

SENDING HELP TO THE NEEDY

A Carload of Potatoes to be Sent to the Flood Sufferers of the Middle West

The people of Gresham and vicinity are in line with many other communities throughout the country in furnishing assistance to the needy sufferers of the middle west. Our greatest staple is potatoes and there are thousands of sacks awaiting a market, so it has been determined to send at least one carload as soon as they can be delivered at the O. W. P. Co., where the P. R. L. & P. Co., will have a car awaiting them tomorrow morning.

The matter was taken up yesterday afternoon by a few and the subject was considered by others at the library gathering last night. By 9 o'clock this morning at least 250 sacks of potatoes had been pledged. Enough more to fill the car will be easily obtained, and if another load is promised an effort will be made to send them along.

Many persons who are not farmers and have no potatoes are pledging money to pay for the sacks and in some instances for the hauling.

It is intended to place banners on the sides of the car and for this purpose a few donations of cloth and sign painting will be solicited.

The Outlook is unable to get a list of names of those who are contributing, for this issue, but will endeavor to secure them for next week so that full credit may be given.

Anyone having potatoes to spare for this object is requested to send word either to the Outlook, O. W. P. station or Bank of Gresham. There is no official committee to handle this affair, but there will be someone ready to act in any capacity that may be required by calling on either of the above firms. In fact, almost anyone in Gresham will look after details for those living out of town.

The Outlook will furnish shipping tags free of cost to all who wish to label their donations. They will be placed in the hands of the station agent, at the O. W. P. depot.

Volunteers will be needed to help load the car when the potatoes arrive from the various surrounding farms. Anyone willing to help will please notify Mr. Page at the station.

The people of Pleasant Valley are preparing to load a car with potatoes at Linneman Junction. Jas. V. Cogswell, O. W. P. agent at that place reports that a car will be at the siding there tonight and that it can be loaded tomorrow and shipped on Monday. People living in that vicinity are asked to haul to that point. Contributions already pledged indicate that a full carload will be sent from that place.

Reports from Estacada and Oregon City state that those places are also sending out a carload each, loaded with provisions and other articles.

WORK TO COMMENCE ON ROAD TO SANDY

Reports from Sandy state that work is to be resumed on the Multnomah Central within a very short time. Walter Inch, chief engineer was at Sandy this week in the interests of the road and made the statement.

Two brothers have the contract for grading the six miles between Cottrell and Sandy and will begin as soon as a small amount of surveying is finished. It is expected that the grading plant will be moved out from Portland next week if the weather permits.

Right of way has been secured over the county road crossings from the Clackamas county court. All the right of way has been cleared ready for the graders.

Spirella Corsets are boned with flexible Spirella stay which can be had in no other corset. Stays guaranteed not to rust or break. A wearer once, is a wearer always. Made to measure, orders taken, or appointments made at Mrs. A. M. Wilkinson. Phone 515.

Page two—want ads. contain bargains. See the new Dandelion Digger at Sterling & Kidders.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ENTERTAINS TOWNFOLK

Fully two hundred or more people attended the library association last evening in spite of the stormy weather. The program opened with the song, "Oregon" by the members of the Women's Improvement League with Miss Shoemaker presiding at the piano. The soloists were Mrs. M. Law, Mrs. O. J. Brown, Mrs. Grace Hessel, Miss Lois Elise and Miss Mathews.

An instrumental duet by Mrs. O. J. Brown and Miss Eva Campbell was rendered in an excellent manner that brought forth hearty applause, and the solos were each enclosed several times. Two instrumental solos by Miss Gladys Miller held the audience in close attention.

Miss Nelly Fox made a brief address, explaining the medallions over the windows, each of which represents the trade mark of an old-time printer. She then outlined the plan to be followed in decorating the grounds which will make the setting of the new building one of rare beauty when completed.

Mrs. Charles Cleveland, president of the League was in charge, assisted by Mrs. Hattie Westell, Mrs. M. Vogel, Mrs. Hester Lawrence, Mrs. L. P. Manning, Mrs. John Metzger, Mrs. O. A. Eastman, Mrs. Geo. W. Kenney, Mrs. Truscott, Miss Gilbert and others.

Tea and other dainty refreshments were served by the ladies, full inspection of the library was made by all interested, pleasant conversation was a feature of the intermission before final leave takings were made and everyone was glad the opportunity had been taken advantage of to enjoy the hospitality the league women know so well how to dispense.

