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**Correspondence**

**COLUMBIA VIEW**

The Kayobik Literary Society met last Friday night and the following officers were elected: president, Al Mc Nabb; vice president, J. Mendell; secretary, George Shantin; treasurer, Raleigh Watson; marshals, H. M. Duns and Theo. Stensland; organist, Mamie Shantin.

Coasting and skating were the sports for the young people during the cold weather.

Theo. Stensland caught a coon in the snow, and Joe. Multhauf shot at a wild cat.

Miss Mamie Shantin is visiting friends and relatives in Portland.

Miss Maggie Multhauf spent a few days in Portland last week.

G. E. Reynolds and Joe Mendell took a drive out to Estacada.

B. P. Reynolds is loading a car of potatoes at Fairview.

Christopher Fritz spent last Wednesday in Troutdale.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Parsons made a business trip to Gresham Saturday.

Mrs. John Bramhall visited Mrs. Jones, of Terry, who has been seriously ill.

Mrs. C. R. Fritz went to Portland and spent Sunday with Miss Celesta Albin.

**PLEASANT VALLEY.**  
 (The following items were left over from last week.)

Winter seems to be present. Some fruit and potatoes frozen in cellars.

Mrs. Petty and family have moved to Lents.

Will be given at Washington hall, Sycamore street, on the 26th inst., a basket social. Rigs will be run between hall and Lents. Good music will be had.

Order of Washington is improving its hall.

Not near as many land hunters these days. The weather is cold.

Mrs. Bauman is improving; the children are well.

Mark Baxter and William Frost were doing the butchering act this week.

Our storekeeper is doing a rattling business. He is a rustler.

Mrs. Geyman, Portland, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb.

**COTTRELL.**

The Mt. Hood Railway and Power Co. is making rapid progress with their survey; the road is located to a point near Sandy.

M. C. Donahue's teams are busy again hauling ties to Boring.

P. T. Dunn is home again after a stay in Portland his many friends are glad to have it thus.

There will be a bunch of unbroken horses from eastern Oregon in this vicinity about the last of February.

The many friends of Tom Dunn who has been on the sick list, will be pleased to hear that he is improving and is still holding his position as nightwatch at Proctor and Beers mill.

D. J. Hite and son are hauling wood to Boring, and are doing a good business.

Mr. and Mrs. Kolsky have moved to her father's place on the Pipelin road.

Jesse Doty, Jobb Zimbrick and the Radford boys went coon hunting Saturday.

Miss Alma Bowman, one of the Cottrell school teachers, lead Christian Endeavor last Sunday evening.

Misses Ida and Vivian Radford spent Sunday with their cousin Miss Lottie Roebloom.

**DAMASCUS**

The farmers of this vicinity lost many sacks of potatoes during the cold wave. The potato buyers are now very anxious to buy the remaining crop.

Miss Victorine Wilson is better and has taken charge of her school again.

The skating rink is very popular, fifty pairs of skates were in use Sunday.

The stork swooped down at Ed Seifer's Wednesday and left a ten pound boy.

Mrs. Witenberg is selling her stock and furniture, preparing to go back to Dakota.

Mrs. Potter has returned home from an extended visit with relatives in Hillsboro.

Miss Young, of Eagle Creek, is visiting Miss Ida Wolfhagen.

There will be a farmers institute held at Damascus in the near future.

The Boring school is progressing nicely under the management of Miss Heacock and Mr. Parson.

**MELROSE.**  
 (Following items left over from last week.)

Several from Melrose attended the skating rink at Powell Valley Saturday night.

Miss Florence Stafford, of Lone Grove farm, has been visiting in Troutdale the past week.

Miss Pearl Alder returned home Sunday evening. Miss Alder has just finished a very successful term of school in Yamhill county near Sheridan.

Ralph Bramhall, of Battle Ground Washington, has been visiting with relatives in this vicinity for the past week.

Miss Jennie Strebin is quite ill.

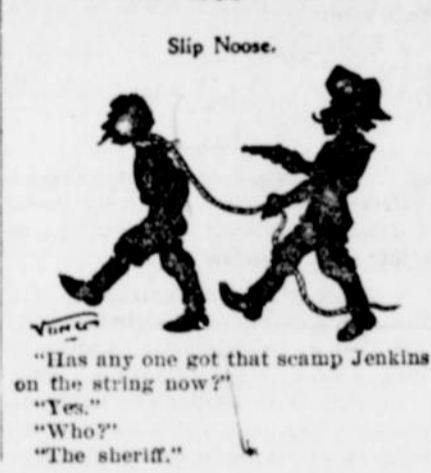
**Skip Noose.**

"Has any one got that scamp Jenkins on the string now?"

"Yes."

"Who?"

