

UNION HOME WRITER RECORDS MUCH PROGRESS

By WALTER RAMSER

A Merry Christmas to all, and a joyous one too. It is the sincere wish of the writer, that each and everyone reading these lines, may be able to look back over the year now almost past with the consciousness that he has helped to make the world just a wee bit more cheerful, so far as his little corner of it is concerned, and that he has honestly endeavored to practice the golden rule. Now may all of you even more than formerly, feel in your heart the presence of Him, who alone can give us the strength to win our daily battles so we may become better neighbors and better citizens of our country as well as of our heavenly home. A blessed Christmas to all.

The year 1921 has been a rather eventful one for Union Home. Not all will be repeated, for that is obviously impossible. But a few of the more important events will be enumerated.

Wedding bells rang in the new

year for Union Home when, on New Year's day, Miss Stella Arnold of Portland faithfully promised our genial neighbor, Oran Lingle, to help him hoe his row and if it took all her life time to do it. She soon showed that she could hoe more than one row at a time, so when she was elected by the Damascus Farm Bureau to be its boys' and girls' club project leader, she hoed with such vim and vigor that her canning club won first place at the Clackamas county fair and was among the first ones at the state fair.

If some of the other bachelors of this community would follow Oran's example and use as good judgment then Union Home would soon be the brightest petal in the beautiful Oregon rose.

Many Personal Items.

The Schwedler family is now as comfortably settled in their new home as conditions permit. The dilapidated premises were cleaned up, a new road to the house graveled, good Holstein stock put in the barn, and a system of crop rotation planned and partly put in practice. The

oldest daughter, Elizabeth, graduated from Union High last spring, then served as head waitress in Mrs. Oppermann's summer resort at East Sound, Washington, and is now finishing an extensive course in the Decker Business College in Portland. Walter, the eldest son, is now senior at Union High, specializing in agriculture and poultry raising. He built a large chicken house on the home farm and now has a small flock of some of the best White Leghorns in the country and is tending to them after the latest approved method. Edward, a junior, certainly lived up to his resolution to make this his best school year. But just recently he broke his collar bone during basketball practice, and now it is doubtful whether he can keep up his record when missing valuable time.

Mr. Rolfe certainly has our sympathy. He is badly affected with what may be sciatic rheumatism. Occasionally several days pass in succession when he cannot do chores. Beatrice, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rolfe, is teaching the sixth and seventh grades in the large Cashmere school in the state of Washington. The last term she taught at the Sycamore school. She is advancing rapidly because of her exceptional ability. David Rolfe, who last spring took up work at Benson Polytechnic, now attends Union High.

Another bachelor was lost from our ranks when Henry Henningson surrendered all his personal liberty to Miss Stucki, who is now Mrs. Henningson, Jr.

Practically all of the Olaf Gran family had the smallpox, and as yet are not over the after effects. Arthur, the oldest of the Gran boys, finished Union High last spring, having specialized in agriculture. Philipp entered high school in September and is also taking agriculture. He stayed at home last year, after finishing the grade school, so his brother Arthur could finish high school.

George Ledbury, who rented the Maybee farm, moved over into the

Pleasant Home country. So far the place is yet vacant, but it is rumored that a deal is on to sell off a strip of land across the south end of the place. The neighbors would certainly not object, if new, modern buildings would soon replace the unrepairably dilapidated ones.

Edner Wedin and his mother are building a bungalow of as modern construction as is practical on a farm away from electricity. Part of it is already in use, the plaster being up and doors and windows in. The Wedins are to vacate the garage, which now serves as their kitchen and living room, and are longing to domesticate themselves in their new home.

Recently Mr. Lemke finished his share of cutting several thousand cords of wood for the Miller Fuel company of Portland.

Elmer Jackson built himself a little two-room shack on the greenhouse place near Hogan. Now that he is laid off working for Mr. Bornsted, in the greenhouses he contemplates moving his shack across the road from the Hillview schoolhouse onto a few-acre tract which he can use a number of years for the clearing, which is not difficult. Mrs. Elmer Jackson is slowly recovering from last summer's severe illness, which for some time made her recovery extremely doubtful.

Ed. Noreen finished a scientific course at Union High and is now attending O. A. C.

Mr. Fudikar is doing considerable land clearing, mostly by hand. The place is just across from the Swedish Mission church. It has a neat, homelike appearance and is a credit to its owner.

