

They May Yet Get Out Of The Woods

The News-Review

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TEACHING THE THREE R'S

By CHARLES V. STANTON

"Let's get our schools back to the three R's." How frequently do you hear that thought expressed in these days of high school taxes. Throughout the country protest is heard against modern educational "frills." Demand is widespread for a "return to the fundamentals." What are the "fundamentals" of education? Is it enough that our children be drilled in the rote of readin', writin' and 'rithmetic, or is the purpose of education the preparation of youth to meet intelligently the exigencies of life?

Life today is much more complex than in the past. Until a mere 25 years ago our economy was largely based on agriculture. Our tempo of living was slow compared with that of today. The three R's might have been sufficient preparation for life in grandfather's day, but grandfather wasn't too much concerned with neon lights, motion pictures, automobiles, airplanes, radio, television, motor buses, streamlined trains, stratoscuers, jet planes, atom bombs, hydrogen bombs, guided missiles, juke boxes, radar, submarines, and Einstein theories.

World Shrinking In Time And Space

Grandfather's geography concerned far away places. But there are no far away places today. Any major city of the world is only a few hours distant. Grandfather's history was a collection of dates, names and places. History today is a living thing, closely related to everyday life.

When grandfather was graduated from school he entered a business field in which the general merchandise store prevailed. Production lines in industry were virtually unknown. People lived at a slow pace. The proprietor or manager of a business had time to train new help. Ability to read, write and "figger" fitted a man for a job. In today's business and industrial world a job applicant has little opportunity without preparatory, specialized training.

Social Changes Burden Schools

Grandfather's father was a stern disciplinarian. He taught grandfather to be a God-fearing, upright and honest citizen. He taught him the use of tools, how to build, and how to do a man's work. Grandmother was taught by her mother to sew, to cook, to manage a household, to rear children and perform duties demanded of her when the time came to set up her own home.

But then came electric lights. The family no longer retired when darkness fell. Young people began to stay out late at night, convincing the older generation that the youngsters were the most worthless the world had known. And then came motion pictures and automobiles, further deteriorating the American home.

Father is too busy today with clubs and committees to train Junior, while mother is too occupied with her bridge clubs to teach Suzy the intricacies of the electric kitchen, or the operation of the electric sewing machine.

So our schools have introduced courses in manual training, agriculture, home economics, etc., taking over the responsibility formerly resting upon parents. That the kids are getting good instruction, is amply demonstrated at any community, county or state fair, where they walk away with sweepstake prizes.

But the spiritual training, once given in the home, still is not furnished in the schools, which may, in part, account for the rising tide of juvenile delinquency.

Fundamentals More Than Three R's

Today's youth needs far more in the way of education than did his father or his grandfather. No longer can we say that the three R's constitute the fundamentals of education.

Today's child must be educated to live in a world of power. Where his grandfather worked with his hands, or had available the strength of a team of horses, a workman today deals with motors of many horsepower, multiplying by thousands the strength of his hands. In the business or industrial field he is a part of a highly organized, competitive operation. Science, in 25 years, has progressed further than in all the previous years of man's history. Time and distance have become almost non-existent. The tempo of life is accelerating daily.

Our modern schools have introduced many things some people call "frills" but how many of those so-called frills have become necessary to a well rounded education because of the changes in our social and economic structure?

Do we want our children educated in the three R's only? Are they the exclusive fundamentals of education?

LETTERS to the Editor

Sees 'Extravagance' in Money-Spending Plans

ROSEBURG—I wish to protest the money-spending-minded people who are at the head of some of the county and city offices. If they want to spend money, let them use their own or move on to where there are like-minded people. It seems that extravagance is the only virtue in many of the projects proposed.

The cost of building is entirely out of reason as, for instance, in regard to housing for Roseburg. I think the amount they named for

a survey should build the houses. What is considered a reasonable rent for a working man? I believe rents in general are too high and I believe we, as a people, have attacked the wrong end to reduce cost of living.

And, in regard to strikes, it looks like the strikers are pouy kids. If there are to be strikes, I think it should be the consumer. If some of these producers, distributors and strikers had to beg a little to sell their product and have a job, it might teach them a lesson.

Guns Have Final Word in Political Argument

MILLEN, Ga., May 9. — (AP) — A 70-year-old man and his son-in-law got into a shooting argument



In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

CANT thing about the Florida primary is "that the big labor people went down there to defeat Smathers because he was for the Taft-Hartley law." He adds: "The people of Florida were FOR the Taft-Hartley law, and I believe that indicates the attitude in other states."

Jack Kroll, director of the CIO political action committee (which fought Smathers tooth and nail) views the Florida results as "the triumph of a sinister conspiracy to impose upon our country a cruel and reactionary program."

"The tactics we have just seen in Florida will be used in every state, and this challenge will be met."

S MATHERS himself, by the way, recalls the election "a victory of liberalism as opposed to radicalism." It is proof, he says, that "the people of Florida do not wish to venture off down the side roads of extremism or socialism."

