

The Observer.

MORO, OREGON.

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FRIDAY, December 26, 1919

C. L. IRELAND, Manager.



Official Paper for Sherman County.

The Christmas season was not a happy one for Rev. B. T. Smith and family, now living at Tualatin, Ore. Word received from Mrs. Smith states that Mr. Smith was taken to St. Vincent's hospital December 15th for treatment, he having had a raging fever the previous two weeks the cause for which doctors could not determine.

Between fifty and sixty attended the social at Fairview school December 5th at which time was organized the Fairview Community Club by electing Mrs. H. Conlee, president; Mrs. P. J. Dillinger, vice president; Mrs. M. Neal, secretary and treasurer. The next club meeting will be New Year's eve, December 31st, when a program will be given and lunch served.

Columbia Highway in Miniature

Mrs. L. Grimes says that she now knows what a real house flood means and the joke of it is that it was the fault of the city being out of water and a sink pipe being frozen up. December 11th Mrs. Grimes had stepped to a neighbors, leaving a faucet open, and Mr. Grimes and son Lloyd coming in about an hour later, found the house flooded, there being six inches of good city water on the living room floor and some extra supply pouring through into the basement in an open stream. Mrs. Grimes says that the stairway resembled House Tail fall on the Columbia highway, but is thankful it was a flood instead of a fire.

A quiet wedding took place at the home of Mrs. Rose Schultz on Christmas day, Elmer E. McVicker officiating, when Carl George Thompson of Alberta, Canada, and Irene Deyo of Rutus was united in matrimony. Mr. Thompson was a member of the Canadian army during the late war and Mrs. Thompson is the niece of H. Burmester, one of our local business men. The young people will depart for their home in Canada about the first of the new year and will carry with them the best wishes of all their friends.

The Junior Endeavor society had a social under the direction of their superintendent, Mrs. Etta Moore, in the Presbyterian church basement on Monday night and by the evidence all surely enjoyed it. This ought to put the older ones to thinking and from their meditation discover that the church does not sufficiently nourish the social function of the church.

Statistic Poetic License

We hardly look for poetry in the department of agriculture, least of all in the bureau of crop statistics. Yet the report just made for the crop conditions of October 1 show that steady association with dull and routine duty cannot entirely extinguish the divine spark even in a bureau slave, says Omaha Bee. Under the inspiration of the magnificent return for the corn yield, the statistician bursts forth: "The country's enormous corn crop has run unharmed the gauntlets of dangers that faced it during the doubtful days and nights of September, and lays in the lap of mellow October 48,000,000 bushels more of ripened ears than it could promise at the beginning of the month." Very nice. Then the man of figures returns to his wonted habit, and tells us the yield will be 2,900,511,000 bushels, 318,000,000 more than for 1918 and on an acreage 5 per cent less. This is 150,000,000 bushels more than the five-year average. So perfectly has the crop ripened that it is practically all of highest quality, promising much more food in proportion than last season's yield, or that of any recent year. More and better meat at lower cost is contained in this.

A Name Not Yet Determined

The question is much discussed in the papers. What should the substitute for the saloon be called? The great significance of the question lies in the fact that there is to be a substitute. That is more important than what the name should be. A substitute by any name would be about all a person could ask for. Maybe it ought to be called Eden, Heaven, an Oasis or Home. Perhaps, however, home would not do, for to many people home is not much better than a saloon and not as good to those who do most of their loafing there. Still, whatever the name may be, home as a fact is the best substitute for a saloon. It is inhuman, almost criminal, the way some men have treated their homes—how they have turned their backs on their wives and children, as if they had no more interest in them than a kennel of puppies, says Ohio State Journal. It is hoped we will get a substitute for the saloon that will change all this, and give to a man a love of home, which is the greatest honor and good fortune he can have.

The Christmas tree exercises at the opera house Wednesday evening was enjoyed by all present. When one of the "Dooma" boys, dressed as Santa Claus, arrived the children had been gathered on the stage to greet him, but a few less venturesome than the older kiddies did not like the situation and hopped off the stage over the front. Santa carried a large bag of presents from which each child received a gift as well as a generous amount of candy and nuts.

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"Some of the men who profited most out of war contracts are famed for their piety," writes a Washington correspondent. We suppose they felt that they ought to exemplify the truth of the proverb, "The Lord helps those who help themselves"—and they helped themselves to everything in sight.

There are a great many important abstract questions concerning the fate of the world to be considered, but to the average citizen the price of shoe leather and the possibility of laying in a supply of winter coal take precedence of them.

If, as the pessimists predict, another big world war is coming, it is to be hoped the present peace treaty will be ratified before the next one comes along or things may be complicated.

There are some mysteries and perplexities which literature cannot solve. This is shown by the fact that even cook books issued by the department of agriculture could not avert a food crisis.

Stop and think. Why will a man cheerfully spend \$5 at a cheating thirst parlor and then shave "just once more" with a dull safety razor blade as a matter of economy?

Another demand of the time is for some man powerful enough to enable a fellow to put down two pounds of beefsteak where now he only deposits four ounces of liver.

There is more or less difficulty in finding places to store one's winter coal. Lots of people have no basements, and many of these haven't even houses.

Alaska was bought at a bargain price several years ago, but look what it's costing the government to build its railroad up there now.

This country is going to get over all this uproar about grub and duds, but it may touch some new ground in idiocy first.

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