

## ABLE WORK APPRECIATED

Last Monday President Ackerman and the Normal Faculty entertained as welcome guests more than one-half of all the County Superintendents in Oregon. Superintendent Willard Austen, of Grant County, was among the number. As that portion of Eastern Oregon is made up of alternating valleys and mountains, Mr. Austen has, during the past four years, made his long trips from school to school on horseback. This earnest and genial gentleman brought a tale worth the telling about a young man who is well known to most of our citizens.

Just a few years ago Prof. T. A. Boche was an earnest student in the Normal. After winning his diploma, he became principal of a two-room school at Monument, in Grant County. Although he was then but little more than a boy the energy and enthusiasm shown by this young man soon won the confidence and co-operation of the entire community. Before the close of his second year in Monument he was called to the principalship at John Day. Here he had a four-room building and a small high school. Two years more of good vigorous work brought him a call to Prairie City, where he has a six-room building occupied by the grade children of the community. Here he has a union High School. This school is supported by five separate district schools that have united for only high school purposes.

At the close of Prof. Boche's first year at Prairie City, the Board offered him a three-year contract. Under the new terms Principal Boche received for his first year's salary thirteen hundred dollars. This second year he has a salary of thirteen hundred and fifty dollars, and next year he will be paid fourteen hundred. In his corps of teachers there are three that are Normal graduates. One of these, Miss Ella Lawrence, is a graduate of the Oregon State Normal, and has made a good record as high school assistant in Prairie City.

Prof. Boche is especially interested in industrial work. He has organized and equipped a good Manual Training department where he gives the high school boys five lessons a week in manual training. A German mechanic with special skill in the art of handling tools whenever necessary, serves as an assistant with the boys of the upper grammar grades. Prof. Boche has, during the past two years, secured large additions to the school library, to the manual training equipment, and to the supply of scientific apparatus. He is planning to put in a commercial department next year, and has already secured a first-class typewriter and an adding machine. Prof. Boche has aroused a deep interest in school work not only in Prairie City, but also in the surrounding country, and a new \$35,000 building is being planned.

Superintendent Austen reports that Principal Boche exerts a remarkable influence upon his boys and girls and has great tact and skill in enlisting the interest and co-operation of all the patrons. Last October Principal Boche with his assistant, organized and successfully managed the first local school Fair held in Grant County. Just now the entire school is preparing a Public Entertainment for the purpose of purchasing additional manual training equipment.

The Oregon State Normal School, the city of Monmouth, and his home people have very

## Prince of Wales, Heir to the English Throne, Quite a Golfer



Photo by American Press Association.

**T**HE Prince of Wales, heir to the throne of England, has gone in for golfing. He has become fairly proficient in it. This picture of him was taken recently as he was making a drive. After he has concluded his studies at Oxford the heir apparent will spend some time in sport of this kind and in travel. It is likely that he will come to America in 1913 for a tour of the country.

good reason to be proud of this young man's success. His excellent record as a teacher should encourage a larger number of young men to enter the Normal school, for Oregon needs scores of young men of his type and character and training to enter her graded schools and her high schools and serve them as teacher and principal. Today most of the best positions in the high schools and in the public schools of our state are held by imported products. There are in Oregon hundreds of first-class high school graduates that could, in a couple or three years, fit themselves for a legal certificate that will give them opportunity to earn a good salary and do the state true service.

No one that has ever visited the home in which Mr. Boche lived with his mother and grandfather, can doubt that the blossoming flower, the song of birds, the well-stocked library, and the interest in books have all helped prepare this young man for the highest form of civic service. Shall not other mothers and other

homes of Monmouth send to the Normal young men of like sterling character to be there trained for all that makes for manhood and strong teaching? There is an open field in Oregon for all that come prepared in ability, character, education and training for work in the public schools of this state and good pay and appreciation will be the reward for such.

### Below the Scale.

A man who looked like a tramp went into a Walnut street bookstore and started out again almost immediately. A clerk called after him, "What did you want?" "I came in here lookin' fer work" responded the seedy wayfarer, "but I see there you've got a sign, 'Dickens Works Here All This Week For \$6.' I'd rather starve than work for them wages."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

## When the Worm Turned

By M. QUAD

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In this instance the worm was Sarah Ann Perkins of the village of Smithville.

Nature and her father and a lot of other persons and things were to blame for it, and the turning of that worm made a heap of trouble for a hundred people or more.

Sarah Ann was born homely. Just how homely she was as a baby need not be told here. She was homely as a small girl, and everybody knows how the homely business goes when it once gets started. At the age of twenty Sarah Ann was a peach. She attracted ten times the attention of any handsome girl.

Sarah Ann's father was to blame in this way. He was an easy mark during his life, and when he came to his dying bed he made a will leaving everything to his daughter.

It got noised around that Sarah Ann had been left a big legacy, and widowers and bachelors appeared and fell in love with her. Then they investigated the legacy matter and fell out again. When Miss Perkins had reached the age of forty, which she did in due time, the five or six women in Smithville that were keeping book accounts against her figured up that she had been jilted twenty-two different times. Trust the married women of a village to keep tabs on an old maid.

There was great jeering when the last jilt came. Sarah Ann wept and was not comforted. She realized that her last chance had slipped away. Even an optimistic woman can't fail to realize that there must be an end to the courting game. For a long, long day our heroine was thinking, and when the stars of evening twinkled again her mind was made up. The village of Smithville hadn't given her a fair show. The worm would turn and make it hot for Smithville. There was no one around to hear the click of the splinter's teeth as her mind was made up with the rock of Gibraltar for a foundation. If there had been there would have been shivers a-plenty.