WILLIAM Boyle, Democratic national chairman, plays the cards close up against his vest. He congratulates Smathers on his victory, and wires Pepper (who will be a voting member of the Senate until next January):

"We are still depending on you for support in the Democratic party's battle against reactionary Republicanism."

W HAT about Pepper: Well, he just issues a statement expressing appreciation to his "noble, gallant army of supporters" for what they did for him.

He would have appreciated it more, I take it, if they had done MORE for him, out anyway he puts it gracefully.

O NE is reminded somehow of Plutarch's story about Aristides (called The Just) in his big political battle with Themistocles. On election day, Aristides was walking the streets of Athens when he was accosted by a strange citizen from out in the sticks. The citizen couldn't write, so he asked Aristides to mark his ballot for him AGAINST Aristides.

He agreed, but wanted to know why the citizen was going to vote that way. "Has this Aristides ever injured you?" he asked. "No," the citizen replied. "Never have I set eyes on him. But oh! I am so bored by hearing him called Aristides the Just."

T HAT happened some 2,000 years ago. The underlying principles of politics, including why people vote the way they do, don't vary much, you see, from century to century.

Sunday over the respective merits of Gov. Herman Tamadge and former Gov. M. E. Thompson. The son-in-law was killed and the older man seriously wounded. The dead man was Seab L. Newton, 57-year-old Newton county farmer, Newton's father-in-law, Leo Proctor, was hit twice with bullets from a revolver. He was reported in serious condition in a hospital.

Deputy Sheriff Walter Johnson said Newton's widow told him the men had been arguing about Tamadge and Thompson, bitter political rivals currently campaigning for governor.

Scops from the MENDING BASKET

By Vivian S. Martin

Reading this in the May, 1870 Godey's Lady's Book suggested to me that here might be the origin of the deep-seated aversion to green held by some women.

I had a cousin who would not be invited upon to "wear green," but could give no reason for it; and I have known of others, haven't you? (As for me—I love it!) Might not the warning circulated by the editor of the Lady's Book have outlasted the need of it at the time? For there is no harm in green dyes now surely!

"Green ball dresses are always much in fashion for the fair complexioned ladies whom they suit. But the bright green which looks so charming carries death with it, and the dressmakers who make up the dresses, and the ladies who wear them, suffer from the affects of the arsenite of copper which gives the much admired dye."

"I wrote to the firm who supplied the sample I examined, and in reply they say, 'We are aware that the green balliste contains arsenic in the dye, and some time since we gave instructions to our assistants to mention it to all customers purchasing it and be-

lieve it now generally known by ladies, but feel compelled to keep it to prevent our customers going elsewhere.'"

"It is certainly not generally known by ladies that this green is arsenite of copper, and I am sure that a hint from you would save many a dressmaker from the evils to which she is now subjected."

So Louis A. Godey included in his "Arm Chair" department this dire warning to his feminine readers who were risking lives to wear green, their own and the dressmakers'!

Godey's book also included a hint now and then for the head of the house, such as this one:

"If people planting orchards would give orders to mark the north side of the trees with red chalk before taken up, and when set out, have the trees put in the ground with their north side to the north in the natural position, a larger proportion would live. Ignoring this law of nature is the cause of so many transplanted trees dying. If the north side is exposed to the south, the heat of the sun is too great for that side of the tree to bear, and, therefore, it dries up and decays."

Stockman Hits NW Freight Rates

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Rep. Stockman (R-Ore) told the House Saturday producers in the Pacific Northwest "are losing out" in eastern and midwestern markets because freight rate increases are made on a percentage basis.

He said the overall average freight rate increases since June 1946 have totaled 57.3 percent. "While freight rates have been increased all over the nation," Stockman said, "the percentage method of increases which has been followed in creating for the Pacific Northwest a most unfair disadvantage that is beginning to stifle its economy."

Stockman said in a speech for the House that he had made a thorough study of freight rates which shows that of all the 48 states Washington and Oregon have the poorest position from which to reach large markets.

Producers in no other states, he said, have to buy so many miles of transportation to get their goods to large population and market centers.

He said he had urged the Interstate Commerce Commission to find a fairer formula for freight rate increases.

The commission replied, he

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Meet The CANDIDATE

Carl C. Hill

(The information for the following story was submitted by the candidate in the primary election, May 18, and does not necessarily signify endorsement by the News-Review.)



Carl C. Hill, Days Creek, is a candidate for the Republican nomination as candidate for county judge.

Hill, born at Wilbur in 1889 and a life-long resident of Oregon, was a state representative from Douglas county for eight years. He was active in the 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1947 sessions of the legislature.

He has been directly or indirectly engaged in logging, timber cruising and sawmilling in Douglas county for 20 years and lived here more than 45 years.

Among his past and present positions are: Eight years on the Douglas County Fair board, four years on the Douglas County Conservation council, four years on the Douglas County Planning board, chairman of the State Game commission, member of the Rural School board, member of the Local School board and one year as district ranger in the Forest service.

The candidate was in the Forest service three years, the engineering department of the Union Pacific railroad at Portland for two years, an accountant for the UP railroad two years, county surveying work two years and a teacher for 22 years.

He is a member of the Masonic and Elks lodges.

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