

### GRESHAM OUTLOOK TWICE A WEEK

Published every Tuesday and Friday at Gresham, Oregon.

H. L. ST. CLAIR, Editor and Publ'r

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"The Liotype Way is the Way that Wins."

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#### A Bitter Dose

It is to be regretted that any occasion should have arisen in connection with the recent athletic meet here for such a criticism of Gresham as is expressed in Mr. Fry's letter to the Outlook, published in this issue.

No doubt much that he says is just and we have only to swallow his opinion of us, bitter as is the dose, and say nothing. We commend Mr. Fry's frankness and apparent fairness. We think he means it for good.

We think, however, too much was made of a little rivalry which came to a head on last Saturday. If the matter had been handled wisely by those who were ostensibly in control of affairs, nobody would have been ordered arrested, a little quiet advice would have rightened the wrongs and it would scarcely have been mentioned again except in praise of those who should have such praise.

No doubt trouble was brewing, but it should have been quelled quietly rather than stirred up the more by a course which could not help but excite resentment.

There was a woeful lack of order and discipline on the grounds. We are told that even judges and referees were hastily picked up at the last moment who knew little of what was expected of them. More teachers should have been present exercising a partial control over their pupils. Many things could be suggested which would help to obviate such a trouble again. It is sincerely hoped that the lesson will be learned by all concerned, that the next meet will be more of a success, and rivalry which cropped out in an unpleasant way last Saturday will show itself in ways more generous and gentlemanly.

We hope Gresham will learn the lesson and that St. Johns will be generous enough to both forgive and forget.

Oregon people bade farewell to one railroad president the past week and welcomed another at a banquet at the Portland Commercial Club. Carl R. Gray, head of the North Bank road and Hill lines in Oregon, leaves to become president of the Great Northern railway, and J. H. Young, of Seattle, comes to take his place in Oregon. The state lost one good man but gained another and the state will profit by having such a good friend as Mr. Gray at the head of the Great Northern at St. Paul.

Russian Speltz, or Emmer, a grain that thrives on the steppes of Russia, is expected to find a congenial home in the dry-farming country of Eastern Oregon. Umatilla county farmers are to introduce it experimentally this year. It resembles both oats and barley and requires but little moisture to make the crop. It has shown good results in North Dakota and will probably do well on light lands of the interior.

Children are to be interested in forest protection. Forestry officials of the government have taken steps to secure the assistance of boys and girls of the state in helping to protect forests from fire. The importance of the trees to the people of the state and how to safeguard this great resource is taught in an attractive story to be issued and distributed through the schools.

Commercial organizations will cooperate with state authorities to secure the passage of a stringent "Blue-Sky" law that is expected to curb wildcat real estate operators. The proposed measure will provide for false statements in advertising.

One representative of Manila lodge of Elks has reached Portland for the annual reunion, coming 8,000 for the national convention to be held here in July. This is believed to be the record for long distances covered to reach this year's reunion. In all, it is expected that 60,000 Elks will flock into Portland during the second week of July.

#### A Criticism

The following opinion regarding the literary quality of the selections given in the declamatory contest is expressed by one who was present.

The declamatory contest held at St. Johns recently was the first of the kind undertaken by the schools of Multnomah county. It was the result of some thought and planning by the committee and of much work on the part of teachers and pupils. The contestants represented the various school districts—the audience was gathered from all parts of the county. The occasion was one of dignity and importance. As each child stepped up to represent his district one looked to hear something good, some noble lines of poetry to thrill and inspire young ears, or some bit of undying verse to rejoice older hearers by repeating a time-honored favorite. Some good and worthy selections there were, but unfortunately, many of the recitations were mere newspaper verse, things one might read and smile at in a magazine, but certainly not things fitting such an occasion. Few of the selections given were worth remembering—some were better forgotten.

That the children did their parts well, that they spoke with spirit and much dramatic ability makes it all the more to be regretted that the time and effort was not spent on something worth while, in memorizing some fine lines of prose or in getting "by heart" a few verses from one of the great poets. Should not good taste in the choice of a recitation count as much to the credit of a school as training in interpretation and delivery? The power to judge between what is really fine in literature and what is mediocre and the inspiration to prefer the better thing will be of far more value to the child in after years than the ability to recite.

This was the first event of the kind—it is hoped that it is only the first of many to follow, for the plan is full of possibilities for pleasure and profit to the children of the county schools. It is only, however, by maintaining a high standard, by ruling out all unworthy and commonplace selections that the greatest benefits can be reaped.