"The sheriff."



**BREEDING THE DRAFT HORSE**

Men who began to breed draft horses from a native foundation years ago and have kept steadily at it are now reaping the fruits of their labors. It is a safe statement that no branch of live stock husbandry has paid better through the lapse of years than this. Down at the Illinois state fair an exhibitor showed in a ring of aged mares four full sisters, the eldest nine years old, all tracing to one little mare which more than a quarter of a century ago was bred to a draft stallion. It has taken four crosses of pure blood to make a mare eligible to record in some stud books, and on top of those this man now has three more, or six generations in all, of registered stock on the side of the dam. The four full sisters in question weighed respectively from ten pounds less than 1,800 to as many pounds more than 1,900 pounds, and they were only in ordinary farm condition. That was not a good thing for exhibition purposes, of course.



**A PERCHERON PRIZE WINNER.**

It is shown that the mares had been bred big and did not need great masses of beef to make them weigh up into the real drafter class.

The expense at which this result has been achieved cannot be computed, for there was no expense attached. Indeed there was only large profit, and the owner says that nothing he has ever had on his farm has paid him so well as his horses. He can sell them now as two-year-olds for long prices, and he never has to wait for a buyer. It is known that his horses have the weight and the shape, and they go wherever he is ready to let them.

Asked what his ideas and intentions were when he first began the grading process, he said he believed that some day heavy horses would be in better demand than light ones and that anyway he needed more team power on his farm. He kept steadily on through the lean years and the fat years and now has a good many thousand dollars running around his fields wrapped up in bay hides and plenty more in the stable. There has been much discussion as to the advisability of recording four-cross mares, but that is not material to this statement. The fact remains that he has now nothing but registered horses on his farm and that he should be able to go to a state fair and win with some of them speaks well for the work that he has done.

It is to be presumed that it does not make much difference what sort of a mare the foundation was laid with so long as she did not have some fault that would keep outcropping in the family generation after generation. But the necessity of using good stallions, better and better with each successive cross, is quite plainly marked in all such progressions in grading upward. It avails not to pile one cross on another unless the progeny resulting shows as much improvement. It is a question if too much money can be paid in reason for the right sort of a horse to carry on such work. It may be that in the first two or three crosses fair to good horses may do all right enough, but when it comes, not to increasing size, but to making them good, only the highest class of stallions should be utilized. Usually men strive to put some sort of a fancy capstone to their work. In horse breeding this can only be accomplished by the use of the very best stallion obtainable, and a high price should not be balked at, for it takes a high price to get such a horse. We would comment this matter to the close consideration of all who are proceeding on the upward grade in this line of business. Cull out the mares with ruthless hand. Let those that are not good enough go to the cities or somewhere else. Keep the good ones, choose the horses to suit them, and get him big and get him good. To keep on merely running level in the same rut, says the Breeder's Gazette, Chicago, using the same old sort of a stallion year after year, will never reach the goal.

**To Relieve a Choking Animal.**

When one of my animals chokes on apples or similar substances I have a remedy that never fails, says an Ohio breeder. I fasten a rope or strap around the body just back of the forward legs, then fasten a stick of wood large enough to keep the mouth wide open in the mouth by a string passing over the head. Hold the nose out so it will strain the neck; then give the animal a sudden sharp punch in the body between the ribs and hips, and the substance will fly out through the mouth.

**Lime-water For Pigs.**

Disinfectants and correctives should be kept convenient to the hog yards and houses and used whenever there appears to be occasion for them. Charcoal, ashes, coppers and the like should be kept where the hogs may help themselves at will. Use lime-water freely about the pens and houses and in the slop. It is at once a disinfectant and a deodorizer. It prevents indigestion and furnishes elements of bone growth.

**BREEDING ON THE FARM.**

**Use of Inferior Sires Greatly Retards Live Stock Improvement.**

The breeders of grades are usually content with a very common or inferior pure bred because of the lower cost, but to invest in such is clearly a mistake. The place for all those inferior sires is the block in the case of meat making animals and in the dray or van in the case of horses. The breeder who chooses sires thus makes a grievous mistake. An inferior sire is dear at any price. He is dear as a gift. The extent to which such sires have been used by the breeders of grades has greatly retarded live stock improvement.

What may be termed promiscuous breeding is the common practice of most farmers. The average farmer chooses a sire from a certain breed. It may be on the ground of convenience or because the breed for the time being is popular. Soon another breed becomes popular and a sire is chosen from that breed. It may be that in a lifetime sires have been used from half a dozen breeds. Those who breed thus are like the man who as often as he walks up the hill walks down again or like him who sails continuously in a circle. At the end of a lifetime of such breeding the breeder will find himself just where he started.

