

A Winner.
 Raymond B. Early
 When in the dawn days of the 19th century, those intrepid explorers, Lewis and Clark, sailed their frail batteaux down the gorge of the Columbia, they beheld a country of virgin wilderness; majestic as the country was, and magnificent as were the possibilities which even then could be foreseen by this hard band of Argonauts, yet the vast scene was untouched by the hand of civilization; no sound was heard save the dashing of the Oregon as it flowed restlessly to the sea. Now and then the call of the Indian hunter broke upon the stillness, while upon some distant hillside the trial campfire alone showed that human habitation was present.

This was but a trifle over a hundred years ago—a mere lagateo in the chronicle of time—but marvelous changes these few years brought forth. Some twenty odd miles below the rapids at the Dalles, where these hardy explorers again embarked in their boats, they beheld a scene which caused even their accustomed eyes to open wide in wonder at the beautiful spectacle presented. On the left, gushing from the eternal snows at the foot of the grand old mountain, flowed our picturesque and now famous Hood River; to the south Mt. Hood raised its whitened head in solitary magnificence while to the north Mt. Adams looked down in lissened splendor. Little dreamed these pioneers how a hundred years should transform the scene, which they then witnessed.

But little time did Lewis and Clark have to ponder what the future years should bring to the locality which they were passing. Eagerly they were pressing forward to the shore of the Pacific, which marked their journey's end. They hastened on their way, glad in thought that the first half of their arduous trip would soon be accomplished in safety, and that foot-worn and weary, they could rest in the sound of the surf breakers.

And so the years went on—and still on—other pioneers came and saw the same beautiful scenery of Hood River, but passed on to the Willamette Valley where first came to land the foundations of the great commonwealth of the state of Oregon. But "though the mill of the Gods grind slowly they grind exceedingly fine," and with increasing years this fair valley began to be settled. From this time on, the story is familiar to us all.

For and wide wherever the English language is spoken, and more than that, even in countries where foreign tongues hold sway, the fame of Hood River and her marvelous products are known and wondered at. The topic I have chosen for this occasion is "A Winner" and to whom or to what could it be better applied than Hood River—Hood River city, Hood River valley, because they are all so intimately associated with one another and their interests are so closely intermingled that they are in truth all in one.

To anyone who has watched the development of Hood River, city, valley, and country, from the time when the old Coe and Benson Donation Land Claims marked the first settlements, till today when the eyes of the whole country are turned to us in wonder and admiration, surely the story is a wondrous one. Here, right in our midst, have been applied these intelligent applications of brain and industry, which have resulted in producing a fruit which has received the approbation of Kings and Emperors. From these very fields which every day our eyes look upon, have been sent the products, the fairest of their kind, the world has ever seen. Upon our mountain sides and by the banks of creeks and rivers grow the timber which Nature has planted, and which the demands of man cause to be shipped to the furthestmost parts of the world.

The future prospects of our community are indeed bright. When we think of the wonderful improvements of the past few years, we can but wonder at what new changes the future may hold for us.

Many new projects are being investigated and developed; new methods of horticulture are being studied for scientific care of our orchards; the roads and streets of our valley and city are being improved; new buildings are constantly springing up on all sides. Each year more people come from less favored localities and make their homes here; more orchards are set out, more fields are put under cultivation, to supply the whole world with the peerless products of our soil. Each year the forest clad hillsides are dotted with more clearings and the line of forest is forced to retreat further and further towards snow-capped Mt. Hood.

Indeed, our valley has been endowed so many natural resources and such wild and magnificent scenery, that we may well wonder if this was not the original Garden of Eden. The progressive people of our locality changed its rugged grandeur somewhat but they have made it still more beautiful, with its well-kept orchards and green fields.

The time allotted me is far inadequate to do justice to the beauties and advantages of our famous valley.

But not alone to the material side must we look. Ever since the valley first began to be settled, careful attention has been paid to educational features. From the small one story school house have grown the spacious buildings which are now to be found everywhere, and which mark the people of this community as intelligent and progressive citizens, who are determined that the rising generation shall have all the advantages possible in equipping them for the life that is opening up before them; it is this which in the end will make and always keep Hood River a "A Winner" in the true sense of the word.

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Wenatchee, Wash.—Last Saturday the 6-year old son of John Moon, a wheat grower on Southside, across from Wenatchee, let his hand, taking a stick which he used to kill gophers and ground hogs, and followed by his dog. This was the last seen of him alive.

Not returning in the evening the boy's parents thought he had stayed at the home of neighbors. Two younger brothers went out on Monday

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