HIGHEST AVERAGE FOR THEIR WORK

Puolls in the Pleasant Valley school receiving the highest average in their respective grades for the month of March are as follows:

Primary grade, Esther Laughlin, Eula Marvin. First grade, Earle Olson; second grade, Florence Potter; third grade, Violet Kesterson; fourth grade, Violet Giltner. Miss Edna Berke, teacher.

Fifth grade, William Bothwell; sixth grade, Edward Guler; seventh grade, Ellis Forsgren; eighth grade, Ruth Applegate.

For intermediate and advanced grades—Highest in reading, Marjorie Brunger; highest in language, Florence Richey; highest in spelling, Bessie Tannler; highest in arithmetic, Boyd Brasswell; highest in geography, Wm. Bothwell; highest in physiology, Harold Hamilton; highest in history, Maxwell Shellabarger; highest in writing, Leona Potter; highest in civics, Ruth Applegate. Geo. W. Metzger, principal.

All Must Pay Tuition.

Portland's school board has notified County Superintendent Armstrong that high school students living outside of district No. 1 would have to continue paying tuition this year, as the outgoing high school board had failed to take necessary legal action to avail the district of the law passed by popular vote at the last election, which provides that cost of high school training for all students in the county shall be paid out of a special tax.

This same condition has affected the Gresham high school to the extent of about \$1600 and will cause a deficit in the district fund equivalent to about two months' salaries for the teachers. The district will have either to borrow the money or pay interest on the warrants which the local banks will probably take up soon as presented. As a result the school district will have to levy a tax of at about three mills next December to pay off the indebtedness and carry on the school.

This tax, in addition to all other taxes, which give promise of being usually high next year, is going to make us all sit up and say something we can't think of.

Troutdale Commercial Club.

A meeting was held at Troutdale one evening lately, preliminary to organizing a commercial club. C. S. Wilson was chosen temporary president and Fred Harlow temporary secretary. Another meeting will be held to complete the organization.

LOW PRICE FOR POTATOES DUE TO THE JAPANESE

Has the Yellow Peril Come in the Disguise of Menace To Our Farming Industries, with a Grip on Agriculture?

Down in Portland the other day a front street commission man was overheard to say the present no price at all for potatoes was more directly due to the Japanese than any other one cause.

Was he right? Has the yellow peril got a strangle hold on one of our greatest industries, and if so will he reach out for a grip on some of the others?

Perhaps the commission man was half right, but of course he didn't mean to say that the crops of Eastern Multnomah had been made comparatively worthless by Japanese competition here. What he intended to convey in his remark was the fact that down in California, where a Japanese "potato king" got a corner on the crops along the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers two years ago, the conditions are now such that a great over-supply under Japanese culture has left Oregon without a market.

Come to think about it the Portland commission man was pretty nearly right. California has been the greatest market for Oregon potatoes that ever happened, but the abnormal yield down there last year has shut the Oregon grower out.

Japanese gardeners have almost taken possession of Northern California farm lands through the medium of long term leases. As leasers for the owners of the land they learned how to produce the crops that sold for the most money and there began a system of leasing the farms and controlling the markets.

The Japs are organized—something the white farmer never can do—and they are able to get money to finance their schemes. One great Japanese Rockefeller, Morgan and Carnegie, rolled into a single personality, has the whole colony in California under his direction and the little brown man became so arrogant that they refused finally to work for the American farmer for any wages. They demanded the farms for themselves but were willing to pay good prices for them on long time leases. So it came about that they are now raising the big crops of vegetables, potatoes especially, and are setting about to get control of the vineyards and orchards. Even last year it was found impossible to hire them to take care of the grapes and thousands of

tons were never gathered because of the scarcity of help.

The "Potato King" had everything his own way and it was reported that he had a million sacks of potatoes, holding them for the best prices but ready at any time to flood the market on short notice so as to keep out competition. The result is now seen.

Potato growing in northern California is much easier than it is here. The season comes several months earlier and lasts longer, so that with intensified farming two crops may be grown in a single season. Then too, they may be left in the ground without danger of freezing or may be stacked out of doors ready for shipment at any time. With such conditions and their market, so much nearer at hand, added to their great industry, there need be no wonder that the yellow peril has engulfed the potato industry of this state and the others that have so long found San Francisco a ready market for their surplus.

