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FEATURES OF CONVENTION.

Great Meeting in Portland—Keep The \$5,000 in Oregon.

The convention of the Oregon State Dairy Association Dec 12th and 13th continues the most interesting subject of state-wide importance. In fact, its scope will be much wider than this state, and speakers from abroad include Prof. B. D. White, of Washington, D. C. connected with the Dairy Department of the United States bureau of Animal Industry; Joseph E. Wing, of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, an address on "The Dairy Cow at Home and Abroad"; H. L. Blanchard, of Hadlock, Washington, "Practical Dairy Suggestions." Appreciating that these addresses and discussions will be equally valuable to those interested in the dairy business in Washington, since conditions surrounding this great industry are identical in the two states, the Oregon Association has extended a most cordial invitation to creamerymen and farmers from Washington to attend the convention at Portland. A butter wrapper, one of the very latest dairy appliances perfected, will be shown in the exhibit hall, and various dairy machines will be in actual operation with electricity as the motive power.

Though dairying is rather monopolizing public attention now, the apple growers of the State who have made such marvelous showings in their respective sections at the fruit fairs, and who later received such flattering comment through window displays in Portland's store windows are planning an even greater success by combining next year in an event to be known as an "All Oregon Apple Show." They want to get in training for the great race at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in 1909.

Oregon people are thoroughly aroused by the great prize offer made by the Portland Commercial Club for articles on this state printed in papers outside of the Pacific Northwest, and are working to earn a share of the \$5,000 in gold which is to be distributed in a series of eighty prizes, every one of which is worth the winning. The first is a small fortune of itself, \$1,000; the second is \$500, and from \$250, \$200, and \$165 they range down to the last twenty at \$10 each. The very large number of prizes mean correspondingly liberal chances for contestants. There is no entrance fee, no red tape. The contest closes Dec. 31st, 187. Paper or other regular publications containing the competing article must be submitted in full.

Every year the Michigan Press Association takes an outing and this coming year they will spend a portion of their vacation in the mountains of Canada. They have expressed a strong desire to continue their trip to include Oregon with its magnificent scenery and particularly the Columbia River, and are being urged to make this arrangement.

REPORT WHOLE STORY.

The Half Has Never Yet Been Told—Fruit Crop in Oregon.

One frequently reads of the wonderful crop of fruit that has been produced by a single tree in this or that part of the country, and strangers reading the account might be led to think that all fruit trees, properly attended, would do as well, making the yield of an orchard equal to a small fortune. Comment on these stories of single tree crops is made very sensibly by the Oregonian, editorially, as follows: "Oregon's fruit industry need not stake its reputation upon the records made by single trees. There are plenty of five, ten, twenty and forty-acre orchards that are paying good profits to their owners and reports from these will show the people of the East what opportunities

await them in this part of the country. Owners of commercial orchards should take pains to keep records of their crops and the returns therefrom and make them public from time to time as a means of encouraging emigration. Yet comparatively few do this. The owner of a single tree of abnormal productive power takes pride in telling of its achievement. The owner of five or ten acres of trees harvests his crop, pockets the cash and says nothing about it.

Correspondents of the Oregonian in all parts of Oregon, Washington and Idaho are desirous of learning of the profitable crops of all kinds grown by farmers in the territory which The Oregonian has aided these many years to up-build. They are glad to learn of the enormous crops produced by single trees and this paper is pleased to publish the reports sent in by them. Information of that kind encourages home-owners to plant trees in their vacant yards. But of much more value to the state would be reports of actual crop production per acre, for such reports accurately represent the real condition of agriculture and horticultural industry in Oregon. If you have had a profitable year tell about it through the public press, not boastfully, but for the purpose of telling Eastern people what they can expect to do here.

STORY TOLD IN SONG.

Four Eras of American Life Illustrated by Melodies—A Novel Concert.

