

POWELL VALLEY HAS NEW STORE

Firm of Ekstrom Brothers Are Winning Trade by Energy and Fair Methods.

Powell Valley, the oldest settled portion of east Multnomah, is undergoing a rapid change in the last few years. Many Swedish, Norwegian, German and American families have purchased 10 and 20 acre tracts. These have been cleared, or are rapidly being cleared, splendid homes, built thereon, and good livings and a little money is being saved by the thrifty, economical and law abiding citizens of that community. It is therefore not surprising that new stores are springing up in that locality. The first of which is that recently established by the Ekstrom Brothers. Louis Ekstrom, the junior member of the new firm, is not a novice at the business, he having been in the general merchandise business for several years at Pleasant Valley, in Baker County, Oregon, coming to Powell Valley about three months ago, when his many Swedish and American friends insisted upon his opening a store at this point. Every body knows F. O. Ekstrom, the senior member of the new firm, to be one of east Multnomah's most substantial citizens, hence the firm of "Ekstrom Bros." starts out with a splendid hold upon the community from which they confidently expect to draw a goodly share of patronage.

J. N. Campbell Shoots at Intruder

J. N. Campbell and family of Orient had rather an exciting experience last Sunday night. Some one was prowling around the store, tried doors and windows finally arousing Mr. Campbell who appeared on the scene with a gun, which he fired once or twice, after which no further disturbance was heard.

With a 'lazy man desire and acquire are never correlated in the same sentence. Posing as an authority is one of the favorite attitudes of ignorance.



Additional Gresham Locals

The attendance at the Grange entertainment held last Saturday night in the Grange hall, Gresham, was somewhat lessened by the inclement weather, but was fairly well attended notwithstanding. The recitations by Miss Shives were of an excellent character and were highly appreciated by all present. Miss Shives has rare talent, a pleasing manner and voice and a seemingly exhaustless collection of unending variety.

Clarence Cleveland, who about two weeks ago entered the Open Air Sanitarium in Portland for treatment, is reported to be gaining in weight at the rate of a pound a day.

H. Look of Lents was doing business in Gresham Wednesday. He has recently lost a very valuable cow, supposedly shot by hunters.

An interesting lecture on John Brown will be given by Dr. Clarence True Wilson, of Portland, in the Grange hall Gresham, on Friday night, February 8 for the benefit of the Methodist church. All are invited.

The young people report good success in selling tickets for the lecture on John Brown to be given in the Grange hall tonight.

The Methodist Ladies' Aid met with Mrs. Hester Lawrence on Wednesday afternoon. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. E. C. Lindsey.

Mrs. George Metzger is visiting relatives in Gresham this week, while George is attending teachers institute at Oregon City.

Mrs. Clara Anderson and Miss Berdine Merrill are at home enjoying a few days vacation from their schools in Portland.

Mrs. Isa King, of Sunnyside, is visiting friends in Gresham and vicinity.

George Preston was a welcome visitor this week.

Where They Are.

"There aren't any old women nowadays."
 "What is the mortality that great?"
 "Mortality nothing! Those that aren't soubretting are all in society."



PER CAPITA SCHOOL TAX.

No recommendation of the county superintendents at their recent meeting in Salem is so important as that one which urges the Legislature to increase the per capita tax from \$6 to \$8 per pupil. This is a vital necessity if the schools of the state are to continue to prosper and advance with the times. Several times in these columns attention has been called to the subject, and it is a source of gratification to see the superintendents taking the lead in a movement which, if properly managed, will result in more money and as a consequence better schools. A few figures will show how Oregon stands in the money expended for schools in comparison with other states. The following table shows the amounts expended from all sources for each child between 4 and 20 years of age in the Western states:

Colorado	.....\$28.62
Washington	..... 24.27
California	..... 24.07
Montana	..... 20.68
Utah	..... 16.76
Oregon	..... 14.59
Idaho	..... 14.82

The figures place Oregon very near the foot of the class, a miserable showing for a state of such prosperity and future outlook. Idaho, sunburnt and sand beaten Idaho, is only a few cents behind Oregon in that which more than anything else registers the attitude of the people toward progress. Take the total population and figure the per capita cost of education and the result is still more humiliating. As the following table indicates:

Colorado	.....\$ 6.75
Washington	..... 6.96
California	..... 5.99
Utah	..... 5.47
Idaho	..... 5.24
Montana	..... 4.46
Oregon	..... 3.99

When based upon the average daily attendance, Oregon still very conspicuously stands at the foot, as the following table shows:

California	.....\$42.31
Colorado	..... 41.85
Montana	..... 39.28
Washington	..... 36.59
Utah	..... 29.59
Idaho	..... 25.16
Oregon	..... 24.88

It must be evident to everyone who studies these figures that something is wrong somewhere in Oregon. How can we afford to spend only \$24 a year

for each child's education when California finds it advisable to spend \$42, and Washington \$36? It may be that those who wonder why Oregon has not developed like her neighbor on the north and the south will find a solution to the problem in these figures. The Legislature should act, and no doubt will when the matter is brought to its attention with the facts as they exist. It cannot help but see the tremendous importance of giving the schools of the state adequate support.—November Teachers' Monthly.

The Army Mule.

Recently the quartermaster general of the army declared that the motor car for hauling army supplies would supplant the mule. In that case an army institution will be doomed and some of the soldier's amusement spoiled. In his way the army mule was the great humorist of the civil war. He was kicked and cursed when he would not pull the supply wagons out of the mud and fed on blessings and sugar when he brought hard tack and ammunition to the firing line on time.