Ole Rodlun was kicked on the ankle by a horse and was laid up for some time, but is all right again.

Gus Ericson lost one of his horses but got a dandy team, just the size and disposition he was looking for from near Gresham by inserting a two-line want ad in the Outlook. Gus now is a firm believer in the slogan: "Advertising pays."

Not only have the ranks of our "old bachelors" been reduced, but one of "our girls" was made happy when Mrs. Elsie DeYoung became the bride of Arthur Ledbury. The young people will make their home with Mrs. Ledbury's mother, Mrs. Weddeler. While working, Mr. Ledbury sprained his hip and was laid up for some time, and as yet he is suffering considerably from the effects.

Our genial roadmaster was also laid up for some time. Jake DeYoung sprained his back so he was almost helpless until after harvest. His little boy, Vernon, was very sick with diphtheria about the same time, but both are as whole and hearty again as ever.

Henningson's built a new house. Now they have a house for the old folks and another for the young folks.

Ramsers also started building a new home on Friedheim Farm. Claud Stockton poured the cement for the full basement and J. F. Winter, both of Gresham was the builder, working by the day. The house will not be a fancy affair, but well built and commodious. The endeavor has been made to plan the kitchen and dining room so as to save the cooks as many steps as possible and have everything handy. The upper story contains three good sized bedrooms, one bath and one junkroom. Outside dimensions are 39x25, practically full two-story, with every downstairs room

Christmas Means Disarmament

The well known question, "What is home without Mother?" calls for the next question, "What is Christmas without Christ?" A Christless Christmas is no Christmas at all. Christmas is the holiday of gifts and the day upon which God gave to the world nothing less than the best he had, "His only Begotten Son." Think this over "to you (me) is born a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord," and, "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Dear reader, this is your Christmas gift from your loving God; help yourself. God meant it for you.

The nations are attending a disarmament conference in Washington, D. C., their discussion is to lay down their arms which they so long have held up against each other. What a Christmas this one would be if they would agree, first of all, upon this point: to lay down their arms, which they have so long held up against God, have a disarmament conference at Bethlehem, with the "Prince of Peace" as their advisor and dictator! This step would bring the speedy result of a disarmament before each other; this act would cause this blood-soaked world to meet and get rid of its hatred. To be thoroughly reconciled to each other, men must first be reconciled to God.

With these remarks I wish to express to all my friends my most tender wish for the happiest Christmas that you have ever had! You can have it on the above mentioned condition.

O. F. LARSON,

Pastor Powell Valley and Damascus Mission Church.



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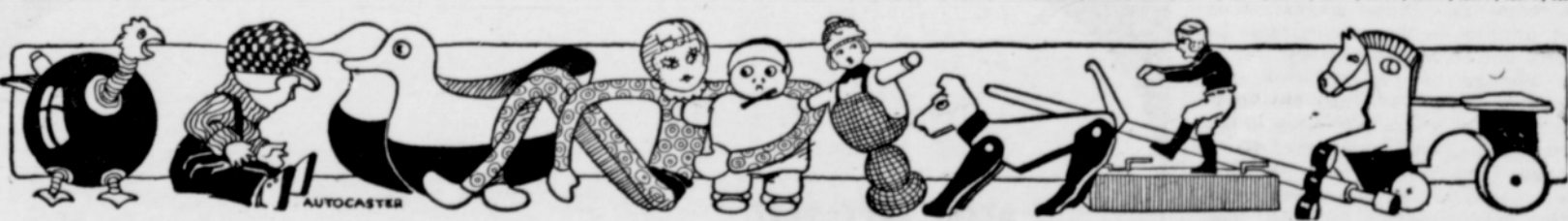
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The new Union schoolhouse, is at last built and in occupation. It is modernly constructed with full basement and has two large class rooms. The cost is approximately \$7500. It stands on a new location one mile east and one quarter mile north of the old Union school, on the northeast corner of John Hoffmeister's land, half ways between the homes of Mr. Schubert and John Hoffmeister, on the new road connecting these two places.

Farm Bureau Project Leaders.

