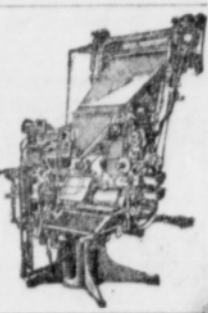


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THE UNION HIGH SCHOOL.

Principal Goodwin is optimistic in his estimate of the enrollment of the Gresham Union High School. He confidently expects to see 250 students there on opening day.

At any rate the facilities of the school have been increased in anticipation of the expected enrollment, and there need be no astonishment if the full 250 students materialize, for to those who are in any measure acquainted with the splendid work which the school did last year, the expected increase will not be surprising.

To others, too, the school may well speak for itself. The secret is an open one and consists of two words: "Worth" and "Appreciation." Eastern Multnomah is deriving tremendous benefit from the work of this high school, for a very large percentage of its graduates have already brought their excellent training to bear along various lines of earnest endeavor.

Our Union high school deserves well of Eastern Multnomah and of Gresham. It is doing a work which could scarcely be done through any other medium, and is doing it thoroughly and well. The growth of the school is a matter of course, considering the intellectual equipment back of it and the increasing appreciation of its accomplishments.

PREPAREDNESS.

The recent mobilization of the national guard for Mexican service ought to open the eyes of the country to the criminal folly of the enactment of congress which puts the chief reliance of the nation, in case of attack, upon the national guard.

It ought to teach the members of the national legislature how fatuous is the faith that "a million men will spring to arms between sunrise and sunset." It ought to sober the administration with the thought that they are playing recklessly with national safety and security by seeking to satisfy the demand for military preparation with the false and unreliable assurance to be found in the new army measures.

Under that law every able bodied citizen between the age of 18 and 45 is a member of the unorganized militia. This is express admission of the obligatory character of military service.

Why not give the obligations of service real value in a protective and military sense by training every young man so that he may discharge this fundamental, vital obligation of his citizenship with the least of risk to himself and the greatest of security to the peace and welfare of the country?

A TEMPERANCE LESSON.

The fighting quality of the Russian soldier in the present war has astounded the world. It is no doubt as great a surprise to Russian allies as it has been to Russia's enemies. It is no secret that Germany's plans confidently looked to the early elimination of the Russian as a factor, leaving Germany's superbly trained army to meet the enemy on the western front.

But Russia has been a continual surprise. The speed of her mobilization in the beginning of the war threw German plans into dislocation. It was partially the Russian threat in the east which compelled Germany to assume the defensive behind the Marne in the west. Then Germany leaving a sufficient force in France and Belgium to hold the allied forces there in check, assembled her strength for the great drive which hurled Russia back to her last line of trenches, but even in defeat and retreat, the Russian morale was preserved and Germany failed in her objective, the destruction of the Russian army as an effective force.

This summer has seen Russia return to the fray immensely strengthened and splendidly equipped. Her drive against the Austrian front has been uniformly successful and she has been able to hold von Hindenberg in the north from seriously threatening the Russian position. Now, with the passes of the Carpathians in Russian hands and von Bothmen's Austrian divisions in rapid retreat toward Lemberg, Germany is again compelled to divide her attention between east and west.

What is the underlying cause of the marvelous change which has come about in the land of the Slav? What makes the difference between the indifferent, ineffective Russian soldiers whom Japan easily defeated ten years ago and the same soldiers today? It is the difference between Russia drunk and Russia sober.

It was vodka that brought defeat in Manchuria. It is the lack of vodka that spells success today. The world has never had such a lesson in temperance since man learned to befuddle his brain with stimulants. All the tracts and sermons on temperance uttered since temperance has been recognized as a virtue are nothing beside this. The war has taught many lessons, but it has taught none of more profound significance than may be found in the spectacle of a sober Russia meeting the ablest foe to be found in the civilized world and steadily driving him before it.

A VICIOUS MEASURE.

Just about the time the wave of general prosperity began to extend to the Pacific Coast the People's Land and Loan measure was launched.