But with all his uncertain traits the American mule keeps in favor for rough work. If the army "disbands" him he'll not want for rations. Of course the price of mules will tumble as soon as Uncle Sam ceases to be a bidder in the market. As a factor in transportation the mule cannot make up for car shortage in times of record crops, but he is reliable for long and heavy hauls under drivers who understand his peculiarities.

Although there was something doing just south of us in 1906, it was the African year, and even now we look to the dark continent—to Morocco, the Congo, the German colonies and the Transvaal mines—if we must perforce seek the possibilities of early troubling of the present peace of the world.

Kaiser Wilhelm's fourth son, August, goes in for art and literature instead of the "military." Probably his father and elder brothers, who are all "colonels," look upon August as "the fool of the family."

"I feel uneasy about my money."
 "Why, I didn't know you had any."
 "I haven't. That's the reason I feel uneasy."

Her Reason.

"He is such an odd man. I wonder why she married him."
 "To get even, I suppose."

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.

An Able Address Made by State Master George B. Horton.

Michigan is one of the live grange states of the Union and always has a good report to make of itself at its annual meetings. State Master Horton in his annual address said that there were 750 subordinate granges, with over 45,000 members in the state, holding in the aggregate about 20,000 meetings annually. He referred with justifiable pride to the achievements of the grange in that state, with particular reference to the subject of equal taxation and for pure food legislation. He also referred to what had been accomplished for good roads, farm forestry, direct legislation and other questions of public interest. He counseled great wisdom in preventing the grange organization from being illegitimately used "to further interests which in time may rise to master us and to turn the grange from its real lines of usefulness."

We have nowhere seen a better statement of the position which the grange should take on public questions than that from the following paragraph in Mr. Horton's annual address:

The grange occupies a unique position in the social, educational, economic and political affairs of our state. Its chief function is to discuss and influence or to create public sentiment for or against, as its wisdom in council may dictate. It discusses schools and outlines plans without entering in upon the actual performance of conducting schools. It encourages better farming, improved stock, cereals, fruits, etc., without as an organization going into the actual financial operations of experiments and demonstrations. We encourage political economy, integrity and just legislation without organizing or becoming a political party to carry out our ideas. We strive to influence the public mind so intelligence, justice and progress shall guide the conclusions and acts of the people.

Hon. George B. Horton was re-elected master by an overwhelming majority. The next meeting of the state grange will be held at Saginaw.

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS.

Someone has written that the morals of a nation depend largely on how the people are housed; that the manners on how they are dressed, and the destiny on how they are fed.

If shelter, raiment and nourishment stand for so much to the human race, then as factors of civilization—these three subjects should be systematically studied, and, under the head of household economics, take a place in the curriculums of colleges and secondary schools.

Mrs. Helen Stuart Campbell in her excellent books on household economics, discusses the matter both from a theoretical and practical standpoint, and has helped to make plain the need

of arousing our people to a hearty interest in the subject, in order that they may more fully realize its importance and be willing to study and

receive practical training along its different lines.

The great thrifty middle classes do not require this training as much as of arousing our people to a hearty interest in the poor people and the shiftless classes, either of which have almost no opportunity of training their children. This training must be done for them, either in the public schools or in institutions supported by endowments.

All children when they reach manhood and womanhood should have an intelligent understanding of what it is to live decently—the duty of every human being endowed with sense and energy.

On reaching manhood and womanhood every boy and girl should have a fair knowledge of proper house location, and of house construction, together with good ideas and some degree of taste in house furnishing. They must have some practical training in marketing and cooking and a working knowledge of the principles of chemistry in cooking. Both should have been taught to recognize the difference in wearing materials, and be able to judge of their different values and quality, while the girls should possess a certain degree of skill in the making of common garments needed for clothing.

The question now presents itself, in what way can a more general interest be awakened in the subject by which people in general can be brought to see this pressing need of the weak and poor? Many plans suggest themselves. If the various mothers' clubs throughout the country would appoint a committee to investigate the subject and send delegates to some meeting of the Juvenile Improvement Association, the ball might be set rolling and kept rolling until every woman in the county has become interested, and household economics will have been either introduced into the public schools, or an industrial school will have been established well equipped with apparatus and having a corps of capable instructors able to plan efficient methods for successfully carrying on and developing the work.

JENNIE B. GRAY,

In The (January) School and Home.

EKSTROM BROS.

NEW

GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORE

IS NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS

WE beg to announce to the citizens of Eastern Multnomah and Eastern Clackamas Counties that we have recently opened a General Merchandise Store at the corner of the Powell Valley and Troutdale roads, three miles east of Gresham and four miles south of Troutdale, where we are prepared to sell first-class General Merchandise of all kinds at lowest possible prices. We have on hand a well selected stock of

Kitchenware, Hardware, Groceries, Confectionery, Stationery and FEED of ALL KINDS

A splendid line of bargains in DRY GOODS, BOOTS AND SHOES will arrive in a short time and will well well repay you for an investigation as to prices.

An Inducement is Offered to our many friends in the way of ELEGANT PAINTINGS, neatly framed, which we shall give to EACH PURCHASER OF \$5.00 WORTH OF GOODS and 69c in cash additional. These are real works of art, any one of which is worthy of a place in the parlor of any home. Come and be convinced that we can and will Save you Money.

MONEY'S WORTH OR MONEY BACK is our Motto

NO BUSINESS DONE ON SUNDAY

Ekstrom Bros.,

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Powells Valley