

THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

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PRESENT APPLE PROSPECTS

When all is said the Hood River apple grower was probably more scared than hurt during the past year. There were plenty of districts that were hurt, but Hood River was not one of them, or at all events was one of the most fortunate. Returns on Hood River apples were not large, but they were enough to pay expenses and to leave a profit, that in view of market conditions, gives hope for the future rather than discouragement.

Now 1912 is a memory and in looking toward the coming season Hood River growers are markedly more optimistic than last year. No such nation-wide crop as that of 1912 can be expected this season, nor anything to compare with it. In addition to this Hood River has fortified herself in the markets of the world by gaining unity in selling—a boon whose value must be experienced to be appreciated.

The apple movement from all storage districts in the United States during the past couple of months is considered very satisfactory in volume. All of the Hood River shipping concerns have cleaned out their holdings. Throughout the country the apples in storage are still in excess of those of last year but present holdings are not so great as might have been expected in view of the tremendous yield and the increased facilities for storage. Trade journals state that the movement for March was exceedingly satisfactory from a volume standpoint. Trade since the first of April has also shown a strengthening demand so that the situation is believed to be well in hand.

Hood River growers are enjoying a return of confidence, confidence which is prompted largely by the prospect for more efficient marketing of the Hood River crop in this and future years by the Apple Growers' Association, which unites the interests of the entire valley and is to be headed by a picked selling force.

With Mr. Sieg and Mr. Davidson in active management, Hood River will have directing her marketing two of the best qualified salesmen in the country. The policies of the association are to be controlled during the coming season by a board of directors whose personnel represents the growers of all sections of the valley and they are all men chosen after the most careful consideration of their qualifications.

Behind the two managers, behind the newly-elected board of directors and the new company as a whole stand the united growers of the valley. The opportunity is one which has never been equaled in the history of the valley. It is time to boost; it is time to be hopeful for the future, but above all it is time for every grower to lend his assistance and give his support to the new organization by signing up his crop and giving the Apple Growers' Association every possible chance to "make good."

A CITY TO BE PROUD OF

This is Clean-up Week and there is every incentive to make it a thorough one, more so than ever before. The present season is to mark a transformation in the appearance of the city. Within a few days paving will be in progress and this in itself will work wonders in improving the appearance of the business district. Then the macadam streets will be laid and the transformation will be almost completed. The finishing touch to transform Hood River into one of the most attractive cities on the coast will be the thorough cleaning up which is now in progress. All litter should be cleaned up and unsightly fences or buildings should be removed or renovated. Unkempt lots should be improved and some of the old eyesores that still exist should be done away with. It's time for spring cleaning outside and around the homes as well as inside and if it is done with a will by everybody Hood River citizens cannot help but be prouder than ever. Nor will they any longer have to steer visitors and tourists through the city with apologies in order to show them the ever beautiful valley.

HANDLING THIEVING BOYS

In almost every community there comes a time when boys with unfortunate instincts for crime lead other boys astray and the result is an epidemic of juvenile crime. Such a condition is now existing in this city. A couple of weeks ago a gang of boys were arrested and confessed to having broken into a number of business places during the night time. They were given a talking to and shown the error of their ways. Although all

declared their repentance some of them have again gotten themselves into trouble.

Such tendencies as these, when they manifest themselves, should be nipped in the bud. All boys are compelled to associate together in the school and on the playground and there they set an example for their companions. Those who are unprincipled often lead weaker boys astray and sorrow and humiliation is brought to other homes.

In cases like these the first duty lies with the parents to see that the proper parental control is exerted and if the rod is spared the youth is in imminent danger of getting into serious misfortune. Then it becomes the duty of the public officers to restrain and correct. If the parent fails in performing his duty he can offer no remonstrance against the officer stepping in and sending the boy to the reform school. That is what is going to be done with some of the Hood River boys who have started astray. It must be done for the protection of the community and of the other boys who associate with them. There is still time for parents of these boys to save themselves and the boys from public disgrace and if they cherish the proper parental affection and self-respect they will straightway do so.

CREDIT FOR THE WOMEN

Hood River can boast of many blessings and not the least of them is to be found in the energetic, public-spirited and persevering women who never tire in their work for civic development. They are now demonstrating this fact anew in their splendid work for the public library. They know no such word as defeat and although the library proposition lost at the election they were not discouraged but straightway set about overcoming the obstacle. They are convinced that the people of Hood River deserve and are entitled to secure a larger site for the \$17,500 building and they have been canvassing the entire city for subscriptions. They have met with generous response and it is to the credit of the "men folks" that this is true. The new library building is going to have an ample site and is going to be a greater credit to the community as a result. The women of the city are deserving of much commendation for the work which they are doing in behalf of this important enterprise.

