

## Local and Personal.

Peter Springer of Salem has disposed of his Monmouth property to J. W. Wite.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Knowles and sons, Elmer and Ralph, spent a few days last week visiting Mrs. Knowles' uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. George Ebbert.

T. J. Robertson who visited in Monmouth, Saturday, reported everything about as usual in the Montgomery and Airlie sections, except that grain was slightly injured on seepy land.

Claud Lewis of Lewisville passed through town last Saturday on his way home from Portland. He reports having seen George Boothby while in the city and says that Mr. Boothby can handle a loaf of bread or a pound of crackers as easily as he ever could a goat or a sheep.

The Roseburg Review speaking of good roads has this to say: "More good roads is what we must have, and we will get some of them this year, as the road funds voted in this country will aggregate over \$130,000 for 1910.

Rather than wait two years to have the interior of the new Armory completed, the cadets of the Oregon Agricultural College are soon to become trench builders. A novel agreement has been made between contractor Erixon and the cadets. Erixon, who recently completed the new Armory, has also the contract for the new central heating plant. An accessory to the heating plant will be a conduit measuring 600 feet long, 6 feet wide and 8 feet deep. The cadets have agreed to construct this trench and in return the contractor will construct a series of rooms in the new Armory for the use of the officers, also a large gallery and other minor details.—Corvallis Republican.

### Grain Growing in Canada

Thomas Elliott who has relatives at Dallas, is going back to his farm in the Saskatchewan Country in Canada, this week. Mr. Elliott and his brother own a half section in that wheat growing country and tells many interesting things about it. The land there is naturally adapted to wheat raising and crops average from 30 to 40 bushels per acre. It is a prairie country and Mr. Elliott's place is about eight miles from the rail road.

Wheat, oats and barley are raised and prices are only about five cents per bushel lower than here.

Hay can be cut on the prairie and grows naturally until the land is plowed when no more will grow until seed is sown.

With lumber from \$26 to \$36 per thousand feet and saw mills two hundred miles away one of the most expensive luxuries must be the house and the shelter for stock.

Threshing prices are 8 cents and 9 cents per bushel for wheat and although wages in harvest are nearly double what is paid here, yet the machine men who average 2600 bushels of wheat per day for 60 days do not poorly.

With 50 degrees below zero, cold is not felt so much as one would think.

Sixty thousand new settlers went to that country last year and took from two to five million dollars there.

Land can be had from \$16 to \$20 per acre by the one fourth or one half section; land so level that a stake can be seen on the opposite side of a one mile tract.

Mr. Elliott was a playmate of Mrs. G. A. Peaterson, in Canada years ago.

### Comet's Tail is Not Dangerous.

Abomination of desolation will not take place even if the tail of Halley's comet does hit the earth. Furthermore, there is not enough poison in the sidereal wayfarer's appendage to topple a beetle.

That is the cheerful announcement made by Professor Edwin B. Frost, director of Yerkes Observatory at Williams Bay, Wis. The Wisconsin astronomer laughed heartily upon reading the dire prediction of Professor Edwin Booth, of the chemistry department of the University of California. Professor Booth insists that if Halley's comet teems with cyanogen gas we are all likely to be exterminated as so many bugs.

"Why," chuckled Professor Frost, "the fact is there isn't the slightest danger. In the first place the comet's tail may not be long enough to reach the earth. In the second place, the density of this tail is so slight as to be almost nothing.

"No, we are not going to be snuffed out like bugs in the entomologist's bottle when Halley's comet sweeps its tail. There is cyanogen gas in the comet's tail and that cyanogen gas, when mixed with our terrestrial atmosphere in sufficient quantities is as fatal as lightning, but there is not enough poison in the heavenly vagrant's tail to make a beetle blink.

"All comets are of the same chemical nature. The earth has passed through comets before and no bad effects have been felt. The comet is 14,000,000 miles away and the gas from it will not be sufficient to produce any noticeable effect.

There cannot be any possible danger, even to an insect."

Both learned men gave their cheering predictions upon reading the dispatch from Berkeley embodying Professor Booth's theory that a brush of the comet's tail would mean destruction of human beings, even as insects in the path of a squirt-gun. Professor Booth confided his fears as follows:

"If the astronomers are right in their estimates of the amount of cyanogen gas in the tail of Halley's comet, and if that body's vapors do envelope the earth, we may have a chance to feel the sensation of the bugs and insects which are killed by the use of this deadly gas as an exterminator.

"We will all be snuffed out if a sufficient quantity of the cyanogen unites with the hydrogen of this planet's atmosphere.

"Their union would form the deadly gas known as hydrocyanic the most deadly poison known to science, which means death for all animals."

The Portland Labor Press says: "There is no doubt but what a bill of reasonable provisions for two or possibly three normal schools in Oregon, would pass the people at the ballot box."



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