Two weeks from that night Sarah Ann Perkins disappeared off the face of the earth—that is, the face of the earth around Smithville. She had been living alone with her cat in a little cottage. A window was found broken in and a door broken open. Chairs were upset and furniture broken, and there were splashes of blood here and there. There was great excitement at once. Miss Perkins had been murdered while the village slept. The body could not

be found. More than a hundred people turned out and spent the day looking for it, but not the slightest trace was had. The sheriff and the coroner overhauled the missing woman's papers, and the first document was a solar plexus blow. It charged thirty different villagers with conspiracy to do away with the writer by violence. The list included a minister, an elder and two deacons, and the others were all prominent. About half were women. The charge was boldly made that on certain dates certain men or women had called at the old maid's house or met her on the street and warned her that she must leave the town or have her throat cut.

The production of this document filled the village with consternation. The sheriff decided that he must make arrests as charged, and he went about it. Meanwhile the search for the body continued, and strangers came from twenty miles away to participate. Newspapers sent their representatives, and private detectives were on hand by the dozen. There might not have been a hundred different theories, but there surely were fifty.

The number of persons arrested was 103; the number of strangers visiting Smithville in the first four weeks was estimated at 10,700; the number of newspaper columns written was 550; the number of times Sarah Ann's picture was used was 84; the damage to the business of the town was \$20,000.

Of the 103 persons arrested all but two proved alibis for the night of the murder. Of the other two one was a merchant and the other a deacon. They had played checkers and drunk hard cider in a back room of the store that night until they had slid out of their chairs and slept under the table. Time consumed in the trial, five weeks; cost to county and individuals, \$14,000. No one was convicted.

Of course it was Sarah Ann Perkins who broke open her door and smashed in the window. The blood came from a chicken killed that afternoon. She left her cottage at about 8 o'clock and had the lock to get out of the village unseen. Then she took to the highway and traveled all night and made fifty miles next day by the cars. Then she halted and hired out at a village inn and was within sixty-five miles of Smithville all the time the affair was on. Three thousand dollars was the reward out for her, but no one got it.

One day a year later Sarah Ann reappeared in Smithville. She was accompanied by her husband. He was the innkeeper she had worked for. She had finally told him her story, and when it had been concluded he had asked:

"But what was the matter you couldn't get married?"

"Too homely," she replied.

"Why, darn my cats, but you are one of the best looking women I ever saw. What in thunder could have ailed those twenty-two fellows? Blamed handsome woman and a heroine to boot! Let's go and get married as soon as we can!"

### "Hail Columbia's" First Rendition.

"Hail Columbia" was written in 1798 by Joseph Hopkinson when congress, in session at Philadelphia, was debating what attitude to assume in the struggle between France and England. Party feeling ran high, and the air was surcharged with patriotic enthusiasm. A young actor in the city who was about to have a benefit came to Hopkinson in despair and said that twenty boxes remained unsold, and it looked as if the proposed benefit would prove a failure. If Hopkinson would write him a patriotic song adapted to the tune of "The President's March," then popular, it would save the day. The following afternoon the song was ready. It was duly advertised, the house was packed, and in wild enthusiasm the song was encored and re-encore.

### Bismarck and Old Ale.

Bismarck, though he could take three-quarters of a pint of champagne at a draft and keep his head, was not proof against the effects of English ale. When in London in the seventies he paid a visit to a great brewery in South-west street, famous for its "old English ales" as well as for its association with Dr. Johnson and Mrs. Thrale. After being shown how the ale was made he was requested to sample the quality of some "ten-year-old." He did so and was surprised on leaving the brewery to find that the road rose up to meet him.—London Chronicle.

## High School Notes

School started again Monday after a two weeks vacation. The students expressed regret by the expression of their face as well as by the voice to have to start with studies again after such an enjoyable recreation.

County Superintendent H. C. Seymour, in company with several other superintendents of Oregon, visited the Training and High School here Monday.

The school regrets the absence of Robert M. Strong who has discontinued his high school work for a time.

Principal Livingston has spent several days in and near Portland boosting for the M. H. S. and vigorous efforts were put forth to secure altruistic persons to aid this and other schools in Polk County by giving talks to the students and furnishing material for programs.

Two beautiful pictures, showing the Niagara Falls, have been hung on the wall on the high school floor. The principal is the donor.

Monday, Viola O'Connor, of Custer City, South Dakota, entered school as a member of the Freshman class.

The basket ball team of the Astronomy class of the high school defeated the Oregon Normal School five at 4:30 o'clock, Tuesday evening in the Normal gymnasium. In winning, the high school boys did not have the hard struggle that was anticipated and in spite of the practice the normal team had, the O. N. S. flag went down to half mast before the game had proceeded a fourth of the way. The M. H. S. fellows were down to business and showed that they knew how to pass the ball, an advantage over their opponents who failed to "get into the game" before the game was finished. The score was turned for the high school throughout the game, standing at the close of the first half, 15 to 1. As to the total number of points for the high school—if the sum of two digits of a number is 4, the first exceeds the second by 2; and if the digits be reversed, the number represents the score received by the normal team. The high school line-up with baskets thrown—R. Burkhead, forward, 5, threw 1 foul; D. Quisenberry, forward, 4; A. Burkhead, center, 3; H. Morlan, guard, 0; B. White, guard, 3. Final score 31 to 13.

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