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CROPS NEARLY AN AVERAGE

Government estimates just issued as to the country's crops are not so discouraging as they at first seem, and as the government experts state they are. What makes the crops seem unusually short is the fact that last year there were bumper yields of nearly all products, and the great falling off is noticed. Compared with the five year averages the crops are with the exception of oats considerably below, but with the bumper crop of last year left out the five years before that taken as a basis they are but little below that average. The crop of 1915 raised the five year average about fifty million bushels a year so that taking the other years as a basis the country is only some 40,000,000 bushels shy on wheat. Last year's corn crop was nearly 400,000,000 bushels in excess, and raised the five year average so much that this year's crop seems light when in fact it is about an average of the yield for the five years previous to 1915.

The oat crop is larger by nearly a hundred million bushels than for the past five years. Potatoes are short, showing only 285,000,000 bushels as against the usual yield of 360,000,000. Apples show an increase of about two million barrels, and oranges of nearly three million boxes. Hay makes the best showing of all the year's crops increasing from sixty-six million tons to eighty-six million. It will be seen from even a cursory examination of the estimates that there is an abundance of foodstuffs for all, with a liberal surplus for export in most lines. The shaking up of the wheat market in Chicago yesterday showed that it is not scarcity of wheat but foreign demand and speculation that is keeping prices up and making the American loaf dear.

Wheat prices have dropped about twelve per cent since last Saturday and are scheduled for still lower prices.

It would make an interesting array of figures if the extra cost of living in America could be figured out so that it could be seen how much this country is paying on account of the war. It is safe to say the consumers pay more extra each year than the value of all the munitions and war material exported. It is quite probable that the amounts paid out by American consumers since the war started in the way of increased prices is larger than all our boasted increase of capital.

The Association of County Judges and Commissioners at a meeting in Portland recently, passed a resolution condemning the widows' pension law and asking its repeal. They were of the opinion the law failed to provide the relief intended, and besides was cumbersome and expensive. It was the unanimous opinion that the old system of county aid was far superior and more business like besides producing more real benefits and preventing fraud, or at least the helping of the undeserving.

One of the amusing features of the stock market almost panic is that some of the employers a few days ago gave their employes a bonus for Christmas, and most of these at once invested their present in stock and of course lost the whole business, and in many cases more with it. There is an old saying that "the burned child dreads the fire," but it is evident that seeing others get burned does not cause the same dread.

According to the government reports the tobacco crop this year is considerably above the average. This suggests a nice box of cigars or a humidor of tobacco for the favorite pipe, makes a fine holiday gift. You can't go wrong in your selection, for while some brands may be better than others they are all good.

The peace proposal coming from Germany and the other Teuton allies was somewhat of a surprise, but that Turkey should desire peace with Christmas looming up large and near, is quite natural. The wonder is the proposal was not made before Thanksgiving.

The trouble with that submarine over at Humboldt Bay was that it tried to submerge where the water was too shallow.

TURNING TO SOCIALISM

The European war is blamed for many things, for most of them probably rightly so. Among this class is the turning of America's ideas toward socialism. Little or nothing is said of this tendency suddenly springing into life but it is true just the same. Car shortage has suggested "government ownership" and given the idea a strong boost. High cost of living has suggested the placing of an embargo on foodstuffs, of the government taking charge of all such and regulating prices therefor. Government ownership of our merchant marine is another socialistic measure. Municipal stores, municipal dairies, seizing foodstuffs where a corner is suspected or proved and selling the stuff at fixed prices is still another socialistic measure.

The real important feature of all the suggestions made for the purpose of bettering conditions, is that all of them are along the lines of socialism. Strange isn't it that for every supposed evil the people should all turn to these theories which at other times they were disposed to laugh at?

The Oregonian, Friday, had an editorial on the subject: "Why men drink liquors." Whether or not its arguments, or those of the medical gentleman whom it quotes are correct, we do not pretend to say. If anyone has a curiosity to know why men in Oregon do not drink liquor after the legislature gets its work in, we can give the right answer without stuttering.