#### Congress to Solve Cut-Over Lands Problem of Northwest.

A meeting of interest to the whole Pacific Northwest will be held in Portland next October when the Commercial club and Realty board will have a Logged-off Lands congress. Committees are now at work arranging program and other details and when this is announced it is expected it will include many experts who have dealt with this problem.

Best methods of ridding cut-over lands of stumps and at the same time making use of the turpentine and other by-products of the stumps themselves will be discussed by men who have made these subjects a special study. British Columbia, the Pacific Northwest states and California will participate. The Minister of Works of British Columbia will either attend in person or will send a representative.

Portland people are discovering Oregon. During the past week an excursion was run into the Tillamook country that was an eye-opener to the 100 participants. Only a small part of the crowd had ever been to Tillamook before and they came back to Portland singing the praises of that favored section. As Portland people become better acquainted with the rest of the state and learn that everything they have comes from this outside territory, it will be better for all concerned.

Is there any thing in all this world that is of more importance to you than good digestion? Food must be eaten to sustain life and must be digested and converted into blood. When the digestion fails the whole body suffers. Chamberlain's Tablets are a rational and reliable cure for indigestion. They increase the flow of bile, purify the blood, strengthen the stomach, and tone up the whole digestive apparatus to a natural and healthy action. For sale by Gresham Drug Co., and all Dealers.

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#### MR. FRY THINKS OUR BOYS ROUGH

Editor Gresham Outlook:—

The writer wishes to take this means to say a word in regard to the public school athletic meet held in your city last Saturday. The athletic meet together with the spelling and declamatory contest, which were held previously, was arranged for the purpose of stimulating a wholesome interest in athletics, as well as to encourage a greater proficiency in the spelling of common words and to promote a greater interest in declamation. Contests of this character have been held at the universities, colleges and high schools for many years, but the public school contests, such as the one that was held Saturday, are a more recent departure from the regular school work. No one can gainsay the value of such contests.

In arranging for the first contests there naturally were many unforeseen difficulties, and we should not be too harsh in our criticism, even if there were a few matters that did not meet our entire approval. In regard to the athletic meet there was one feature that is to be regretted. I refer to the ungentlemanly conduct of some of our young men and women. In the beginning let us remember that the large majority of those who participated, and those who watched the events were children under sixteen years of age. Practically all of these children were permitted to come to Gresham under the care of teachers. The parents naturally expected that they would be properly cared for, believing that the outing would be an enjoyable and profitable one. Did these parents expect to have their children witness a prizefight, or listen to abusive and improper language? And again should it be necessary for the County Superintendent of Schools to act as an officer of the public peace and try to stop abuses by irresponsible rowdies? Can the good people of Gresham, rather than protect women and children from insulting remarks and acts? Why did not some one help to eject the offenders, for it seems as if it was generally known who they were?

A friendly rivalry should exist. Enthusiasm should be displayed, but it should not be allowed to develop into rowdiness. I do not mean to say that the people from the west end of the county are perfect in their morals, nor do I mean to say that they did not participate in this disorder, but I secured some evidence before leaving Gresham, which if not conclusive is at least damaging evidence, leaving the burden of proof with the Gresham people. There must always be two parties to a fight, however, there is usually an aggressor, and I will let you judge who the aggressor was in this case.

There were present in the grand stand at least four teachers from St. Johns, who witnessed the first disturbances, corroborating statements of the St. Johns pupils that some Gresham boys deliberately took some pennants from the St. Johns girls. I am glad to say that these boys, who started the trouble, were not connected with the schools. These same boys later admitted that theirs was not a gentlemanly act, and one of them also stated that he apologized for some overt act against a St. Johns boy. Later, the high school girls participated in the fight, as is evidenced by several admissions that were secured from two high school girls and one high school boy in the presence of your city librarian. They admitted that Gresham started the pennant fight in the grand stand. Your librarian will also remember that the following remarks were made to her, unsolicited on her part, while I was in the library room, waiting to have an interview with her: "Did you use your fists too?" "Some of our girls bit them." These girls seemed to pride themselves in boasting of the cowardly and unladylike act in which they had participated. Other remarks were made at the same time which convinced me that Gresham was encouraging unsportsmanlike behavior, and some of the Gresham people and students know this, manlike tactics. Such happenings for when one of the girls of the above party asked the boy, "Do the same things happen at Salem?" he promptly replied, "No." Presumably he formerly attended school there.

