

TWELVE ITEMS PROJECTED BY COUNTY AGENT

The most important item of business at the annual meeting of the Multnomah County Agricultural Council, held last Wednesday in the office of County Agent Hall, was the adoption of the projects and demonstrations along the line of agricultural improvement for the coming year.

Among the great number that were discussed, the following were chosen as those which most vitally affected the welfare of the county, as far as agriculture is concerned: (1) Continuance of the lime demonstration work which has been carried on during the past year; (2) a better seeds campaign, with special emphasis laid on potato seed; (3) keeping of farm accounts, which includes farm management demonstrations under the direction of a government and Oregon Agricultural College expert; (4) the dissemination of information by means of the Monthly Exchange List; (5) a campaign for the control of potato blight; (6) the marketing of farm products, especially whole milk; (7) rodent control—field mice, moles and gophers; (8) drainage work, with an expert from the Oregon Agricultural College assisting; (9) demonstrations on the captionizing of poultry, by a specialist from the poultry department of the Oregon Agricultural College; (10) industrial club work, including formation of boys' cow testing clubs; (11) continuation of fertilizing demonstrations carried on during the past year; (12) organization of farm loan associations.

In the future County Agricultural Agent Hall will devote the greater part of his time to the work as outlined above and will lay special stress on getting demonstrations started in the several communities of the county through the influence of the members of the county agricultural council in their respective organizations.

Mr. H. A. Lewis, of Russellville grange, was re-elected president of the council, and Mr. J. G. Kelly, of Evening Star grange, was retained as vice president. Wallace L. Kaderly, assistant county agent, was elected secretary.

The great problem that is now confronting the dairyman of the county due to the high cost of feed, and a comparatively low price for milk and cream, was the source of much discussion by the council. Means by which the situation could be relieved were considered and finally a committee composed of J. G. Kelly, chairman, B. C. Altman, and F. H. Crane, was appointed to secure costs on production of milk, take up the question of milk distribution in the county, and suggest a plan to improve the existing conditions.

Members of the council reported on the manner in which the people of their organizations had received the work of the county agent in the past year and the reports for the most part indicated that much good had been done by Mr. Hall, and that the work should be continued by all means.

County Agent Hall read extracts from his annual report, showing the fruits of the work of the past year. The demonstrations on the value of lime and fertilizers, and the planting of hill selected rather than the ordinary potato seed showed particularly promising results.

Umbrella Repairs.

Will be in Gresham until January 1 and am prepared to furnish umbrella covers and do expert repairing. Telephone 546. J. J. Ryan. *83

J. T. Wilson

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LETTER FROM GRESHAM GIRL IN FAR CHINA

Friends of Miss Edna Shoemaker, who went from Gresham a year and a half ago to engage in missionary work in China, will be pleased to read the following letter, lately received by her mother, Mrs. Mary S. Shoemaker. The letter is dated at Huchow, China, October 15, 1916.

It has been over two weeks since any letters came from you but I haven't been receiving all my mail lately for some reason or other. The Dispatch comes regular as clock-work however. The past two weeks I have settled down to a regular routine again, which reads something like this—8:00 a. m.—12 m language study; afternoon, some teaching in the school and a little study.

Last Saturday afternoon I walked around the Huchow city wall, a distance of 18 li or 6 miles. Two pupils went with me. The view of the city on the inside and on the other hand the broad expanse of country and mountains was fine.

In several places they were harvesting rice which was stacked up like sheaves of wheat at home. There is considerable wheat raised in China too, but all farm methods are extremely crude. As the country is so densely populated hand labor takes the place of machinery. Wherever machinery is introduced in field or in mill, the laborers simply starve.

If any big industrial change should take place in China it will mean a great thinning out of the population. The introduction of the steamboat has caused a lot of suffering already, although many boats are still run by hand. Huchow has one large silk manufacturing establishment which is fairly modern, but most of the silk is woven in tiny shops on crude looms, and comes out almost perfect. The Chinese are great artisans.

The cotton industry as well as silk industry will probably always flourish better in China than any other country because machinery cannot best take the place of hand labor in either. China only ranks fourth in the world's production of cotton, but is making an effort now to increase it.

The cotton cloth which they manufacture is nearly all thick. It is interesting to see them spread great bolts of it still wet with dye, on the wall outside our compound, blue, cerise, figured and plain. I think China exports a lot more raw cotton than manufactured, because her cotton does not equal the western.