The value placed on all property in the state by the assessors is \$878,753,944. This is \$55,731,087 less than the valuation last year. This amount would last England in paying her war expenses, for one month. If the assessors had not reduced the valuation the sum would have paid such expenses two days longer.

Poor old John Barleycorn is surely having a hard row to hoe. The latest jolt given him is the recommendation by a congressional committee that all liquor advertisements be refused the use of the mails. The committee also recommends that the penalty for violation of this proposed law be a fine of \$1,000.

The Spectator modestly says "it is a high class weekly that appeals to people whose minds have not become atrophied by permitting editors, politicians, soap box orators and other kinds of demagogues to do their thinking." According to this the gentleman who publishes the Spectator is not an editor. Perhaps he is right.

The Dictator has dictated for the second time this week and has pleased two capacity houses. The house was sold out again yesterday by noon, which shows that Salem people appreciate their home talent and also a good play well presented.

Only eight more days until Christmas, and the chances are you have not done all your shopping yet. If not begin at once and don't stop until the last present is bought or your Christmas money is exhausted.

The price of bread has not gone up in Salem, but the size of some loaves indicate they have been left too long in the oven and have shrunk. In a platinum setting some of them would make fine necktie pins.

Mill orders are getting more and more plentiful, but this is not the case with the cars necessary to enable the mill orders to be filled.

"Let 'em Rave"

SOMETIMES A KNOCK'S A BOOST!
I Have Tried Since I've Been in Salem

To be on the level and friendly and all that kind of thing, and not put on any airs or be STUCK-UP AND CHESTY, and speak to everybody that I meet on the street.

Some of 'em don't speak back, but they might as well. I'M TAKING AS MUCH OF A CHANCE AS THEY ARE.

Most everybody was and is just like MY FRIEND MR. McDANIEL of THE SALEM COMMERCIAL CLUB. They treat me nice and smile and tell me "How do you like Salem?" and "I'm glad you're here" and they mean it. But once in a long while I meet SOME BIG STIFF with an ingrown disposition and a chronic grouch THAT HATES HIMSELF and is SO SOUR that, HIS FOOD DISAGREES WITH HIM.

And when I see him if he shakes hands at all I've got to look up to see if I haven't got A DEAD COD-FISH BY THE TAIL. And then he looks at me kind a superior like--and he "registers" to himself (as he looks we over condescendingly), "YOU POOR BOOB, I DON'T LIKE YOUR STYLE."

All I want to say is this: I feel sorry for the fellow that can't keep things to himself any better than that---Don't you?

If you happen to see "THE GUY I'M THINKING ABOUT"--tell him he ain't got A SORE, he's just SICK--and to cheer up, CHERRIES WILL SOON BE RIPE; and thank him for moving to Salem, because if he wasn't here---I mightn't have had anything to write about.

"THE ADVERTISER"

"Who believes its The Knockers that make THE BOOSTERS--the Best People on Earth."

THE WHOLE BODY NEEDS PURE BLOOD

The bones, the muscles, and all the organs of the body depend for their strength and tone and healthy action on pure blood.

If the blood is very impure, the bones become diseased; the muscles become enfeebled, the step loses its elasticity, and there is inability to perform the usual amount of labor. The skin loses its clearness, and pimples, blotches and other eruptions appear.

Hood's Sarsaparilla makes pure blood. It is positively unequalled in the treatment of scrofula and other humors, catarrh, rheumatism, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, that tired feeling. Be sure to get Hood's and get it today. All druggists.

University Notes

By a margin of 10 points score at the finish, the sophomore class of the university won the annual cross country run yesterday afternoon on Sweetland field. The mile and a half course consisting of six laps around the cinder path, was run on a sloppy track, thereby making it impossible to secure good time. Added to this was the freezing fog which hung so low over the field that it was impossible to see the runners while in action on the opposite side of the track.

