

# St. Helens Mist

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## GOVERNOR WITHYCOMBE

MAKES PLEA FOR BETTER SCHOOLS—GIVE THE COUNTY BOY AND GIRL CHANCE.

UNFAMILIAR WITH REQUIREMENTS

Education is the Foundation of Civilization and We Must Look to Our Schools.

The following is taken from the *Yankton Herald*, an address given by Governor Withycombe a few days ago:

Governor Withycombe made a strong and impassioned plea for an improvement of conditions of rural life, and he said that one of the most effective means for securing this was through an improvement in educational facilities.

"Give your boys and girls the same opportunities as those of the cities; give them efficiency; inspire them with country life, and they will find that incentive for rushing to the city that unfortunately so many find today," he said.

Governor Withycombe said:

"I am delighted to come home to my home county. I came here when I was a boy, 41 years ago and when I rode past your farms and fields and woods this morning, it made me feel good. I feel that Washington county is the banner county in Oregon. And Oregon is the banner state in the union. You are to be congratulated upon having put your lot in the most magnificent commonwealth of the union.

"Education is the foundation of civilization, and we must look to our common schools and our high schools for the future citizenship of our country.

"I want to see the country boy and the country girl have the same advantages as those of the city. The children of the country are just as bright and just as intelligent as those of the city and they should have the same opportunities.

"As I came through the fields of the old county this morning, it occurred to me that the time is coming when it will have six, seven and eight times as many people living on it as it has now. The farms will be subdivided, and coming generations will have to make a living off of small tracts of perhaps 40 acres. There large farms serve the same purpose the present day.

"This means that we must have efficiency. It means that our boys and girls will have to be inspired with country life and the boys and girls who are not inspired with country life, whose hands are not trained with their minds will not be able to see these conditions with success.

## W. C. HAWLEY HERE.

Congressman W. C. Hawley has accepted an invitation to address the people of Columbia county at St. Helens, Thursday, September 23, at the fair grounds auditorium. He will arrive at Houlton at 1:58 p. m. Thursday, spend the day at the fair and leave the following morning at 8:14 for Rainier, where he will remain until 3:00 p. m.

Mr. Hawley, as is his annual custom when not detained in Washington, D. C., by the sessions of Congress, is spending the recess of Congress in going over the seven-teen counties of the First Congressional District of Oregon, interviewing his constituents and learning from them their opinions and needs. His time will be at the disposal of the people and he will be glad to confer with any on public business.

## COUNTY HAS UNION HIGH SCHOOL

School Building at Vernonia Will Be Used for Purposes.

Columbia county has one Union High School district, composed of Districts Nos. 14, 27, 47, 51 and 55. The new school building at Vernonia will be used for High School purposes of the consolidated districts. The consolidation vote was taken August 29, last, and the vote was canvassed by the District Boundary Board on Sept. 2, and the proposition to consolidate carried and was so declared.

This will greatly help in providing High School facilities for those districts and is a step in the right direction. A good High School costs lots of money and is worth all of it, but by uniting the cost is greatly reduced. A grade or two of High School work crowded into an already overcrowded room where all of the grades are taught, is a poor excuse for a High School, as in the first place the teacher has far too much to do without the extra added burden. The city teacher has a part of a grade, perhaps one-half of it, or at most a grade to handle, and in some of the villages perhaps two grades, and she has all she can do and do it well.

Our rural teacher has eight full grades and the district kindly votes in the ninth and sometimes the tenth grade also, and furnishes no equipment. What kind of work will it be? Just the best your teacher can possibly do, which indeed must be very poor and at the expense of the other grades. The Union High School is the specific remedy for economy and efficiency in the High School course, and where that remedy is not effective the Tuition Law is the specific.

"We hear a great deal about 'back to the farm.' There was never a greater mistake uttered. What we want is not 'back to the farm'; it's 'stay on the farm.' We want the boys and girls of the country to see something of farm life.

"The farm today offers the best field for the young man trained to agriculture. Can you hope for your boys and girls to stay on the farm when you offer them no inducements—nothing but drudgery?"

Governor Withycombe showed how, through the domestic science and manual training departments of the High Schools young people are trained to a higher degree of efficiency and inspired with an enthusiasm for their work.

"I hope that the next time I come I'll see somewhere a High School," he concluded. "A dollar invested in education of the right class is a dollar well invested."

## PURPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL FAIR

Governor Withycombe Says "Primary Function of Fair is Education."

Agricultural fairs are the time-keepers of progress. They help to stimulate interest in better things upon the farm and reveal new avenues of thought; they offer the best opportunity for noting the progress in breeding better livestock, growing more productive crops, and in fact, they present the spectator a broad educational field.

The farmer should endeavor to receive the greatest possible benefit from the local fair. He should not only be an exhibitor himself, but should encourage his sons and daughters to participate as exhibitors, and should endeavor to be with them as much as possible during the fair to examine together the various exhibits. In this way the greatest good will result from the expenditure of funds for this class of agricultural promotion.