I wish you could see our compound. The grass is green as in spring and kept well mowed by our gatekeeper. Guess I will attempt a crude sketch.

At present we have cosmos, cannas, lilies, dahlias, nasturtiums, zinnias and flowers of which I do not know the names.

A rich man here, who employs several florists, has beautiful gardens. Every once in a while the florist comes with potted flowers to present to us. Just now all three houses are supplied with large pots of maiden hair fern. He has one green house filled with this fern. We can get roses and most everything. In about two weeks the chrysanthemums will be grand. They have the finest ones in China you ever saw. This florist, Miss Jones tells me, will bring poinsettias at Christmas time.

The people here in the compound are grand. Wish I could introduce you all to each other. Mrs. Latimer has three beautiful children and Mrs. Leach one boy.

Some family will be sent next year to take Eubank's place. Just now Miss Jones and myself are glad to have their house to live in.

The Southern Methodists have a much larger work in Huchow than Baptists. Their campus looks much like a college at home, with its large gothic buildings. It is only 15 minutes walk from our campus, so we visit quite a lot back and forth, give dinners, etc. Baptists and Southern Methodists have a Union Men's hospital.

Candy Sale.

The Royal Neighbors of America, auxiliary to Modern Woodmen, will conduct a home-made candy sale on Thursday, Friday and Saturday this week in the building lately vacated by Jas. Elkington on Main street.

Hard Time Dance.

Given by Multnomah grange in the Multnomah grange hall at Orient, Saturday night, December 30, 1916. Music by Beers' orchestra. Good supper, 50c per couple. Tickets \$1.

Hark!

By Bernard Muirine.

Hark! As the angels sing, Hark
List to strange tidings they bring,
For sweeter than thrush or lark
To earth-born a message bring
Of Peace,—Goodwill.

What means their song to you?
It's glorious, clear refrain?
'Twas old, again 'tis new,
"Peace on earth," runs through the strain,
Sweet solace our souls to fill.

Louder than clash of war,
Above the carnage and strife,
Sweetly they sing and proclaim,
For the Babe in the manger is life—
A message of love and peace.

No more shall war's burden fall,
Nor hatred or greed prevail,
For the voices of angels call,
Humanity must not fail
To give its "Bird of Peace" release.

LINDSEY'S SUCCESSOR HAS MADE A SUCCESS

When Bert Lindsey's dry goods store in the Regner building passed into the hands of J. Cannon the people of this section naturally looked for the advent of a progressive business man who would take a leading part in the mercantile and social affairs of the community. Nor were they disappointed, for Mr. Cannon has justified their expectations and has maintained the prestige of the store upon the same lines that made it so successful under the management of its former proprietor.

Mr. Cannon has the only complete stock in Gresham of dry goods, dress goods, shoes for the whole family, and all the other things that go to dress a woman well and comfortably.

His well-filled establishment, occupying the space of two stores at the corner of Main and Second streets, are overflowing with a large stock that is only surpassed in the big department stores of Portland. Some of his specialties are among the leading articles of their class but are not sold for a higher price than in the city.

Mr. Cannon is a frequent advertiser in the Outlook and has a clientele that depends upon his bargain announcements for many articles that may be had here for less than can be bought elsewhere. Good goods, fair dealing and low prices have combined to make the Cannon store the success it is. The Outlook recommends it to a discriminating public as the one place to deal when satisfaction is desired, along with a guarantee that everything will be as represented.

HOW THE NATIONS GREET THE DAY

Merry Christmas! This cheerful greeting rings all over Christendom today. The wide world over, it makes the universal appeal to the heart of humanity and proves that all men are brothers. Teutons and Gaul fronting each other in the trenches on blood stained battlefields will shout it to each other, forgetting for the moment the blood feud that rages between them. The French troops will cry "Un joyeux Noel!" "Froeliche Weihnachten!" will shout back the Germans. Only to the Russians and Turks, among all those fighting Europe's great war, will Christmas mean nothing. Russia celebrates her Christmas on January 7 because that country follows the old calendar. Turkey has no Christmas in her list of holidays. Nowhere in all the earth, as the ball of "Merry Christmas" rings out following the sun in its circle around the war scarred old globe, will the greeting be exchanged with more real meaning than in the United States.—Selected.

SKILL ACQUIRED BY STEADY HABITS

Peter Lenard, the Gresham tailor, is represented in the Christmas Outlook with an advertisement that tells of the business he does in the smallest business house in town. As before, the Outlook recommends him to all its readers for cleaning, repairing and pressing. In the making of new clothing he is not to be excelled by any city tailor and his work shows skill that has been acquired only by a faithful apprenticeship and a steady habit of doing things right.

