

NEW SCHOOL IS OPENED

WOODLAWN NOW REJOICES IN INCREASED FACILITIES.

Parents Examine New Building and See Children at Studies—Wittenberg Recalls Old Times.

The formal opening of the Woodlawn new schoolhouse took place Friday afternoon. Between 2 and 4 o'clock a large number of the parents visited the fine building and were shown through all the rooms from the basement to the top floor by Principal E. Milner. Visitors were shown into the classroom while the regular work was going forward, and were thus afforded opportunity of seeing the methods. Rooms and halls had been decorated with dogwood blossoms in honor of the occasion, and the pupils wore sprays of bloom.

After the building had been inspected, the visitors and pupils were assembled in the basement, where brief exercises were held. The school sang in concert a patriotic air, when Principal Milner made remarks thanking the parents for their presence and expressing the hope that they would come again. Their presence was needed, he said, to encourage the teachers as well as the pupils.

Herman Wittenberg, of the Board of Education, congratulated the people of Woodlawn on having so fine a schoolhouse, and expressed pleasure over the fact that he had helped to secure the erection of the building. Mr. Wittenberg pointed over to the southeast and said that about a mile off there his parents had first settled when he was a boy about 3 years old. That was over 40 years ago, and the trees stood so close together, said Mr. Wittenberg, that one could hardly get through them, but all these were gone and fine new schoolhouses had come. Mrs. Sitton, of the board, was also present, but made no remarks. After the school had sung "America," the audience was dismissed, but many of the parents remained to get acquainted with the teachers.

The Woodlawn schoolhouse contains eight rooms. It stands on the old ground donated for school purposes in Lower Woodlawn. Efforts were put forth to secure another location further north on the higher ground, but there was so much contention over the matter that the Board of Education built on the old site, moving the former four-room building to one side. All the eight rooms are occupied. The building is heated by forced draft, the same as the Sunnyside schoolhouse, which is considered much in advance of any other method. The grounds about the building need some fixing up, but as two members of the Board of Education were there yesterday, they doubtless made a note of all the conditions.

ODDFELLOWS ARE GROWING.

Increase of Nearly 10 Per Cent in Oregon Membership.

The report of Grand Secretary E. Sharon, of the Oregon Oddfellows, will show when the grand lodge meets in Portland, May 21, great gains throughout the state. Eight new lodges were instituted in 1902, and four have been instituted since January 1, 1903, the total number of lodges in the state being 153. There were for the year 1543 admissions and 632 dropped, or withdrawn, leaving a total gain of 911 and a total membership of 2045 for the state, the gain being close to 10 per cent. The order does not solicit members. There are 2668 past grand and 266 representatives to the grand lodge. The total income of lodges was \$12,212.87; paid for relief, \$42,943.36; paid for expenses, \$45,833.25; total lodge assets in the state, \$221,218.22; a gain in assets over 1901 of \$59,291.88.

Six new encampments have been instituted the past year, bringing the total number up to 46. There were 458 admissions, and 118 were dropped, the net gain being 340. Total membership at present is 1982. Encampments paid \$163 for relief and \$662 for expenses. The total income was \$208.11, and total assets are \$3,673.50. The Hebrew Degree branch made a gain of 1000 members, and very soon will equal in membership the subordinate Odd-fellow lodges.

NEW BRANCH RAILROAD.

Portland Railway Company Has Started on Alberta-Street Line.

Work was started yesterday on the Alberta-street branch of the Portland Railway Company to the Simon tract. The branch connects with the Woodlawn & Vancouver Railway, just north of Highland, and will be extended east just a mile to the new addition. The iron and ties are stacked up on Union avenue. Besides reaching the new addition, this branch will accommodate a large number of people along its route. A few years ago the Cleveland branch was operated for a mile east of the main line, but was withdrawn. At the rate the grading is going forward, cars will be running over the branch in two weeks.

It is understood also that the Portland Railway Company will extend its double tracks through to Woodlawn from Highland as soon as Union avenue is improved. Under the new schedule Woodlawn is enjoying as good car service as any Portland suburb. With a double track and the many switches cut out it will be even better than at present.

East Side Notes.

The improvement of Union avenue, between Alberta street at Highland and Dekum avenue, with gravel will be made this year. The avenue was widened to 80 feet, and houses and fences have been moved back to the new street line. Nothing is in the way of the improvement, which means a great deal for that portion of the city.

Smith & Howard are setting up a pile-driver preparatory to commencing the work of building the elevated roadway on East Oak street, between East Water and East Second streets. They have considerable lumber on hand now on East Oak street. Business houses on that street will be glad to learn that at last work is to be started. The street has been torn up for several months.

A pleasing entertainment was given Friday evening in Woodlawn M. E. Church. It was called a "National Entertainment" from the character of the programme. In the exercises, all of which were musical, England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, China and America were represented. The programme was as follows: Overture, Down's Mandolin Club; bass solo, "Selling," Mr. Oott; Welsh solo, Mr. Arthur; violin solo, "Blue Bells of Scotland," Roy Lancaster; two-part song, "Scots Wha' Hae We Wallace Bied," Misses Watta, Pittman, Spurrer and Royal; solo, "Kathleen Mavourneen," Mr. Patch; soprano solo, "Marsellaise," Miss Healy; solo, Lena Beckman; violin solo, Roy Lancaster; vocal duet, Misses Mabel and Clara Johnson; duet, "China," Jennie Yee and Byron Hamman; music, ladies' quartet and chorus; closing, "America."

IRRIGATION IN OREGON.

Series of Questions as to Maturing Most Profitable Crops.

WOODSTOCK, Or., May 8.—(To the Editor.)—Mr. Mead, at the meeting of the Board of Trade Tuesday last, gave an interesting discourse on the possibilities of irrigation in Eastern Oregon. Those most interested in the matter of irrigation in Oregon require some further useful information to guide them, both in the use of water for irrigation and the amount necessary for maturing such crops as are most likely to be profitable. The general farm line at Washington must be best pointed in such matters, as that office must have gleaned the results of the best irrigation system which has so far been practiced in the United

States. It is desirable that the bulletins on this subject, already published, should be made of easy access in Portland, Baker City and Grant's Pass, Or. The practical information that would be irrigating the water on, say, 100 or more acres, from the main ditch or canal. It must be remembered that in Eastern Oregon the irrigable season is probably only of six months' duration, from April to October inclusive. During the dry

months, July, August, September and October, the streams which afford the water supply are usually at their minimum amount of flow. This makes it necessary to gauge the average mean flow of the streams at that season, and not rely upon any gauging done at an earlier part of the season, in estimating the probable supply that will be available. During this dry period there is more evaporation going on, and this must be considered.

Some lands will absorb more moisture than others, and this must be allowed for in any general district system. It was stated at the meeting that the common law in regard to riparian rights did not apply to Oregon, as it does in California. It may be that the speaker was referring to state lands only. It is difficult to understand why the common law should not apply to the public lands in Oregon. It is important to have this question

correctly answered, since so much of the land requiring irrigation to induce settlement is public land. R. M. HERBERTSON.

Success Fails to Succeed.
Albany Democrat.
The Medford Success has suspended publication. The editor says: "With this issue the Success will be discontinued."

The reason for this action is that an energetic paper, one that is out-spoken and ally to the interest of the people, and which is not a time-server and the tool of some grasping combination, is out of its element here in Medford. "It's ever thus. The energetic papers are all dead. America's greatest medicine is Hood's Sarsaparilla—the best Spring medicine. Get Hood's."



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