The front street commission merchant was more than half right and the same condition may affect the white man right here at home if the Japanese are able to get a better grip on things. Numerous farms in this section have been leased to the Japanese for truck growing. Some of the leases are for several years—from three to eight—and the competition in berries last year resulted in putting the prices down to the lowest figure known in several years. It was nice for the city dweller, but the farmer has of look for himself, and those who were unable to lease their lands for a good sum in ready cash were the ones to suffer the most. Some gave up the struggle, rented their farms and moved away. Others are holding on and going more extensively into the dairy business, but the surrender to the Japanese is going to be the cause of weakening the markets, with a growing tendency to a further monopoly by the Japs of other industries.

The Japanese influx is going to depreciate land values for farming purposes. Only an increased growth in the population throughout this section, making this a desirable location for homeseekers who will not attempt farming for a living, can keep values up, and it is fortunate that the city of Portland is spreading eastward. The Japanese do not assimilate with the whites and their presence here is of no other value than the money they are willing to pay for big farms.

ANOTHER TIME CARD IN CONTEMPLATION

It is reported that the P. R. L. & P. is arranging a new time card for the Mount Hood division. The schedule now in effect compels a person living between Rockwood and Montavilla to go around by way of Portland to get to Gresham, or be subject to a long wait at Ruby Junction, with the alternative of walking or driving.

It is to remedy this defect and to further facilitate the means of travel between Troutdale and Gresham that the officials of the road are working overtime. It is thought that a readjustment, so as to have the Mt. Hood and Troutdale trains meet together at Ruby, will be announced soon.

Montavilla Bank to Open.

Another financial institution will be added to Portland's list of banks early next month by the opening of the Montavilla State Bank at East Eighty-first and East Stark streets, in Montavilla. The bank was incorporated last week with a capitalization of \$50,000.

The incorporators are Lee Arnett, A. C. Ruby and H. L. Smith. Mr. Arnett is a capitalist who arrived recently in Portland from Nebraska. Mr. Ruby is an extensive breeder of horses and has large holdings in Multnomah county. Mr. Smith was formerly connected with the Union Abstract company.

Extra good buy on Field Fence at Sterling & Kidders.

THOUSANDS ARE DEAD, MILLIONS ARE LOST

Frightful destruction of property and great loss of life is reported from the stricken districts in Ohio and Indiana. The loss in property will run into a hundred million dollars or more while the deaths are estimated in the thousands with no available figures to give the exact number.

The disastrous tornado which swept Omaha and other places in four states was entirely overshadowed by the floods and fires that destroyed Dayton, Ohio, and Peru, Indiana. Other small towns were equally unfortunate, the list being so imperfect yet that they cannot be named. Latest reports indicate that the worst has been passed but the sufferings and needs of the people are yet very great and relief is being rushed toward them from all parts of the United States.

Every transportation company has offered to convey provisions and clothing free of charge; the telegraph companies and banks are sending money free and everything is being done to alleviate the distress of the unfortunate people whose horrible experiences for the past four days has made them the objects of the deepest sympathy.

"Here is a dead man," was the comment made by a parcel post clerk at Denver the other day as he held up to the view of his fellow clerks a package nine inches square and weighing seven pounds. The package contained the ashes of Edward E. Knotts, of California, who died here a few days ago. It was addressed to a widow, Mrs. Ada Knotts, San Francisco. It cost 51 cents postage and bore a 10-cent insurance stamp.—Denver Dispatch.

INJURED MERCHANT WINS HIS LAWSUIT

A verdict for the plaintiff was found by a jury in Circuit Judge in the damage suit of J. G. Hunter Kavaugh's court on Wednesday against the Portland Railway, Light & Power company. Hunter asked judgment for \$2500. He was driving across the tracks of the Mount Hood railway at Russellville, when his wagon was struck by a train. One of the horses was killed and Hunter suffered three broken ribs and other injuries. A building right at the crossing obscured the view of approaching trains. The plaintiff contended that the proper signals, bell ringing and whistle blowing were not given by the train crew. This was denied by the company. The Outlook had mention of the disaster at the time it happened. The wagon is there yet badly demolished.

Birthday Surprise.

