

GROUND HOG NEVER FAILS

"As far as the sun shines in on candlemas day, So far will the snow blow in before May."

Just imagine what we are coming to. Nearly three months of solid snow, for didn't the sun shine in nearly all day yesterday? And the groundhog sign never fails.

Those who were out of bed bright and early yesterday morning—that is before sunrise—are authority for several conflicting statements. One voracious individual avers that he saw a whole flock of groundhogs just before eight o'clock and that everyone of them was blinking around in extreme enjoyment after their long hibernation; but when the sun came out about an hour later and shone in full splendor they all scampered back to their holes.

Not another one was seen all day, for the sun shone as it never before shone on groundhog day, and the little porkers burrowed deeper than ever and pulled their holes in after them.

Another individual who spent Saturday evening in Troutdale said that he saw groundhogs on Sunday and all day yesterday. It was suggested that he might be mistaken, as there was one man who saw a snake and another who heard frogs croak.

Yesterday was one of the days we read about in the southern California boom stories. Although a trifle cold, which was considered as a precursor of the long, weary wintry months yet to come before May, the day was ideal. The sun shone, the birds sang and the frogs did croak. But up the price of stovewood and hay went by a few notches and the hens are preparing for another strike.

The groundhog is a true prophet and those who doubt him will be convinced before spring comes.

It is suggested that we keep our summer clothing in camphor for awhile longer; forget our straw hats and not get in too big a hurry to shed our rubbers or pawn our winter overcoats.

Remember the groundhog's warning.

METHODIST SERVICES RESUMED AT FAIRVIEW

Rev. M. B. Parounagian, Sunday school missionary of the Oregon conference, M. E. church, held services last Sunday at Fairview and Rockwood. In the morning at Fairview seven persons were received into membership and following an earnest sermon the communion service was held. In the evening two others were received into the church.

The church has been without a regular pastor for some weeks and a good attendance indicated the appreciation of the people at having the pastorate resumed. It was announced that Rev. C. M. Brown had been appointed to supply the Fairview circuit and would become a resident pastor in a few days. The circuit includes Fairview, Rockwood, Troutdale and Bridal Veil, at each of which places there is a church. It is stated that an effort will be made to resume regular meeting in each of these churches.

Rev. Mr. Parounagian preached at Rockwood in the afternoon. He was the guest during Saturday and Sunday at the home of D. S. Dunbar.

TESTS BEING MADE ON BROWN'S MINES

John Brown returned on Saturday from his mines near Glendale and reports that an eastern syndicate is preparing to make a thorough examination of all the claims there with a view to taking them all over and, if found profitable, in establishing the largest mining camp in southern Oregon. The company has taken an option for six months on the property, but expects to have all tests made before half that time.

If found profitable, the plan will be to work all the dirt as well as the rock, as there is free gold in the dirt, and an average of less than five dollars to the ton will justify working everything. While the dirt might not yield that much the quartz is vastly richer, and a low average will be a paying proposition.

Tests and assays will begin on the grounds within a few days.

Buy your Lowden cow stanchions at Sterling & Kidder's.

Dancing at Gresham. Saturday night, February 7. Dancing 8:30 to 11:55. Good management; four-piece orchestra, union music. Everybody welcome. Gentlemen, 75 cents. Ladies free. —

PROHIBITION WINS ON EVERY COUNT

A telephone message, today about two o'clock from E. A. Baker, attorney for the anti-saloon League, conveyed the information that the supreme court had handed down an opinion, favoring the drys in every particular.

It is a complete victory for the cause of temperance in every town where a local option vote was taken, and vindicates the decisions of all the circuit judges but one who ruled on the question in the state courts.