OVERLAND AGENCY IN NEW GARAGE

C. M. Zimmerman's new garage in the Carlson building on Powell street has but recently been fully described in the Outlook so that any further reference to it is unnecessary here.

For nearly six years Mr. Zimmerman's Overland agency was in the old building east of Roberts avenue, but with the growth of repair work and the increased sales of the famous Overland it was found desirable to move to better and more convenient quarters. The growth of the auto business was the incentive that caused the removal. Mr. Zimmerman will be home this week from attending the gathering of Overland dealers in Toledo, Ohio. His lengthy letter in this issue is a vivid description of the great plant that turns out the Willys-Knight motor cars, and will be read with great interest.

Besides his agency, Mr. Zimmerman conducts a general repair business and does all kinds of automobile repairing. He is a skilled mechanic and has a force of mechanics who are experts in their line. In addition the garage carries every accessory known to the trade and has a fleet of autos for hire or service at all hours.

LEGALIZING ILLEGITIMATE CHILD BIRTH

There is a great deal of public and legislative sentiment in regard to the passing of a bill in congress legalizing the birth of illegitimate children. So much in fact that some of the most noted doctors and magazine writers have published numerous lengthy articles urging the advancement of such a move.

Many incidents of the incomprehension of the laws of our country by foreign immigrants causing misery and disgrace, have been brought to public notice in the past year.

These conditions have been brought to public notice so frequently of late that the Red Feather Film company have filmed a photo drama dealing with this subject and going perhaps more into detail than the average magazine article.

A strong pathos melodrama has been woven around one of these particular incidents of illegitimate child birth, making a picture with not only a strong moral lesson but a very interesting story.

"The Morals of Hilda", a five-reel Red Feather production, will be shown at Smith's Theater, Gresham, Wednesday and Thursday, December 29 and 31. Watch for big special Christmas program.—Adv.

HOLIDAY CANDIES ARE BEST PRESENTS

All the best in candies, nuts, fruits and Christmas confections, besides a full stock of excellent cigars, are among the articles that may be found in the stock that R. B. Belt has provided for his many customers for the holidays. Any of them are suitable for Christmas presents. All the soft drinks known are to be had; also short-course lunches such as tamales, sandwiches. Ice cream is a staple there and is from the best factories in Portland. Strict attention and courteous treatment to every customer has built up the best trade in the confectionery line in eastern Multnomah.

GRESHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FINE RECORD

It can be said without boasting that Gresham has one of the best volunteer fire departments in the state, and the credit for this is due to the untiring efforts of Chief Etsel Jones and his corps of assistants.

The department was organized in April, 1910, with three companies, a chemical and two hose companies, of which Bert Metzger was the first chief.

In April, 1912, Mr. Metzger resigned and Etsel Jones became chief. Later a hook and ladder company was formed and the two hose companies were combined. Harry Johnson is secretary of the department and K. A. Miller is treasurer. James Jennings became assistant chief because of resignation of Harold Kern. L. G. Merrill and Claude Stockton are marshals. Ernest Simms is captain of the hose company, with Wm. Robertson and Frank Hamlin as lieutenants. Art Dixon is captain of the chemical company and Alf Hammar of the hook and ladder company. During the past three years the department has responded to 24 calls, four of which were outside of the city.

The department is well organized and holds regular meetings at the fire hall on the first Monday night of each month.

Some time ago a telephone was donated by the local telephone company for use in the fire hall and a klaxon was installed, the invention of Chief Jones, which is sounded automatically from the telephone central. This is to give the first warning, after which the big fire bell is rung indicating the district in which the fire is located.

A year and a half ago a firemen's benefit association was organized in which membership is optional with the firemen. Dues are 25 cents a month. The association now has on hand an adequate fund, accumulated from entertainments, donations, and dues, from which assistance is given to sick and disabled members. The benefit association is controlled by a board of directors of three members. The present board consists of Art Dixon, Alf Hammar and Claude Stockton. From the funds of the association six members have received assistance amounting to a total of about \$50.

The fire apparatus on hand at the present time consists of one small hand drawn chemical, two hose reels, 1500 feet of hose with six hose nozzles, a ladder truck with four ladders, axes, buckets, etc.