Mrs. Rosa Metzger entertained for her daughter Miss Isabel, with a surprise party last Tuesday evening at her home on South Main street, at the occasion being the young lady's seventeenth birthday. The evening was delightfully spent with music and games, and a dainty lunch was served at a late hour. Miss Isabel received many beautiful presents. Those present were the Misses Lois Elise, Catherine Honey, Gladys Michel, Bessie Howitt, Willa Metzger, Helen Hoss, Evelyn Metzger, Christine Burkholder, Elsie Metzger, Pearl Flemming, Mabel Shipley, Mabel Burch, Maude Burch, Laura Shipley, Alice Roberts, Bonny Metzger, Nellie Faris, Emily Anderson, Nellie Merrill, Gertrude Eastman, Laura Davis, Messrs. Floyd Metzger, Frank Hamline, Frank Rogers, Wallace Wilkinson, Fred Wagner, LeVerne Whalen, Quinn Metzger, Glenwood Miller, Russel Pugh, Fredrich Honey, Rolland Quisenberry and Will Raney.

Barn Windows Broken.

A. C. Ruby is having a large piece of land cleared near his two big barns on the Base Line, which requires some heavy blasting to dislodge the big stumps. Several heavy charges have been set off with the result that all the windows in both barns were blown out. Other windows in the neighborhood were also broken.

The Lady Maccabees of Rockwood will give an entertainment and dance Saturday evening, March 29. Entertainment free. Dance and luncheon 50c.

GRESHAM V. F. D. HOLD SESSION

Firemen Endeavoring to Raise Funds for Gymnasium and Running Track

At the special meeting of the Gresham Volunteer Fire department, Tuesday evening, the subject of erecting a gymnasium with swimming tank and running track was thoroughly discussed. The fire department was offered a piece of ground on excellent terms. It was thought that three or four thousand dollars would finance the project. A large portion of the money could be raised by subscription. Ernest Thompson, A. E. Lindsey and Lemmie Shattuck were appointed a committee to talk the matter over with business men and other residents of the city who would be interested in a gymnasium and learn if conditions are favorable for the erection of one. They were also to interview the mill-owners near Gresham in regard to the donation of lumber.

The matter of holding a tournament of volunteer fire companies in the near future was brought up and C. R. Wheeler, E. T. Jones and Harold Kern were appointed a committee to call on the different towns near Gresham which have volunteer fire departments and learn if they would favor a tournament. If these fire companies are in favor of a tournament, letters will be sent to a large number of the volunteer fire departments of the state requesting that they send delegates to a meeting to make arrangements for a tournament. As there is no state organization of volunteer fire departments it was thought the outcome of the tournaments might be a state organization.

A committee will wait on the council asking that enough lumber be purchased to call the firemen's room in the city hall. The firemen were all willing to do the work. The meeting Tuesday night was the first one to be held in the room upstairs. Two new members were elected, one on Chemical Company No. 1 and one on Hose Company No. 2.

The second grand ball of the Gresham Volunteer Fire department will be Saturday evening, March 29. The attendance of every dancer will be greatly appreciated by the firemen.

The next regular meeting of the fire department will be Wednesday night, April 2. Every fireman should come and help make it a rousing meeting.

Improvements at Ruby.

Considerable land is being cleared at Ruby Junction by the railroad company, so as to be in readiness for improvements to be made there in accordance with the company's plans when the Mount Hood road is fully electrified. It is predicted that Ruby Junction will be one of the most important stations on the line.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED BY WOMEN FRIENDS

A number of lady friends of Mrs. A. W. Cook met at her home Tuesday afternoon to celebrate her 39th birthday. She was made very happy with many kind remembrances in glassware, china and other useful articles. A nice variety of cakes, candies and punch were served as refreshments. Miss May Shoemaker presided at the piano and made the house ring with the sweet strains of music.

Those present were Mesdames Shoemaker, Vaughn, Peterson, Davidson, Wostell, Atterberry, Gibbs, Thoren, Mognusen, Bates, Todd, Wiseman, Burch, Truscott, Miss May Shoemaker and Ruth Truscott.

Dates have been fixed for Astoria's annual regatta for July 3, 4, 5. The Astoria Business Men's association has the water fete in charge and the coming water fete will be the 18th annual event of this kind. Both water and land sports will be featured.

Fair Trip Easily Financed.

If you have the slightest intention of going to San Francisco in 115, you can finance the trip by commencing today to make small monthly payments at your local bank. Write to or see L. H. Stone, at Portland headquarters, San Francisco Tour Co., in Multnomah Hotel.