LAFFERTY APPOINTS GERMAN BOY CADET

Paul Huschke, lately a penniless orphan boy of Portland, who was born in Germany, in Saal-field, April 20, 1895, is now a midshipman in the United States Naval academy at Annapolis, Maryland, as a result of the policy pursued by Congressman Lafferty of giving every boy an equal chance. Last June Lafferty advertised in the Portland papers that as congressman he had an appointment to make at Annapolis, and would appoint the boy making the best grade at an open competitive examination. Lafferty had never heard of Huschke. But Huschke passed the highest examination and was promptly appointed. He then furnished Congressman Lafferty with a statement as to his antecedents, which shows that Huschke was born 18 years ago in Germany, that his mother died five years later, in 1900, when young Huschke's father brought his orphan son to America, locating in Deer Park, Washington. Three years ago young Huschke came to Portland, attended Lincoln High school, and worked in the home of George W. Stapleton for his board and clothes. He also had charge of a newspaper route to make spending money, getting up at 2:30 in the morning to deliver his papers. Congressman Lafferty predicts that Huschke will some day be admiral of the navy.

PROGRAM AND ADDRESS NEXT FRIDAY NIGHT

Prof. Thomas R. Gentle, of the Monmouth Normal school, formerly of Plattville (Wis.) Normal, will address the Patron-Teachers' association next Friday night, February 6. He will speak to the students of the high school on Friday afternoon.

At the Patron-Teachers' meeting Friday evening the musical program will be given by pupils of Miss Anderson's and Miss Hughes' rooms. The program will be under direction of Mrs. Covert, musical director of the school. The high school chorus and orchestra will also take part.

Professor Gentle is an entertaining speaker and will have a message for young and old. A general invitation is extended to all teachers, parents and to citizens generally to aid the cause of better schools by being present this coming Friday night at the schoolhouse assembly hall.

NEW LIBRARY OFFICERS CHOSEN

The board of directors of the Gresham Library association met in the library last night for the election of officers, the full board and the secretary being present. All the officers were elected to succeed themselves. They are president, Mrs. Minnie Clannahan; vice president, Mrs. L. P. Manning; secretary, Mrs. W. F. Honey; treasurer, Mrs. J. H. Metzger; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Chas. Cleveland. Theodore Brugger and Mrs. Maxwell Schneider constitute the finance committee. An active campaign is being waged for new members. The question was discussed of obtaining a piano for the library to be used in connection with entertainments, and also the need of more reference books.

Water Comes High.

Fine flock of hens you have, Pat," said a party of tourists who stopped to "water" the radiator at an Irish farm house.

"Yis gentlemen, the devil take me if there be any better fowls in all Ireland."

"What do you ask for birds like that?"

"How's a shillin' a head strike you?"

"Why, Pat," expostulated one, "that's too cheap! If you had those barn yard eagles in America you could sell 'em for a dollar apiece."

"Sure thing," said Pat. "An' if I had this bucket of water in hell I'd git a guinea a drop ter the likes of it."

Success is not much a matter of climate as of hustle—the man behind the gun and an order that's right behind the man.

The Crying Need of the Hour—Less talk, more work.

NO PETITION IS REQUIRED FOR SURFACE ROADS

Hard Surfacing in City to be Done Under Old Bonding Act. Remonstrance of Fifty-one Per Cent to Kill Improvement.

As there seems to be considerable difference of opinion as to the requirements for a hard surface roadway on any county road the following extracts from the legislative act authorizing the same are herewith given:

Section 1, says: "The county court of any county in this state having a population in excess of 150,000 inhabitants shall have power, as hereinafter provided, to lay out and designate within their respective county, what shall be known as assessment road districts, and to repair and improve the county roads within said district by grading, draining and hard surfacing with any material selected and approved by the county court."

The above section provides that a district may be selected anywhere for such improvement, nor does it require a petition.

Section 3 provides that "the county court is authorized to levy and collect an assessment upon all lots and parcels of land within said assessment road district, specially benefited by such improvement, to defray the whole or any portion of the cost and expense."