Old Plantation Days was given by Slavton Jubilee Singers. As the curtain rolled up it showed the Company in dresses and suits which might well have been worn amid the cotton fields and corn. They sang old melodies and hymns which even today may be heard in the South, and sang them with such pathos that the audience recalled the singers again and again. She whom they call the "Original Black Patti" sang "Away Down Upon the Suwanee River," and when she tried to leave the stage such an encore was given her that, stage manager or no stage manager, she was forced to come out and sing "Annie Laurie." And the stage manager once defied, the rule, "No Encores," was broken, and that was why the line of carriages before the Auditorium stood half an hour later than they were ordered.—The Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The Slayton Jubilee Singers will appear at the Corvallis opera house, Thursday evening, Dec. 12th. They are undoubtedly the best company of Jubilee singers that travel through the West.

This is the second number of the course given by the Corvallis Lyceum management. It has been arranged so that those who have not yet secured season tickets may do so for \$2.00. Tickets on sale at Graham & Wortham's.

WANT NORCROSS.

At U. of O.—Comment on Situation—Frost not Liked.

Coach Gordon B. Frost of U. of O. is not to be retained for next year at U. of O., according to the press, as the students have decided that he does not know enough of the fine points of the game and that he does not make his men practice enough to give them the required endurance. Commenting on conditions at U. of O., relative to the dismissal of Coach Frost, the Eugene Register says: "Who will succeed him? Dr. C. F. Chase, who is coaching the second team, has made a great hit. He is a Michigan man who came west to coach Willamette. After having held of the second team a couple of nights it is reported that he sent it against the first team and forced the varsity

to punt regularly. He is idolized by his men personally, and if the football men had the choice it would probably fall to him.

"The student body has a leaning toward Coach Norcross, the coach of OAC. Whether he can be secured is not known. "Norcross" does not want to remain in the West for long. He imagines there are fields awaiting for him to conquer in the East, and if the reputation he has gained at Corvallis is sufficient to land him a place east of the Rockies, Oregon probably will not be able to get him. It is not known if he will switch his allegiance if he remains here."

The New State.

The message of the first Governor of the new state to the first Legislature was submitted to-night in joint session says a Guthrie, Oklahoma dispatch Tuesday. The House assembled at 7:30 o'clock but it was nearly 8 o'clock when the hall vibrating with the inspiring air of "Auld Lang Syne," the Senate appeared.

Instantly a huge tremulous shout of welcome greeted the members of the upper house, each of whom carried an American flag, which he raised as he strode down the aisles of the House. As the first Governor of Oklahoma walked down the aisle it was thought he was making his way through a storm-swept ocean—an ocean that yelled and shrieked and jumped, a militant sea of waving flags and handkerchiefs. It was a demonstration that will not soon be equalled. As the Governor mounted the Speaker's platform a shout went up "Let's have the 'Star Spangled Banner,'" and once more the floor of the House looked as if it had suddenly been planted with flying flags. Again and again they gave the salute and a final salutation, the flags were lowered and the Governor began his message.

Additional Local.

John Irvine of Osceola, Iowa, who has been visiting Dr. and Mrs. James Guthrie in this city the past few days, left Tuesday evening for California to visit his brother.

Under the caption "Jintown Show in Hands of Receiver" a dispatch from Norfolk says: "Judge Waddell today decided to appoint a receiver for the Jamestown exposition."

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Rose entertained a number of friends at a New England dinner on Thanksgiving day, at their pretty country home just west of Corvallis. The occasion was a reunion of the North and South, and the veterans of the blue and gray talked of hardtack, long marches, tired feet, hairbreadth escapes, and fought over again many a battle of long ago, while over the dining room table the stars and stripes waved, and peace, like a golden cloud, settled over the scene. The occasion was indeed a pleasant one for all present.

Editor Schroeder is preparing to put out a very handsome souvenir edition of the College Barometer. Work is in progress and it will be issued shortly before Christmas. The souvenir will contain 40 pages, printed on first class stock, with many illustrations of the football team, Coach Norcross, the football squad, the buildings; articles on all the games played by the OAC eleven this year, a sketch about each player, comment on the Northwest football situation and many other interesting features. The cover design will be especially attractive. Probably 1000 or 1500 copies will be issued. Editor Schroeder and his assistants deserve a unanimous vote of thanks from the OAC student body for their faithful work to improve and build up the student paper.