**Crossbreeding.**

Up grading is the true system of improving live stock. Crossbreeding—that is, the mating of two distinct breeds—should have little place in the operations of the farmer. It may be advantageous in some instances, as when the dams and their progeny are to go to the block. It may be profitable, for instance, to cross aged Merino ewes with males of some better mutton breed and to prepare both for the market by fattening them on rich pastures, but ordinarily such crossing should stop with the first cross. To carry it further would probably for a time at least introduce elements of reversion.

But, it may be asked, are there no instances in which alien blood may be introduced with animals that have been up graded? There are such instances, as when the animals thus graded have partially lost some useful properties. It is possible to restore those properties or at least to improve them greatly by the introduction of an outcross—that is, by making one cross from sires of another breed.

This may be illustrated in the condition of many of the high grade herds of Poland-Chinas in the corn belt at present. Many of these have too little bone, too little stamina and weakened breeding properties. One cross from a sire of either the large Yorkshire or Tamworth breeds would lead to wonderful improvement along those lines. The breeders could then fall back again upon Poland-China blood if they desired to do so. Such teaching may sound like rank heresy to some, but that it rests on a sound basis will be found by all who put it to the test.—Thomas Shaw in Country Gentleman.

**THE HORSEMAN**

There's no choice between working too soon after feeding and feeding too soon after working.

A grade stallion may develop some striking characteristics, but that's no sign his get will be so favored.

Eight thousand dollars is a fair price for a horse. A Percheron stallion brought that figure recently in the west.

Select feed with a view to quality. The less bulk the better if the strengthening qualities are there.

Good, bright straw isn't so bad for the horses, after all. It must be supplemented with grain, though.

The well bred and well kept horse will stand hard usage earlier and better than the one whose life has been a struggle.

Horses in poor physical condition often sweat more freely than at other times.

It is the poorest kind of economy to arrest the growth of any farm animal, and this is particularly true of colts. Weak colts are much more likely to acquire blemishes than strong, healthy ones.

Before colts are weaned they should be taught to eat oats and shelled corn. When they are weaned they should be fed all the corn, bran and oats, mixed in equal parts, that they will eat. With such a ration and plenty of good alfalfa and timothy and clover hay they will never stop growing and will make much better horses in every way than colts which are kept half starved during the first year of their lives.

Keep the horses from having thrush by throwing the manure or wet straw up under them where they can stand on it and keep their feet moist, says the Farm Journal. But do not let the soft manure get packed in the shoe and stay there.

Don't make the horses sleep on the hard, cold floor, but give them plenty of bedding, and it will pay you in many ways.

Bedding makes the manure much more valuable and makes the horses look better.

Never leave home without a horse blanket, and when the horse is stopped, even for a short time, put the blanket on him.

Better have two good horses than four poor ones. Trust your horse, but keep a tight rein on him. An honest man will without doubt have an honest horse.

More than half the horses in this country are lame, mostly in the feet. Shoeing is to blame for much of this trouble. Never submit your horse to a man who knows nothing about his business except to charge a big price for what might better never have been done.

**POWELL VALLEY**

The farmers of this neighborhood lost a good many potatoes on account of the cold weather.

A large crowd attended the skating rink Saturday night.

Joseph Wilcox and Herbert Simmons spent Sunday in Troutdale.

Elmer Hawk from Wihon's mill, was a pleasant caller at Powell Valley on Saturday.

The young people's society had their quarterly meeting in the Lutheran church on Friday for election of new officers as follows: Rev. B. S. Nyström, superintendent; Gust Larson, vice-superintendent; Earnest Anderson, secretary; Miss Anna Wilson, treasurer; Misses Clara Johnson, Lizzie Unis, Alma Wilson, program committee. They will meet every fourth Sunday night instead of Saturday, hereafter. A good program was rendered consisting of songs, recitations and readings.

Annual business meeting was held in the Lutheran church on Saturday Jan. 19th. The new officers elected are Wm. Anderson, secretary; Gust Larson, C. A. Lindgreen, P. N. Almquist, deacons; Emanuel Anderson, trustee; organists, Miss Eva Anderson and Miss Emilia Johnson; Frank Steffanson, superintendent; Miss Emilia Johnson, vice-superintendent.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Lindgren entertained a number of friends last Saturday night. A splendid supper was served, the young folks played music and games and a good time was had. Those present were: Mr. C. P. Johnson and family, P. N. Almquist and family and C. A. Sward and family.

Miss Ellen Norstrom of Portland is visiting with her Aunt Mrs. Nordblom.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Ericson will leave in the near future for California. Mrs. Ericson is suffering with bronchitis and is seeking a dryer climate.

Ladies missions society met at Mrs. Emilia Johnson's last Monday with a large attendance present.

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