The Damascus Farm Bureau was organized, and quite a few of the farmers have signed up. S. Roberts spent considerable time taking the organizers around and he must have dreamed Farm Bureau day and night. Even though he is at present no project leader, still he keeps in constant touch with the county agent and with the Farm Bureau work. N. Paulson was elected market project leader and as such became chairman of our local. Twine and sacks were bought through this department at quite a saving. Walter Schwedler is poultry project leader, as already mentioned. Mrs. Oran Lingle is boys' and girls' club leader, with splendid success. Miss Signa Paulson, oldest daughter of N. Paulson, is home demonstration project leader. Oran Lingle can look back at quite a successful year as rodent project leader, so far as grey diggers are concerned, especially as this was the first year of this work.

In practically every respect our crops were below normal, and our friends, the gamblers in farm products, are doing their level best to make us believe that it is for our best that prices on what we must sell are below what it cost us to raise it. They want our best, our money, and they are surely getting it. So far the writer has not secured sufficient data on our yield of potatoes, wheat, oats and other crops to compare with other places, but others assert that our yield is better than in most other localities.

Mr. Lovelace moved the smaller of the two houses on the Bohne farm

and bedroom having windows on two sides and a door on the third, promising perfect ventilation. Windows are plentiful and large, to let in all this fresh air and sunlight possible. These two elements of nature are too necessary for life and too cheap to be locked out of doors by thick walls. At present the lath and the siding are going up, and soon the windows will be placed.

Yours Truly has recovered from his severe accident of the previous year, and is practically his former self again. Mrs. J. Ramser was quite sick several weeks ago, but is practically normal again. Frieda is junior at Union High, and has the distinction of being one of the cooks at the school cafeteria. To her belongs considerable credit for the success of the Bible course at the high school, she urging a sufficient number of other students to take up this course to warrant having a teacher for the class. Rev. H. R. Gebhardt of Gresham College at Berkeley, California, where she had just started a very successful second year in music, because of failing health. She underwent a critical operation in Portland. Now she is as well as ever, if not better, and has the responsible position of assistant manager of the Portland Ad club.

Mrs. H. F. Klein, of Bremerton, Wn., formerly Miss Rose Ramser, paid the home folks a visit last summer with her infant son. Miss Hulda left the St. Vincent's hospital in Portland and is now head nurse in a Tacoma hospital.

New Road Badly Needed.

Mr. Taylor is anxious to build a much needed new house on his berry farm, but as yet cannot decide on a location. Formerly he intended building on the new right-of-way that he bought between the old Maybee farm and the Pauline Heacock place. But since the neighbors want the Cut-off road to be changed so it runs up Deep creek bottom, thereby eliminating the steep Wellman hill, he would rather build on this new road, as soon as it becomes a certainty. Several petitions for this badly needed road had been turned down for technicalities, but every successive one received so much more popular support that Oregon City must soon give us what we want, if they don't want us to storm the courthouse. Soon we shall know whether the late petition can be turned down for grammatical or other minor errors.

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The new house that is being built on the Hoecker place is nearly completed. Mr. Hoecker owns eighty acres just east of the homes of F. Foth and P. Hansen.

The bank has given away and caused a dirt slide which partly covers the road beyond Curtis Wheeler's and close to the old Wilson place.

The phone service is still out in Victory and Cedar districts but from the progress being made by the men in charge of the reconstruction work, it is hoped that service will be restored soon.

Mrs. Carl Alder and baby of Gresham, were guests of Mrs. Geo. Armstrong on last Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Strebin and family are planning to have Christmas with Mrs. Olive Strebin.

K. Schlappi, father of Mrs. John Strebin, who has been visiting his daughter for the last five weeks, has returned to his home in Tillamook.

Mrs. John Strebin and her children have been quite sick with colds but are able to be up and around again now.

Mrs. Ellen Coburn and John Berry are expecting their brother from South Bend, to spend Christmas with them.

Mrs. Coburn was in Portland on Wednesday of last week to visit her daughter, Mrs. Fraser. She was accompanied by Mrs. Harold Moffatt.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Dahl and family are planning to spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. A. McMillen and baby. The two families are going to have a combined Christmas tree for the children of both families at the McMillen home.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Wilhelm are expecting their two daughters, Mrs. Arthur Burns and Mrs. Lester Becker and their families to spend Christmas with them. Mr. and Mrs. Becker are living at Hubbard this year.

Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Judd, of Tacoma, will spend Christmas with Mrs. Sadie Lord and family. Mrs. Judd is the eldest daughter of Mrs. Lord.

Geo. Foster has already hung up his sock. He's afraid Santa Claus will miss him when he passes by.

The Bank of Gresham pays 5 per cent interest on time deposits.—Adv.