a statewide squabble will be started that can result in nothing but injury. It is declared by those best acquainted with conditions that both institutions would be demoralized and their efficiency curtailed for a period of at least 10 years if any such consolidation were attempted.

SOCIAL HYGIENE

As announced in another column, Hood River parents are to be given an opportunity to receive instructions on social hygiene, a subject of great and increasing public importance. The Oregon Social Hygiene Society of Portland has been carrying on a successful campaign of education in that city and now intends extending its sphere of activity to include all cities in the state having more than 2,000 inhabitants.

The society is under the direction of the leading physicians, educators and citizens of the state and so may be depended upon to conduct this campaign in a judicious and effective manner.

It is the purpose of the society to educate parents as to their duties along this line and to teach them of the dire consequences which often follow ignorance of the laws of social hygiene.

SIGNING PETITIONS

If you should be asked to sign your name to a referendum petition it will be well to be sure that you are right before you put your name to the paper. If the referendum is invoked on any measure passed by the legislature it will mean a special election, and a special election will mean an expenditure of a sum close to \$100,000. Will it be wise for the state of Oregon to incur this expense? This is a question you should consider well before you decide to aid such an effort.

LOCAL INSURANCE

It has been proposed recently that a local company or companies be organized for the purpose of insuring persons and property in Hood River county. Those who have been advocating this move declare that a substantial sum of money which is every year sent out for premiums would thus be kept in the community. They also state that it is a profitable business and that the profits might just as well be kept at home.

That there is considerable truth to these arguments is shown by the report of the state insurance commissioner made public last week. This showed that the 49 insurance companies that are transacting business in the state collected during 1912 over twice as much money in premiums as they paid out in losses on their policies in force in this state. The premiums collected amounted to \$3,546,000, while the losses paid amounted to only \$1,487,000.

THE LIGHTING AGREEMENT

Through the interposition of the Commercial Club an agreement was reached the last of the week as to what shall constitute reasonable rates for electricity in city and county. The club believe that they have secured a favorable adjustment of this much mooted question. They make this statement after having familiarized themselves with the rates charged in other cities of the state and by the Pacific Power & Light Company in other cities of the Northwest. If this is true the Commercial Club has again demonstrated its value to the community. Had the matter been referred directly to the Railroad Commission it is by no means certain that such a favorable adjustment would have been secured. As agent for the community interests the Commercial Club looked out for the public's interests and constituted itself an arbiter between the two companies and the people.

THE PROGRESSIVES

Hope is not yet dead in the breast of the Progressive Party leaders. That they still expect to cut a figure in national politics was indicated by the action of the national Progressive executive committee the last of the week when they declared that no fusion with the Republican party will be considered at this time. Meanwhile the woodrow Progressive of them all—Woodrow Wilson—is grappling with the tariff bill in a manner which promises a thorough test of how far the progressive policy of government can be carried into effect along this line.

TWO UNIVERSITIES DEPLORE ACTION

Eric W. Allen, professor of journalism at the University of Oregon, and Professor Rebec, in charge of the extension work of the university, were in Hood River the last of the week to determine the meaning and extent of the support being given here to Parkinson, the Portland labor agitator, who wants to invoke the referendum on the university appropriation measures and consolidate the two institutions.

Both professors expressed surprise that Hood River should have gained the name of being allied to the movement. "Throughout the state," one of them declared, "there is not a single section that is supporting Parkinson except Hood River and he is making the most of the support which he is securing here."

"Those of us who are in touch with conditions at the two universities deeply deplore that they are again to be dragged into a political fight. If it were not for this man Parkinson we would be able to grow and develop along progressive lines, but if the referendum should succeed both state universities would be tied up in politics and handicapped for the next 10 years."

Both professors were brimming over with arguments against the consolidation of the two universities and referred to the experiences of a number of other states which have unsuccessfully attempted it. The chief argument seems to be that the students of an agricultural college and university cannot be made to work in harmony.

SEEK COZAD'S PARDON

A petition has been circulated in Hood River and largely signed asking the governor to pardon Claude Cozad, who was sentenced at the last term of court to pay a fine of \$150 for playing a game of poker, and who has been compelled to go to jail to serve out his fine. It is stated by those who signed his petition that the fine imposed was excessive. Cozad was fined \$150, together with four other players.

One Japanese butler in Chicago whipped four policemen. Captain Hobson may consider himself vindicated.

Gardening is now the popular pastime.