The following from an exchange comes pretty near explaining "why the boys leave the farm." He told his twelve-year-old son to milk the cow, feed the horses, slop the pigs, hunt the eggs, feed the calves, catch the cold and put him in the stable, cut some wood, split the kindling, stir the cream, pump fresh water in the creamery after supper and be sure and study his lessons before going to bed. Then he went to the farmers' club to discuss the question: "How to Keep Boys on the Farm."

An item in Tuesday's Eugene Register says: "Quite a little excitement was created among the students yesterday afternoon by the report that OAC had issued a challenge to Oregon for a post-season game, to be played in Portland. The young men gathered in groups and discussed the probable outcome, and congratulated themselves on the chance to regain lost honors. Manager Keely, however, soon dispelled their rising hopes by stating that no such challenge had been received."

A building site 100 feet by 200 feet, east of the medical school of Willamette University, has been offered to the Salem Public Library for a proposed new library building. The present library building is in the city hall and is becoming crowded. The Salem Woman's Club has been promoting the new library, and will, it is understood, accept the site. When this is done there will be a campaign started to secure funds for the erection of a suitable building as soon as possible. The location is an excellent one, as it is on the campus and almost opposite the State Capitol on the south side. The building may get a Carnegie appropriation.—Ex.

Portland will have a chance to see the famous Arctic Brotherhood basketball team, which is to tour the United States, on the night of December 14 at the Multnomah club gymnasium, the Alaskans meeting the winged "M" quintet. This should be one of the best games of the season and will be more interesting to Oregonians from the fact that Claude Swann, Oregon Agricultural college's great player, is coach of the northerners. Ten thousand dollars was raised by the Arctic Brotherhood to send the team around the United States for the purpose of advertising the gold-bearing territory.

The State Basketball league will open here with its first game on December 13, the contesting teams being Multnomah club and the Y. M. C. A. five. The contest will be pulled off on the association court. On the same day the Oregon "Aggies" will meet Dallas College at Dallas and the Salem Y. M. C. A. will line up against Willamette University in the capital city.—Journal.

Next Sunday, December 8th, the Catholic church throughout the United States will observe with special solemnity the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Besides being the titular patron of this country she is in a particular way the chosen patron of St. Mary's church in Corvallis. The congregation is preparing for its observance by a Novena or Nine Days prayer, which is conducted by Rev. Father Dimier every evening at 7:30. He is giving a series of short instructions on the devotion to God's Mother at each service. Next Sunday mass will be celebrated at 8 o'clock, a. m., and at 10:30 a. m. The last mass will be a high mass for which a suitable musical program is being prepared. During this mass Rev. Father Dimier will speak on "Do Catholics Adore the Blessed Virgin?" In the evening the pastor will resume his Sunday night talks on the Sacraments of the church. A cordial invitation is hereby extended to all members and particularly to non-members to attend these as well as all services held at any time in our church. Geo. P. Butler, S. J., pastor.

The Casteel murder mystery in Marion county deepens day by day and will probably remain forever unsolved. This is the case in which a mother, a daughter 24 years old and a son of 19, besides Mort Montgomery, for 20 years the trusted foreman of the farm, were butchered and the house burned to conceal the crime. The murdered woman was Mrs. Casteel, who was to marry Montgomery about holiday time, and Martha Casteel, the daughter, was to be married at about the same time to a young man of Myrtle Creek named Rice. The family is supposed to have had from \$5000 to \$7000 in money but it had not been deposited in any bank and only a little melted gold was found in the ruins of the home. The bodies were burned to such an extent that no marks of violence, had there been any, could have been discovered. The son was weak-minded and one theory is that in brooding over the coming marriages of his mother and sister he may have done the deed in a fit of jealousy. Another theory is that Montgomery, the foreman, became insane and killed the family and then committed suicide. The prison bloodhounds were taken to the scene but nothing remained from which to pick up a trail. News from Myrtle Creek, where the family formerly resided, is that they were members of the M. E. church there and highly respected. The finding of a savings bank, which had been broken open and the contents removed, lends color to the theory of the murder, having been committed for purposes of robbery by some one who knew the family had money.

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