It provides on the Single Tax Theory for the confiscation of all land rents for public revenues and proposes to loan a large part of the loot without interest.

It is gotten up with great ability and many cunning devices to catch the simple-minded and the socially-inclined and lift them up by the bootstraps.

There have always been people in the world who believed they could lift themselves by their own bootstraps but these social uplift laws propose to do it for them. In the meantime, while the revolutionary experiment is pending, everybody waits to see what will be done by the voters next November before backing his judgment on Oregon.

Until the system by which any little handful of theorists can force in the ballot any visionary schemes has been abolished there will be no normal and rational development in Oregon.

The Single Tax has been voted down three or four times but gentlemen with a mania for experimenting continue to tie up the future of the state with Henry Georgeism.

The People's Land and Loan bill will be voted down, but the "Oregon System" is expensive and too much open to abuse.—Industrial News Bureau.

The county fair aids in the union of thought and spirit of city and country people. The city man opens his eyes at the possibilities before him. He did not know before that there was anything so well worth while in Multnomah county. The farmer has awakened to the ideal scheme of co-operation.—Oregonian.

There were no eight-hour-day leaders when we were young, but there were some pretty hefty bosses who believed that it required about twelve hours work and a good night's sleep to stave off that old nightmare of "Satan finds some mischief still, for idle hands to do."

The inquisitive subscriber at Rockwood wants us to give the definition of "hogging off corn." Well, it means turning the porkers into the field and letting them help themselves, and not what you see in the restaurants during the roasting ear season.

If we understand the system of the single tax reformer, it is to give the voter a robe of white and a phony halo and then turn his face toward the future and pick his pockets in the name of good government.

Another annoying feature about that abandoned or postponed railroad strike is that some shrewd dealers in the necessities of life are prevented from making a little roll of velvet.

Will some of those we know give their usual attention to the county fair next week, or will they take the proper interest in the exhibition and really buy a season ticket?

Roumania knows when and where she got in, but she doesn't know when and where she is going to get out.

Congress has agreed to remove all emergency stamp taxes, such as have been annoying the public for nearly two years past. In place of the lost revenue an increased tax on war munitions will be made.

A WHOLESOME TREND.

The tendency to promote the out-of-doors life in the summer months has manifold ways of showing itself. Hereabouts "camping has long been in vogue, ranging in degree from the close to luxurious accommodations of the more elaborate establishments to the plain simplicity of a tent and a shakedown of cedar boughs.

Then in the last few years, the boys' and girls' camps have multiplied and flourished until anywhere and everywhere in the valley or mountain region one may come across parties of young folk, in camp or on the hike, brown as few berries are brown, and as healthy and contented as fresh air, sunshine and plenty of exercise in the open can make them.

Finally, there have been here and there various efforts, on the community basis, so to speak, looking to a popularizing of this sort of recreation among people, whose opportunities hitherto have been limited.

The forest service of the department of agriculture has recently sent out a little circular, calling attention to the assistance the national forests have been in this movement, and to the increasing use of the forests for municipal camp sites and summer schools. It is said by the officials that already far more people use the national forests for playgrounds than use them for other purposes.

Finally, the officials say, the national forests "offer unlimited opportunities for summer school and municipal camps, as well as the best opportunities for recreation to be had anywhere in the country. Ample provision is made for campers and tourists. Hunting and fishing are allowed in season, and there are no restrictive regulations beyond those regarding forest fires." All this is good. It represents progress in the right direction. It makes for health and happiness, and it puts to great use tracts of country which otherwise might be of little direct value to their owners—the people.

Britain has 80,943 Red Cross workers.

AN INVITATION TO WOMEN READERS OF THE Gresham Outlook. You are cordially requested to attend the free Electrical Cooking School Lessons and Lectures given by our expert Mrs. M. E. Hawley, every Tuesday afternoon, 2 to 5, Electric Kitchen, Electric Building. Electric Ranges used exclusively. Light refreshments served.

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