NEW ORGANIZATION IS INCORPORATED

Articles of incorporation of the Apple Growers' Association have been filed. The incorporators are W. B. Dickerson, president of the Apple Growers' Union, H. F. Davidson of the Davidson Fruit Company and C. H. Sproat of the National Apple Company, all of which organizations are to be merged into the new association. The articles are brief and are as follows:

The enterprise, business, pursuit and operation in which the corporation proposes to engage is as follows: To handle, distribute and market the fruits, produce and by-products of the Hood River Valley and vicinity.

To purchase, lease or otherwise acquire, sell, pledge, mortgage, improve, use and operate warehouses, packing plants, cold storage plants, ice plants and all other plants and facilities useful or convenient in handling, marketing and distributing the fruits, produce and by-products of the Hood River Valley and vicinity.

To promote the organization of the fruit growers of the Hood River Valley and vicinity, to encourage the growth of high-class fruit in the said territory, to protect the good name and commercial value of the fruit, produce and by-products of the said territory, to minimize the expense of handling the said fruit, produce and by-products and to bring the producers and consumers thereof nearer together and generally to do everything which will tend to promote the interests of the fruit growers of the Hood River Valley and vicinity, whether or not they are stockholders in the corporation.

To buy and sell merchandise and other personal property and real property, to borrow money and to pledge and mortgage any of the property of the corporation to secure the indebtedness of the corporation.

The principal office or place of business of the corporation shall be Hood River, Oregon.

The capital stock of the corporation shall be ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars.

The capital stock shall be divided into ten thousand shares, each of the par value of one dollar.

WALLA WALLA IS ORGANIZED

The committee appointed at the meeting of the fruit growers of Walla Walla recently have adopted the constitution and by-laws for the formation of a sub-central for the North Pacific Fruit Distributors' Association.

Another meeting will be held this week, when organizations of this district will be present, as the unions are to meet this week and decide whether to come in.

It was the sentiment of all the committee that even if Walla Walla did not join the larger organization the sub-central would remain intact for mutual benefit.

The agricultural department says that the wages of farm laborers have increased 7 per cent in the last two years. But it is feared that the moving pictures shows have absorbed the difference.

FANATIC LIVES IN AN OLD FIR TRUNK

Living in the huge stump of a tree, a "prophet of the Real," as he calls himself, has taken up his abode in the cottonwood grove just left of the road a short distance east of the Regulation Line dock. This strange person, who is evidently a religious fanatic, harbors strange ideas about the religion of which he believes himself the discoverer. He has covered the rude house with inscriptions. A hole somewhat larger than a man's head constitutes his only window and about this he has painted the outlines of a cross. He greets strangers as they pass upon the road and is voluble in telling them of his new religion. He will allow no one, however, to enter the "Temple of the Real" unless they will declare that they believe as he does. There was a touch of humor in the prophet's talk when he said:

"The only unconsecrated person to enter the temple has been a hobo who got in when I was away and stole my shirt."

He is a fairly young man. His mind has evidently become unbalanced in studying some of the new religions or philosophies.

MEDFORD STICKS TO EXCHANGE

The Rogue River Fruit and Produce Association renewed its contract with the Northwestern Fruit Exchange for the marketing of its crop of apples and pears. This makes the fourth consecutive season that the Rogue River crop will be handled by the exchange. The output for last season comprised 302 cars and 500 cars are in prospect for 1913.

The association directors voted also to support a general co-operative campaign to be managed by the exchange.

The action closes the question of marketing affiliation as raised by a proposal made to a recent mass meeting of growers that Rogue River transfer its affiliation to the proposed new North Pacific Distributors.

BIG PEACH LOSS IN GEORGIA

Manager H. D. Marks of the Georgia Fruit Exchange estimates that the recent freeze will reduce the size of this season's peach crop in Georgia from 5,000 to 3,500 cars. He admits, however, that it is difficult, if not impossible to accurately gauge the exact amount of the damage.

The state entomologist, E. Lee Worsham, believes that 50 per cent of the north Georgia crop has been killed and that the damage done will amount in dollars and cents to \$750,000. He estimates that the crop which, before the freeze, would have brought a return of \$4,500,000 to the growers of the state, will not now market for more than \$2,750,000.

Norman McCracken, assistant superintendent of the Pacific Power & Light Company plant near Milton, met death by being electrocuted at the plant last week. It is said McCracken was turning off the big switch at the time of the accident. Death was instantaneous.

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