Following the big fire of two years ago, in which many of the boys suffered damage to their clothing, they were provided with twenty regulation suits and helmets. The department has made a good showing and the firemen have often been in demand for parades and exhibitions locally and in other cities of the state.

The fire equipment of the town has proven a good investment from the start but is considered inadequate for the growing needs of the larger and rapidly developing locality of which the town is only a part.

OLDEST COUNTY BANK STILL IN THE LEAD

During the past eleven years that the First State Bank has been established in Gresham it has passed from the experimental to the highly successful stage and is now ranked as one of the leading financial institutions of Multnomah county.

What the Outlook said of this bank in its last holiday number still holds good, in that the banking institutions of a state are the reflections of the prosperity of the commonwealth. That statement as applied to Gresham and the surrounding territory has proven to be true in the eleven years of the First State Bank's existence.

The bank's official statements published regularly in the Outlook show that it has passed the quarter million mark, and it has been of great benefit to this section of the county in many ways as its financial center, as well as having the confidence of the banking interests of Portland and elsewhere.

Shooting Match.

At Cottrell store, December 22, for turkeys, ducks and geese. Trap and rifle shooting. Free lunch at noon. O. Manary and F. Wagner. 86

Portland is the leading lumber producing city in the world.

HARD PROBLEM IS DISCUSSED BY EDUCATORS

"The Bible in the Public Schools" was the subject of an interesting discussion at the Methodist church on Sunday evening, which was listened to by a large and representative gathering of Gresham people. The meeting was in charge of the pastor, Rev. A. C. Brackenbury, who introduced the speakers.

Principal Elmer F. Goodwin of the union high school was the first speaker. He made a clear and earnest appeal for the proper use of the Bible in the public schools of the state and expressed his dissatisfaction with the present omission of Bible reading in some form in the daily exercises. He spoke of the three parts of a well rounded education, mental, physical and moral, and said that the first two are being adequately dealt with while the third and most important is being overlooked in the public schools. This leaves large numbers of children and young people in dense ignorance of the principles of christian education. The object of education, he said, is to make good citizens, rather than good scholars. The Bible, being the best code of morals ever written, ought to have a large place in the training for good citizenship. Mr. Goodwin criticized the courses of study which require the study of Homer but exclude Job; the learning of the Justinian laws but omit the reading of the Ten Commandments; the reading concerning Jupiter and other mythological characters, but have no place for learning about Jehovah. Itself a collection of the best literary productions in the world, a knowledge of the Bible was recommended as the greatest help to the study of literature.

Rev. E. A. Leonard spoke briefly in favor of the return to the daily use of the Bible in the public schools. He raised several questions, among them being whether other so-called inspired books might not have as good a right in the schools as the Bible, and whether the use of the Book by unsympathetic teachers might not tend to cheapen it in the eyes of the pupils. These questions were left for the later speaker to answer, who made clear his position on every point.

The principal speaker of the evening was Attorney B. F. Mulkey of Portland, who for a number of years was a professor in an Oregon State Normal school. Mr. Mulkey is exceedingly clear in his thinking and pleasing in his delivery. He held that the Bible in the public schools is entirely fitting and not un-American. He pointed out common ground on which Catholics, Protestants and Jews can unite in the use of Bible selections, and which would not be offensive to any.

Mr. Mulkey stated that a knowledge of the Bible was the foundation of good morals and was necessary to an understanding of science and literature. In connection with the latter subject he quoted from Shakespeare and other authors. He said in part:

"The Bible is in the schools far enough to have received endorsement; not far enough to yield its full benefits. Illustrations of figures of speech in our grammars and rhetorics are largely taken from the literature of the Sacred Text. The Classics studied in the schools abound in Bible references. Of the 37 plays of Shakespeare, not one but contains allusions to the Scriptures. Some of these plays are crowded with such. Richard II has 48 passages based on the Bible. In Richard III there are 40 and in Hamlet, 80 passages. There are said to be 550 passages altogether.

To get rid of the Bible in the schools it would be necessary to cut out the classics of Edmund Burke, The Earl of Beaconsfield, Daniel Webster, Theo. Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson. It would be necessary to eliminate the lives of Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln and George Washington.

Thos. H. Huxley the great scientist and evolutionist, favored the use of the Bible in the schools. Prof. David Swing, great liberalist in religious matters, also. Educators generally favor it as being right. Detockville says: "Despotism may govern without faith but liberty cannot." Feb. 16th, 1916, the Chicago Times Herald said: "There is no

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