The primary function of a fair is education, and if the fair is properly conducted, this aim and purpose will be fully fulfilled.

A fair, however, can not succeed without the support of the people; hence every farmer should endeavor to show his loyalty to his local fair by his presence.

## NO ROOM FOR MANUAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT IN JOHN GUMM SCHOOL

School Board in Quandary What Step to Take—One of Essentials of School.

Owing to the crowded condition of the John Gumm school, notwithstanding the fact of the two new rooms, the school board are up a tree as to what is to be done with the manual training department, there being no room whatever for the course in this school building, and no suitable quarters outside can be secured.

No doubt remains in the minds of the people but what this department is one of the most important in the High School course. It is being taught and featured in every wide-awake school of the land. It is not only a practical course to the boy, just when his mind is open and capable of grasping an idea and placing him where he can have the practice as well as the theory, many more times important, but it lends prestige to the school as well, something not to be overlooked for a minute if the city is to progress with the times. A capable instructor, one who has prepared himself for this work, has been employed to carry on this work in connection with his other studies, and with no additional cost, but he can only furnish his talent.

There have been several prominent citizens suggest that quarters be erected in the school grounds, a frame building of neat appearance, suitable for a school room if desired later on with additional improvements, estimated to cost \$400. At these figures it would cost one-quarter of a mill tax, or in other words, a person paying tax on \$1000 worth of property would be assessed 25 cents for his share of the cost of

the building. This would be the total cost. The school has a complete equipment, which will lay idle if something is not done.

The question is up to the people. Can the school, with only this small cost, having the equipment and the instructor, afford to deprive the boy and young man of this course and a practical education at such a very low cost?

The following statement shows the practicability of the manual training course:

"Announcement is made by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill, of the receipt of a report from C. T. Mudge, manual training director of the Eugene schools, stating that his students had just completed the construction of the furniture for the \$110,000 High School building for that city, and he declares that it shows the practicability of manual training in the schools of the state.

"The furniture included 30 double bookkeeping desks of the sanitary type; 15 teachers' tables of quartered Eastern white oak and 720 lineal feet of pews. The total cost to the district was approximately \$1200, and it is declared that it represents a saving of approximately \$600 over the bids of the various mills. In addition to building the furniture, the boys refinished all of the old desks, 1500 in all. The work was done at a cost of 19 1-2 cents each. Director Mudge's class aided in making the school exhibit for the Oregon building at the Panama-Pacific exposition."

## TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

The Kenton Tennis Club and Alberta Club of Portland, came down Sunday morning twenty-three strong for a three-cornered meet with the St. Helens Tennis Club.

St. Helens carried off the honors, winning both doubles and all the single matches played, but owing to the fact that the time was too short to run out the singles it was decided to not count them, leaving St. Helens and Kenton tied with five points each and Alberta three.

A larger crowd than usual watched the matches. The visitors enjoyed their stay in the city and have invited the local club for a third match, to be held soon.

In the singles Turner beat Bullen 6-2; Rutherford beat Pitts 6-1 6-5; Rutherford beat Simmons 3-3; Sten beat Grant 6-5. In the doubles Rutherford and Sten won from Ered and Mathieson 6-9, 6-1.

## TEACHERS' RECEPTION.

St. Helens welcomed its school teachers to their new year's work with a public reception at the City Hall, kindly lent by the Mayor and City Council. Mesdames Miller, Metaker, Sandifur and Rutheford, together with Mildred Tucker and the LaBare orchestra, gave some greatly appreciated songs, recitations and music.

Rev. Sandifur gave the address of welcome, to which Professor Baker gave acceptable thanks.

Heartly thanks are tendered to the active committee, Mrs. J. W. Allen, Mrs. Edwin Ross and Mrs. F. N. Sandifur, who directed the floral decorations; to the many ladies who sent the dainty cakes and to the school board for its gift of ice cream.

Rev. J. Foster was president for the evening.

## NEW FAIR BUILDING.

The Children's building is nearing completion and will be one of the best on the fair grounds.

Friday is to be Children's Day during fair week and every parent should see that their children be present. Governor Withycombe will be present at the dedication exercises and give the young people a talk. It will be worth hearing and would not be amiss for the parent to be present.

## GOOD MEETING WEDNESDAY NIGHT

St. Helens Co-Operative Creamery Co. Capitalized at \$3000.

At the meeting of the farmers and committees of the Commercial Club Wednesday evening at the Commercial Club rooms, the final step in organizing the St. Helens Co-Operative Creamery Company was taken. It was voted to capitalize the company at \$3000, \$2000 of which was subscribed with the promise of more as soon as the committee could see the dairymen, this amount being more than sufficient to start the industry.

A committee of three farmers, E. C. Jacobson, G. T. Tarbell and A. Freeman, was appointed to file corporation papers with the commission at Salem.

The matter of securing a suitable location was not definitely decided upon, but left over until the next meeting, when the committee will report.