It appears to me as if Gresham was carrying a chip on their shoulder, and were "going to get even" for some alleged wrongs. The chief of which was the failure of their representative to win a place in the declamatory contest held at St. Johns. The feeling against St. Johns was bitter on account of this not alone on the part of the younger people, but also on the part of the

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older people who should know that St. Johns had nothing whatever to do with the awarding of the prizes. This was left to three prominent high school teachers of Portland, one of whom is a principal and the other two heads of language departments. There should certainly be no grounds for a charge of incompetency or lack of fairness. If there was a difference of opinion, that fact should not be the cause for ill-feeling against St. Johns, at least, it should not be allowed to manifest itself in a display of petty fights and misunderstandings.

The entire matter seems trivial from one standpoint, nevertheless the bad effect on the younger people is unmistakable. We do not wish to cultivate a spirit of hatred and antagonism in our school youth, and extra precautions should be taken to prevent outbreaks of this nature. There is no doubt, but that the success of the meet was interfered with, and had the field been properly marshalled, as it was planned that it should be, the entire trouble could have been averted. We regret that it is necessary to refer to the matter, but feel that the people at Gresham are as anxious as we are to conduct all public gatherings in a quiet and peaceable manner, and by better co-operation a more friendly relation can be brought about. The matter is closed so far as St. Johns is concerned, we shall harbor no ill feeling, and trust that Gresham people will avail themselves of the first opportunity to enjoy the freedom and hospitality of our city.

CHAS. A. FRY.  
St. Johns, Ore., May 27, 1912.

Land offices report a great deal of inquiry for vacant land in this state and it is expected that 1912 will be notable for the large areas of the government domain to be taken by settlers. The change in the land laws, allowing a residence of three years on a homestead preliminary to making proof, which has passed both houses of congress and waits only the signature of the president, is making public lands more attractive than ever before to the settler.

#### The Best Bargain.

The Daily Oregonian or Evening Telegram and Outlook. We also combine with the Daily and Semi-Weekly Journal and Weekly Ore-

#### Girls Give Festival of Dances.

In the Festival of Dances given last night in the gymnasium by the young women of the Oregon Agricultural College classes in physical training, a round sum was obtained to defray the expenses of the interscholastic field meet, to which representatives were sent from forty-one high schools of the state.

Miss Winnifred Williams, assisted by Miss Frances Huston, had spent weeks in drilling the girls in a cleverly planned series of Folk dances, national and fancy dances. Irish jigs and Scotch reels, minuets of the Louis XIV era and Dutch wooden-shoe performances, "the dance of the imps," two Spanish dances, a series of seven dances from Finland, Sweden, Norway, and a number of esthetic and sensational dances were given, for all of which the young women, clever with their needles as with their toes, had made their own fancy costumes.

J. M. Howell, a popular druggist of Greensburg, Ky., says, "We use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in our own household and know it is excellent." For sale by Gresham Drug Co., and all Dealers.

#### City Marshal's Notice of Sale of Real Property for Delinquent Assessments.

Notice is hereby given that the Recorder of the City of Fairview, Oregon, has transmitted to me a list of the delinquent assessments for the improvement of Cedar street and that pursuant to Sections 57 to 66 (both inclusive) of the Charter of the City of Fairview, I will on Wednesday the 5th day of June, 1912 at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. at the south door of the schoolhouse in the City of Fairview, Oregon, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, subject to redemption, the following described parcels of real property, to-wit:

Block eight (8) Lot nine (9), Fairview, A. L. Stone, \$5.04.  
Block eight (8) Lot ten (10) Fairview, A. L. Stone, \$5.04.

Each piece or tract of land will be sold separately and for a sum not less than the unpaid assessment thereon, and interest, costs, and disbursements.

#### RINALDO HUNTER,

City Marshal of the City of Fairview, Oregon.  
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GRESHAM LODGE, U. D. A. F. & A. M.—Stated communications will be held every second and fourth Tuesday in the month at 8 o'clock sharp in I. O. O. F. Hall, Gresham. Visiting brethren cordially invited. H. J. Pulfer, secretary pro tem.

ROCKWOOD I. O. O. F. No. 213—Meets in Macabee hall every Thursday evening. N. G., M. J. Allhouse; Sec'y, W. A. Koener.

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