

Daily Democrat

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1915

GROUCHES.

A man in this town who is nearly 60 years old seems to be about 40. That man has never been out of a job. Hard times come and pinch the business house where he works, and men are discharged who are better educated than he, more able than he to do his work, but he stays on the job.

He has just one conspicuous talent—the gift of always being glad.

"He's the youngest fellow on the whole works," said his employer the other day when retrenchment was being considered. "I need his smile around here to cheer me up." And while others went he stayed—because he sings at his work.

A glad, enthusiastic, hopeful disposition is a real asset. It keeps a man young. He is, like Kipling's Wilm, "the friend of all the world." And all the world is the friend of the man with the hearty laugh and the cheery outlook upon all things around.

A churlish nature, a fault-finding, harsh, cold manner is a pullback to any man. Many a young man, trying to climb, has been dragged down by the fetters of a cynical, discourteous manner. The glad man attracts like a loadstone. The churl repels.

A thousand proverbs, old and modern, teach this lesson.

"A good word maketh the heart glad," said Solomon a good many centuries ago.

"Laugh and the world laughs with you; weep, and you weep alone," says a more modern wise one.

"Tell your troubles to a policeman," says the philosopher of the streets today.

In every age and clime the same—no room for the man or the woman with a grouch.

An old Scotch preacher, with a grouch on, looked out over his chilly congregation and said:

"It is sad to think that out of this whole congregation only six will be saved." He paused and continued "And I could name them, too."

If it had been left to his congregation to name the six the preacher's would not have been among them. His name would have led the list of those bound in the other direction, for there is no place on earth, or in heaven either, for the bitter and vengeful man.

For grouchiness, churlishness, is immoral and damning.

Grouchiness is a habit of mind. It begins with grumbling and fault finding and impatience over trifles that go wrong. And, like Longfellow's turnip behind the barn, it grows, and grows and grows.

The wife who begins by grumbling a little at her husband develops the habit until she becomes a nag and a scold.

The man who begins by growling at his imaginary troubles, ends in becoming a full grown grouch, with a scowl on his face that even the dogs scare at.

The surest beginning of the grouch habit come by nursing imaginary troubles, and nearly all troubles are imaginary.

Look back ten or twenty years. The troubles that worried you then, what became of them? Forgotten long ago. They weren't worth worrying about. You know that now.

Neither are your troubles of today. "Sorrow may come to call, but I will not take him as a lodger," says a Turkish proverb.

If the grouch habit is growing within you pluck it out, now.

Be genial and glad. Smile. Be kind. Be cheerful. Cultivate a happy frame of mind. Force your face to smile if you have to, and soon the face of the whole world will smile at you.—Kansas City Times.

GAINING IN PROSPERITY.

There are those who pretend to think that the president has lost his

hold on the people, says an exchange. They are very much mistaken. We believe that the people see in him an honest, enlightened, and courageous public servant, whose only ambition is to further, in every legitimate way, their interests.

We believe, too, that he has actually won popularity by his utter refusal to "play to the galleries." No such motive has inspired him. Rather he has been content to let his work speak for itself, trusting to the intelligence of his fellow-citizens to rally to the support of a man who has honestly tried to serve them, and given himself unreservedly to the duties of his high office. The American people have a great admiration for a public servant who "stays on the job." Mr. Wilson has certainly done that. Mistakes he has of course made. But when we think of the difficult and complicated problems that have been presented to him we can only wonder that he has made so few. The edge of Republican criticism ought to be tempered by the reflection that the most of Mr. Wilson's troubles were inherited. We had had the tariff question with us for years. The efforts of the Republicans to deal with it resulted in splitting their party in two. The questions of banking and currency reform have been with us at least since 1896, and yet it was hardly touched. During the first year of the Wilson administration we got a new tariff law and a new banking system.

As far as Mexico is concerned, the president has at least kept us out of war with the people of that country, and today no one desires war. In the great European struggle the nation has, under the wise leadership of the president maintained a strict neutrality, and upheld the rights of our people as neutrals. We Indians are, therefore, all glad to welcome the president as a high minded patriot and a devoted servant of the public. As with the famous Gridiron club, so with us, there is but one toast today, "The President of the United States."

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SCHOOL MERGER DISCUSSED

Survey Will Be Made of Three Districts in Columbia County.

University of Oregon, Eugene, Feb. 5.—Three school districts in Columbia county, Oregon, that may decide to be consolidated present types of school districts for which consolidation is often advised by educational authorities. Probably during February, one or two men will be sent to Columbia county by the State University to make an educational survey and determine, if possible, whether these three districts should be merged.

Vernonia is at the junction of Rock Creek and Nehalem river, and is said by J. P. Claybaugh, principal of its school, to be the natural center for the activities of adjacent communities along those streams. One mile down the river from Vernonia is a school district with a total assessed valuation of \$500,000, and four miles up the river is another with \$470,000 assessed valuation. The plan upon which Mr. Claybaugh and others in the neighborhood are working is to consolidate the lower district with Vernonia and have the upper school keep the first six grades but send the seventh and eighth, together with the high school pupils, to Vernonia.

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Notice is hereby given that the un-
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tate of John W. Pugh, deceased, has
filed in the county court of Linn
county, Oregon, his final account
as such administrator, and that said
court has fixed Tuesday, the 23rd
day of Feb., 1915, at the hour of one
o'clock p. m., as the time for the
hearing of objections to said final
account and the settlement thereof.
C. A. PUGH,
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J. N. DUNCAN,
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