It was voted that a meeting be held on Saturday afternoon, September 18, at 1 o'clock, in the Commercial Club room, for the purpose of electing directors and officers and completing other minor details of the organization. A director from each district will be elected, Yankton, Warren, Bachelor Flat and Deer Island, and one at large. Every stockholder of the company is urged to be present at this meeting.

A contract, which was presented to the merchants and dealers of Houlton and St. Helens, was readily signed by every person to whom it was presented but one. The contract, in substance, read that the dealer would use exclusively the output of the creamery providing the product was of good quality and satisfactory.

his remarks were very much enjoyed by all. Those present from a distance were, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Deltz of Vancouver, Wn., and Mrs. Nina McIntire and daughter, Minnie, of Hillsboro, Ore.

## AVIATOR STROMER WITH HYDROPLANE

Gives Exhibitions on Labor Day—Several Citizens Carried Up.

Aviator Stromer, who made several successful flights during the regatta at Astoria, made several flights over the river here Monday, Labor Day, while en route to Scio, where he was engaged to fly during the county fair of this week.

A. S. Harrison was the first citizen of the city to take his seat in the hydroplane, Stromer taking him about five miles up the river at a sixty mile clip, ascending to a height of one mile. Several other citizens made the trip, Mrs. Fred Watkins being the only lady who had a nerve to make the flight.

Stromer stated that below the conditions were very favorable, but after reaching a height of two thousand feet, he struck dangerous pocket currents and would have to drop several hundred feet.

His exhibitions were witnessed by large crowds and was a very enjoyable feature of the holiday.

## ASTORIA REGATTA.

The regatta at Astoria last week was the most successful of any previous event, is the word that is heard on every side by those who attended.

The city was decorated most elaborately, a program was rendered that surpassed all predecessors and the latch string of the city was hanging on the outside.

Miss Merna Yeomans, who represented St. Helens as one of the maids to the queen, was shown every courtesy and was the guest of the queen at her home while in the city.

The log rolling contest was one of the best exhibitions ever seen in the Northwest. Mathews held his opponents to a draw.

## NEW ADDITION.

J. T. Taber is remodeling the interior of his store building, preparatory to handling a full line of millinery in connection with his other lines. New fixtures and show cases are being placed and when completed will have a very pleasing appearance.

## THE TIME IS AT HAND

PRESIDENT TARBELL REQUESTS EVERY CITIZEN TO LEND AID TO THE EVENT.

PRESIDENT UNTIRING IN EFFORTS

To Promote One of the Most Successful Fairs Ever Held in Northwest. Send in Your Produce.

Yankton, Ore., Sept. 8.—Neighbors and friends of Columbia county, the time is drawing near for our county fair, and we trust that every one of you are going to aid in making it one of the most successful ever held in the state. The management of the association are especially anxious this year to make a good showing, as many visitors are expected, who will be governed more or less by the showing made at the fair. For this reason we appeal to every citizen of the county to prepare something for exhibit.

We have endeavored to extend the premiums so that every one would be able to secure one or more, but if you have something that we have not listed, bring or send it, we will find a place for it.

We would especially like a good exhibit of old relics. Something that was brought across the plains in olden days.

Mrs. Lynch will have charge of the Floral department this year, which insures the very best. She would like everyone to contribute cut flowers, potted plants or anything else that you might have that will help to make the department a success.

The Young Ladies department, which was not patronized last year as it should have been, will be one of the interesting features. We would ask that every young lady in the county help make this one of the drawing cards of the event. Any one in the city who has no means of getting exhibits to the grounds, may notify Mr. Morley, and he will call and get them without any cost whatever.

Anything shipped by freight or express will receive prompt attention and be cared for in the best possible manner. Be sure and see that every package is plainly marked "Fair Grounds, St. Helens, Oregon."

Several new features are being added this year that will be interesting and instructive. One of these features will be a stock judging contest, scheduled for Thursday, the second day, in the morning. Friday is to be Children's Day. The new building will be dedicated, when Governor Withycombe will be present and aid in the occasion. We will be disappointed if the grounds are not flooded with children from every nook of the county on this day. We are making preparations for this event.

Besides the many games, races and other sports, we have arranged for a merry-go-round to be on the grounds.

Again, we ask that everyone plan to be present at least one day of the fair and aid by your presence if no other way, in making this the best fair in the history of the county.

## ELECTS OFFICERS.

The Ladies Aid of the M. E. church met at the home of Mrs. H. W. Christie, Thursday afternoon, September 2. During the business meeting officers were chosen for the coming year. Those elected were: Mrs. LaBare, president; Mrs. Wm. Ross, vice president; Mrs. H. W. Christie, treasurer; Mrs. W. H. Davis, secretary.

After all business was disposed of, the hostess served delicious refreshments, consisting of ice cream and several kinds of cake.

The Aid will meet with Mrs. Sandifur, Thursday afternoon, September 16.