Reine Jackson, winner of first place in last year's run, again bagged the essential distance for first place honors. He ran neck to neck with Victor Taylor of the freshmen for approximately five laps, but in the final sprint succeeded in nosing out a lead of 50 feet. With Taylor thus getting second, the write for third place between Collins of the freshmen and Stewart of the sophomores was keen and a delight to watch. Collins took the honor by half a head's length.

Following close in the rear were Morse, Lawson and Rexford of the sophomores who took fifth, sixth and seventh places respectively. Chittick and Legge of the freshmen came in later as did Crisp of the same class. Craven did not finish. Tasker of the sophomores was lost.

By the scoring in vogue of the race the team qualifying in the least number of place points was the winner. This gave the sophomores the second winning of the Hauser Brothers' silver trophy cup by the score of 23 to 33. According to the terms of its donation the cup must be won three successive times to assure permanent possession. No teams were entered by the upper classes. Coach R. L. Matthews was official starter and Harold Tobie, LeLand Austin and Arlie Walker judges of the course.

An important amendment to the constitution and by-laws of the associated student body was made in Friday morning's student meeting. Provision was made that the \$100 due to the athletic manager for services rendered during a single scholastic year should be paid in quarterly installments rather than in a lump sum at the conclusion of the year. Under the former provision the manager was forced to wait nearly a year before receiving his remuneration for his services. Arlie Walker, a graduate of the 1916 class and now a junior in the college of liberal arts, is the present manager.

Among the many social organizations of the campus is the H-A club of lovers of mild sportsmanship in keeping with the Willamette ideal. The meetings of the club are strictly formal and are held at the discretion of the charter members consisting of LeRoy Gard, Arvid Peterson, Chester Womer, Maxwell Ball, Dwight Kloster, Reine Jackson and Leslie Sparks. Checkers, rook and sweet ride help to while away the hours unobtrusive to serious contemplation of the curriculum's problems.

One evidence of the approaching session of the Oregon state legislature was evident this week when the state highway department was forced to abandon its committee room headquarters at the state house. Accommodations for the department were secured in the science hall of the university located on the northwest corner of the university campus. Now housed on the first floor of the building are to be found the J. H. Scott and S. H. Probert parties of highway engineers. At the adjournment of the legislature the offices will be again in their former location in the state house.

Although latent during the school sessions, at the time of recesses and holidays the booster power of the Washingtonian society makes itself of front rank importance. Membership is limited to all students and faculty members attending Willamette who claim the state of Washington a sheer home state. The organization exists merely for advertising the varsity in the respective districts represented and that it is an important factor in Willamette extension work, the membership of 35 is ample testimony. Charles Randall was elected president and Ruth Peringer vice president at the meeting yesterday noon. A committee of three students was appointed to outline an

NONE BETTER YOU'LL LIKE IT

Butter Nut

BREAD

PURE AND RICH SWEET AND CLEAN

appropriate program for the chapel hour on Washington's birthday.

Challenging all comers of any nationality, shape or form, a new semi-secret society has been formed among prominent athletes of the varsity which the members hope will in time take on the aspects of a national organization. Believing that any possible candidates for membership should be given opportunity to meet the standards of the society, the members have chosen basketball as the best tester of appropriateness for affiliation. Their array on the gymnasium floor consisting of Bartlett and Gates, forwards; Booth and Tobie, guards, and Carson, center, is sufficient to strike terror into the hearts of the opposition. Initial tryouts for membership will be a feature of January's athletic calendar.

The latest members to pool their destinies with the Philodorian society of the university are Warren Booth and Willis Vincent. Their initiation into full fellowship was a hilarious event of the week.

Especially attractive to all lovers of real Christmas frolics is the formal semester joint party of the Philodorian and Philodorian societies this evening in the organizations' halls. Committees have been at work for a week on the plans which assure an evening of carefree jollity such as always characterizes the social affairs of the two societies.

Donald Matthews, ex-'18, is at present engaged in slashing brush in the rural district near Pratum, Oregon. Under the snappy Oregon weather, his health is very much improved since he was compelled to abandon his university course a few weeks ago on account of a nervous breakdown. In all probability he will not resume his studies until next fall.