Section 6 says: "The order of the county court declaring its purpose in making such improvement shall be published for five consecutive publications, once each week in a newspaper of general circulation, published within the county where said road assessment district shall be located."

Then follows the following information which is the most important of all. It refers to the manner in which the property owners may prevent the proposed improvement if so inclined. Section 8 reads as follows:

"Within 20 days from the date of the first publication of the notice required to be published in the preceding section, the owners of 51 per cent or more in area of the property within such road assessment district, may make and file with the county clerk a written objection to or remonstrance against said proposed repair or improvement, and said objection or remonstrance shall be a bar to any further proceedings in the making of such repair or improvement for a period of one year, unless the owners of 51 per cent or more of the property affected as aforesaid, shall subsequently petition therefor; provided, that if any such objection, remonstrance or petition shall be signed by the agent or attorney of any property owner, there shall be filed with the county clerk, within the time provided for such remonstrance or petition, written authority for such agent or attorney to sign any such remonstrance or petition; otherwise the signature shall be disregarded."

The law then provides how the work may be done and how the assessments shall be made for a distance of one-half mile upon all property within the district.

The payments may be made to run for a period of ten years at 6 per cent interest.

The principal matters of importance are these:

No petition is necessary, nor is one needed to give the county court authority to begin a hard surface improvement.

Only twenty days are allowed in which to fill a remonstrance, and 51 per cent of the area is required to kill a proposed improvement.

An effort has been made to determine the attitude of those property owners who would be affected by the

LOCAL CONTRACTOR, HOME MADE BRICK

A Hammar and Arthur Fieldhouse have secured the contract for doing the brick work on the new auto factory. The brick is bought of the Columbia Bricks Works and so far as possible local help and material are being used. These men are experts in concrete and masonry work and are kept busy in their line.

Dressmaking, plain sewing, fancy gowns a specialty. Reasonable prices. Rooms in connection with the Kessler barber shop. Commercial club building. Bethina Kessler.

hard surfacing of the county roads. So far the opinions seem to favor the idea of having the roads improved, but there is a terrifying note of excessive charges in the thought that hard surfaced roads is going to cost a pile of money and that the farmer, who will be the least benefited, will have to pay for the luxury.

It is the forecast by some that the present law will be repealed before the improvements can be finished. In that case a very few would have been "stuck" with their property under mortgage. But it is thought that another law will be passed which will equalize the cost for all roads upon all the taxpayers. Such a law would seem more just, but those who have to pay for the work under the present laws could get no relief and yet have to pay again for a county-wide system of improvements.

One wealthy man of Portland asserted that he used the Base Line twenty-five times as much as any land owner upon it, and he deplored the fact that the owners would have to pay all the cost while he would pay nothing. His proposition is to change the law so that a direct tax on all property in the county would bear its just proportion. He said that the proper procedure would be to begin surfacing all the roads leading out of Portland and go as far each year as the funds would permit. In a few years the work would be completed and heavy road taxes would cease, while all the property of the county would pay the cost and the farmer would not be compelled to build roads for the benefit of wealthy auto owners from the city.

Preliminary work has been started on the Base Line by surveys which will extend from somewhere down beyond Mount Tabor to a connection with the Columbia River Highway beyond Chanticleer. Stakes have been set along the north side of the road every 50 feet, showing the proposed curb line. The county commissioners and Roadmaster Yeon are preparing for the commencement of the work and there the matter stands for the present.

It is freely predicted that no petitions will go in for any connected improvements, and that the county court will have to begin work on its own initiative. Several have expressed a fear that no remonstrance will be large enough to prevent the work, once it is actually begun.

Since the last issue of the Outlook the mayor and street committee have decided to proceed further than was originally decided, and petitions for the improvement of Powell street and south Roberts avenue have been prepared by City Attorney King looking to the improvement of Powell street entirely across the city, but only full width through the settled part of the city.