HOW TO LEARN FARMING

A farmer is always willing to discuss the proposition of whether farming can be learned better from books or from experience. The horny-handed son of toil who has followed the plow since the time he was "knee high to a grasshopper" is usually set in the opinion that book farmers are not "much account." Here in the West and especially in Hood River, however, we find a large proportion of farmers who have left business pursuits to seek the healthier outdoor life and they are of a different opinion.

Government representatives have recently been trying to find out how farming is best learned. Starting on motorcycles or on foot, four department agents traveled through thirteen states, visiting every farmer along the way, and asking questions. This inquiry revealed the fact that of the farmers who got department of agriculture bulletins, 84 per cent read them and 48 per cent followed the suggestions contained therein. Of those who attended farmers' institutes, it was learned that 54 per cent practiced the methods advocated there.

About 40 per cent of all the farmers interviewed believe that experience is the only way to learn how to farm. This percentage told the agents that they took no stock in farmers' institute demonstration agents, farm papers or department of agriculture publications as aides in helping make the soil more productive.

It would be interesting to learn what the proportion would be in Hood River county but it is certain that the number of strictly self-made farmers, raised in the plow furrow, would be considerably less than forty per cent. Book farmers, who have combined such knowledge with careful practical experience are among the most successful of Hood River's orchardists and they will testify that the state agricultural college and local experiment stations are performing an invaluable service. Farming is rising above the haphazard methods of our fathers' days and is being re-established upon a more modern and scientific basis.

MAY SECURE JERSEY COWS

Secretary Scott of the Commercial Club has received a letter from a Willamette Valley dairyman offering for sale his herd of 14 registered Jersey cows. The writer gives good reasons for wishing to dispose of the herd. The club is investigating and learning about the prices asked with a view to supplying the local demand. The result of their negotiations will be made known later.

Read the News. It tells it all.

SAYS LIQUOR LAWS ARE VIOLATED HERE

Strong charges were brought by Rev. J. B. Parsons of the U. B. church Sunday evening when he delivered a sermon on the alleged violation of the liquor laws in this city. His subject was announced as follows: "Caught—a Citizen with a Small Shipment of Booze. Why Not Catch Others Who are Continually Receiving Large Shipments of Booze?"

He referred to the difficulty of securing evidence and said that many of the bottles were found without labels of any kind to show from what place they came. He said that large shipments of intoxicating liquor were continually being made into the city but that there was no means of checking up and finding just how it was dispensed. However, he related a number of instances which, he said, showed that the law was being violated.

In his sermon he said that Hood River voted dry at the election with the understanding that the dry forces would enforce the law, but Mr. Parsons said that they had failed to do this in that they had neglected to insist upon law enforcement.

"Results or resignations" is the slogan which the speaker said should be directed towards the city officials and he said the Home Rule Amendment gave them almost unlimited authority to control the liquor traffic inside the city.

Next Sunday evening Mr. Parsons talks on "Some Belmont Laborers fined for gambling. Why Not Fine the Society Polk Gamblers?"

Spring gowns we learn have a Balkan touch; slashed up in the front, gored behind and cut bias, no doubt.

RURAL CARRIER EXAMINATION

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination as a result of which it is expected to make certification of rural carrier at Hood River, on June 14, and other vacancies as they may occur on rural routes as they may occur in the above-named county, unless it is found to be in the interest of the service to fill any vacancy by reinstatement, transfer, or promotion. The usual entrance salary for rural carriers is from \$600 to \$1,100 per annum.

Age 18 to 55 on the date of the examination. The maximum age is waived in cases of persons honorably discharged from the United States military or naval service.

An applicant must have his actual domicile in the territory supplied by post office in the county for which the examination is announced.

This examination is open to all male citizens of the United States who can comply with the requirements.

APPLE TREES FOR ALASKA

For the first time in the history of Alaska a determined attempt is to be made to grow apples on a large scale in the Cook Inlet country, Alaska. The Alaska Coast's company's steamship Yukon has just taken a shipment of well-grown fruit bearing trees from Seattle to Cordova.

Experiments at Sitka and other points in Alaska have shown that it is possible to raise this class of fruit in Alaska, but no cultivation of apples on a large scale has ever been attempted. The apples selected for the Cook Inlet country were from hardy stock specially raised at Yakima, Wash.

BIG SPRING GAME

Spring Fishing vs. Spring Cleaning

<p>FATHER Is Smoking & Thinking & Planning & Figuring & Dreaming of SPRING FISHING (It's a pipe dream)</p>	<p>MOTHER Is Dreading & Dusting & Scrubbing & Washing & Dreaming of SPRING CLEANING (It's a nightmare)</p>
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