Starting off the forensic season will be the debate tryout next Wednesday afternoon of all men intending to aspire to represent Willamette on the platform this winter. The affirmative will be given 10 minutes for constructive argument and three minutes for rebuttal. The tryout will be private.

How Willamette university students reciprocate for the favors tendered them by the business men of Salem was shown Thursday and Friday evenings by the large number of students attending the Cherrian play, "The Dictator." Very favorable reports of the sterling merit of the play are in circulation on the campus. Of particular interest to the upper classes was the fact that "The Dictator" was selected to be the annual junior class play three years ago, but troubles over the prospective cast and the royalty prevented its staging at that time.

An enjoyable comeback to the numerous indignities heaped upon the class of 1919 last evening at the semester party by the freshman partisans was the songfest held in the corridors of Waller hall soon after midnight. Freshmen lodgers were ousted from their trundle beds and compelled to sing in honor of the sophomore class. Those freshmen contributing to the amusement of the conquerors were Collins, Lyman, Payne, Carpenter and Pollock.

CHANNUKAH—FESTIVAL OF DEDICATION.

The Feast of Dedication (Channukah) commences at sundown Tuesday, December 19th, and lasts for eight days. It celebrates the successful ending of a war against the religious tyranny. Its predominant message, therefore, is religious liberty.

In the year 162 before the present era, the Syrian king, Antiochus Epiphanes, set up a statue of a pagan deity in the Jewish temple of Jerusalem, and tried to compel the Jews to worship it and abandon their own historic faith. This effort at forcing an alien religion

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upon the Jewish people provoked a bitter revolt in which the Jews, led by the famous Judas Maccabeus and his brothers, finally defeated the Syrian army, re-entered the Temple and rededicated it as the center of Jewish worship. In honor of this re-dedication, the feast of Channukah (dedication) was established, its eight days to be holidays, days of song and thanksgiving.

The holiday is marked by special prayers of thanks and psalms of praise inserted into the daily ritual, and by the kindling of the Channukah lights. The usual custom is to light one light on the first day, two on the second, three on the third, and so on, adding one each successive day of feast. As to the reason for this custom of kindling the lights, legend tells that when Judas Maccabeus and his victorious army re-dedicated the Temple and cleansed it of all the impurities of idolatry, he found that there was only enough pure oil to keep the perpetual light burning one day, and it would be long before new oil could be procured. But miraculously, this small amount of oil lasted for eight days, and the perpetual light was not extinguished. For this reason it was ordained that every year lights should be kindled for eight days in every household. It became customary for the light to be placed in the windows and the doorways, so that the streets of the cities be lighted up. Thus the feast came to be known also as the Feast of Lights.

The Jewish date for the beginning of this feast is the twenty-fifth of the month of Kislev. According to one tradition, the reason that Judas selected this date is because it fell exactly three years after Antiochus had defiled the Temple; according to another tradition it is because that was also the day when the Israelites, after being delivered from Egypt, completed the Tabernacle in the wilderness.

TWO ACRES OF CORN DID IT

Ed McDonald, one of our prosperous and enterprising farmers who lives on Howell Prairie established a splendid record from a two-acre field of corn this year. He fattened 23 shoats for market almost entirely from the field, commencing to feed as soon as the corn was large enough to feed in the stalk. Besides this his cattle received many "smiles" from the field and to cap the climax after accomplishing all this he gathered his 1917 seed corn from the field. Who says corn is not a profitable crop in Oregon?—Silverton Appeal.

Distress After Meals

TRY
HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

It prepares the stomach to receive food, assists digestion and keeps the bowels open.

LADD & BUSH, Bankers
Established 1868
CAPITAL \$500,000.00
Transact a General Banking Business
Safety Deposit Boxes
SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

MY HUSBAND AND I
Jane Phelps

Owing to delayed mails today's instalment of this story failed to arrive. It is expected it will be here by Monday.