On the avenue the improvement will go to the city limits. The matter of the gulches was ignored as they will have to be covered with plank anyway and to let them stand in the way would probably defeat the improvement.

The hard surface act, quoted above, does not apply to hard surface improvements in the city but to county roads outside that are to be improved. The work on city streets is to be done under the 1910 bonding act, which is the same that Portland streets are being improved under, with the exception that the county will give \$6000 per mile toward the improvement here because the city streets are county roads.

When improved they are to become city streets and the county will relinquish all jurisdiction over them.

MARTIN WINCH WILL HAVE AUCTION SALE

An auction sale of fourteen head high grade Jersey and Holstein cattle is announced for Saturday, February 14, at the Transfer Livery barn in Gresham by Martin Winch.

These animals are part of the herd at the Winch farm and are all thoroughbreds. Some of the cows are fresh and all are reputed to be first-class. See notice of auction in advertising columns.

Eyes tested and glasses fitted. Dr. Geo. Inglis.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

A proposition to initiate proportional representation for the next general election has already assumed large proportions. It is being fathered by various organizations, who have and may consider it favorably, among whom are The Farmer's Equity, The Grange, the Farmer's Union, the A. F. of L., the Oregon Civic League, the Women's Political Science League and many prominent men and women among whom are some of the primary convention nominees for governor.

It is stated that this shall become a state wide campaign for the actual representation of the people of Oregon. No party or clique has any private claim on it. Being fathered, as it is by these various organizations, that may espouse it, it will be mothered by the people distributed throughout the state of Oregon, with management headquarters in Portland.

Already have the gubernatorial nominees been appealed to for their endorsement and support and replies are coming in from them. Their attitude toward the measure will become public property and will be published from time to time as the case may demand. Newspapers favoring the measure will be appealed to, to discuss the question in their editorials and by opening their columns to correspondence, permit the opinion of others both for and against the measure.

The bill itself has not yet assumed perfection in construction and may be modified to meet the wisest counsel favorable to the greatest possible fairness in giving actual equal representation in the legislative assembly to the people of Oregon.

Miss Rankin has assumed charge of this matter until a more formidable organization or league may come into being made up of those who by their interest may arrange a more effective organization. Money has already been pledged for printing the petitions and they will issue as soon as the details mentioned are consummated.

Any one, who upon reading this letter, find themselves interested, may upon application have a copy of the bill in its present stage of evolution, mailed to them by addressing: Nettie Mae Rankin, teacher and lawyer, 1030 East Main street, Portland, Oregon.

Death of Noah Cornutt, Sr.

Word was received last Saturday of the death of Noah Cornutt, familiarly known as "Uncle Noah Cornutt," at his home at Riddle, Oregon, on Jan. 31. He had been failing for over a year and last summer had an attack of pneumonia. After partially recovering he was accidentally thrown under a buggy, the wheels of which passed over his body breaking several ribs. From this he never fully recovered, and having severe stomach trouble he gradually grew weaker until he passed away.

Mr. Cornutt was born in the state of Virginia on February 5, 1836, and with his parents moved to Missouri when a small boy. In 1853 he came to Oregon by ox team and located on land which is now that part of Gresham lying north of Powell street and west of Main street, taking in part of what is now Wallula Heights. In 1860 he moved to Douglass county, Oregon, where he resided until his death.

Mr. Cornutt married Miss Mary Judd who died about five years ago. To this union were born nine children, six sons and three daughters, all of whom survive. They are Frelan, Alfred and Noah Cornutt, Jr., of Riddle, Oregon, Walter Cornutt of Canyonville, Oregon, Clarence Cornutt of Halsey, Oregon, Mrs. Lizzie Hildebrand, Mrs. Olive Green, Miss Evelyn Cornutt and Wyatt Cornutt of Portland. Three brothers also survive him. They are John, Stephen and Archie Cornutt, of Riddle.

The deceased was a life-long member of the Methodist church. He was well and favorably known in Oregon and California.

A Winter Cough.

A stubborn, annoying, depressing cough hangs on, racks the body, weakens the lungs, and often leads to serious results. The first dose of Dr. King's New Discovery gives relief. Henry D. Sanders, of Cavendish, Vt., was threatened with consumption, after having pneumonia. He writes: "Dr. King's New Discovery ought to be in every family; it is certainly the best of all medicines for coughs, colds or lung troubles." Good for children's coughs. Money back if not satisfied. Price 50c, and \$1.00. At all Druggists. H. E. Bucklen & Co., Philadelphia or St. Louis.

STATE SENATE TO BE VICTIM

PORTLAND, Jan. 31.—(Special)—A mass meeting has been called for the 10th of February in the auditorium of the East Side branch library to discuss the advisability of abolishing the state senate, and making the state government to consist of the house of representatives and the executive department. The call for this meeting says that the East Side Business Men's club, under whose auspices the meeting will be held, is making a study of the subject. State Master C. E. Spence favors this innovation. M. M. Miller, collector of customs at Portland, who spent 20 years in the senate, declares that the state senate is a fraud and humbug. There are some grounds for this agitation, but it is my judgment that the agitators are cutting off the dog's tail by inches in order to save him pain. Why not sweep the whole bunch out and put one man, a manager, in charge of state affairs? If we are going into the consolidation business, why not complete the job and get rid of the manager at Salem? After all the question arises—where are we drifting? Toward concentration of power and consolidation? Would it not be well to stop and take stock of affairs before plunging too deeply into this centralization? What about our representative form of government? Will it disappear in this mad rush toward centralization?

I listened to some remarkable talks Friday night at a banquet given by the Parent-Teachers' association of Woodstock, which indicated that a complete revolution is taking place in methods of public education. City Superintendent L. R. Alderman declared for that sort of education which will enable a boy or girl to make the most of his life. L. R. Sabin, chairman of the board of education, said that it had come to be recognized that the schoolhouse belongs to the people to be used day and night for all sorts of functions. Well, the "world do move." I can remember being on a committee who applied for the use of a schoolhouse for a political meeting, and we were turned down. But all this has changed. The schoolhouses in Portland are open to all kinds of meetings and functions. Mr. Sabin pointed out that it will cost Portland \$500,000 a year to provide new schoolhouses to take care of the increases. Fireproof buildings cost at the rate of \$8000 a room, and about 60 rooms a year must be built. Then the salary of the teachers of the district run up to \$100,000 a month. And so all the talks were indicative of progress. Miss Lillian Tingle, of the Science department, told of the wonderful progress that is being made in turning out economical housekeepers among the girls.

There is going to be some gardening done in Portland this year by the school children. So far 35 of the schools have started preparations, to make gardens, and several more are preparing to secure land and plant gardens. M. O. Evans, superintendent, said in his address at the banquet Friday night that the school gardens have come to be a help in reducing the high cost of living, and cited families who were supplied with fresh vegetables for most of the season from the gardens the children raised. Mr. Evans announced that an exhibit would be made at the state fair this year of juvenile products.

A suit came to trial Monday, February 2, to settle title of \$1,000,000 worth of property located in Albina on the East side. J. C. Proebstel went back to Ireland two years ago and found some alleged heirs to the estate of Jane Chapman Proebstel and bought their claims for a song. Returning to Portland he placed these quit claims on record against all the property involved. One hundred and thirty-five of the owners of lots in the tract started suit to get rid of these quit claim deeds. The trial will last several days.

L. H. WELLS.

P. A. Combs and Frank McCrillis, president and sales manager of the Beaver State Motor company, were Gresham visitors today.

Milk, Cream and Butter Milk. Delivered anywhere in Gresham by the green milk wagon from Rockwood Dairy. Milk bottled and prepared under sanitary conditions. Investigation invited. Phone 231.