

THE OBSERVER

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THRIFT BY EDUCATION.

All over American soil today, Thrift Day is observed. Pennies, nickels and dollars are being put away in banks, with a purpose of instilling thrift.

The ability to make money is a fine thing, but without the proper discernment that ability can be practically wasted. As a nation of workers, our citizens command larger wages than are paid in any other country, but as a nation of savers we are far behind many who are far less favored than we are, and one of the hopes for influences of a day set apart annually for universal thought to be directed toward the true meaning, the efficient practice and the inestimable benefits of thrift is that the attitude of the public mind may be changed from one that welcomes extravagance and tolerates debt to that of a real belief in the desirability of spending a little less than is earned.

In the meantime, while this change is being wrought in our workers by part, cannot the practice of thrift be made natural and comparatively easy for the coming generations through an intelligent, systematic course of instruction in thrift in our public schools?

It is interesting at this point to note that the first step in the thrift campaign inaugurated by the American Society for Thrift, which was organized almost two years ago in Chicago by one of the foremost educators of that city for the purpose of "promoting thrift by inquiry, education and discussion," was to arouse the interest of school children all over the country in the subject of thrift by inviting them to enter into a prize competition on the question, "What is Thrift?"

The aim to educate the children of our country to thrift is indeed one which should receive the support of every thinking individual, for by so doing we will be educating them to habits which will produce men and women strong in character. They will have learned that thrift is not significant alone of saving, but that it necessitates working, planning and sometimes, to a certain extent, self-denial.

Thrift is constructive in its every application, and in watching for waste

that might be slipping by unnoticed in connection with some of the operations of the individual, a care is being taken to bring to great perfection and usefulness our habits and our control over them.

It naturally follows that in the reduction of waste a saving takes place. Thrift in money matters takes the concrete form of savings. What to do with the increased savings that they may be constructively and safely employed then comes up for consideration, and undoubtedly as the result of the fuller observation of Thrift Day, thousands of dollars will be added to many savings accounts in banks, and thousands of new accounts will be opened as the result of greater and more specific attention to thrift.

THE GARY PLAN.

"When a scheme is proposed by which existing school buildings may accommodate two sets of pupils, it is no wonder that wide interest is aroused," declared Supt. J. H. Van Sickle, of Springfield, Mass., in describing the spread of the Gary plan of school organization in a report just issued by the United States Bureau of Education of the Department of the Interior.

"Any plan that will lessen the expense of housing school children makes a strong appeal to boards of estimate, school boards, and the press. School boards are not willing, however, to be hurried into adopting, for exclusive use in a situation quite different from that in which it originated, a plan so radically different from the customary one without carefully testing its applicability."

Arguments for and against the Gary plan are presented by Superintendent Van Sickle. He says:

The Gary plan is advocated largely, but not exclusively, on the ground of lower cost. There are those, however, whose approval is based upon the claim that by means of a longer school day it affords to the children wider opportunities for work, study, and play; that it distributes the burden of teaching more evenly over the entire teaching staff; and that it affords prevocational training to all children in all of the grades instead of confining such work to a small group of children in the seventh and eighth grades.

The Gary system has commended itself to students of education for various reasons. It promises:

- 1.—An enriched school life for every pupil.
2.—A co-ordination of all existing child-welfare agencies and a fuller utilization of all facilities in present public and private recreational and educational institutions.
3.—A solution of the part-time problem.
4.—A double school plan by which each serves two children.
5.—A wider use of the school plant.
6.—An increase in the school day through a co-ordination of work, study, and play activities.
7.—A program that would invest the child's nonacademic time to greater profit and pleasure.
8.—A socialized education in harmony with progressive thought of the day.

On the other hand, those who oppose the immediate and wholesale

adoption of the duplicate plan for the elimination of part-time express doubt as to certain novel features of school administration which it embodies, such as departmental teaching for all children from the first year through the eighth, instruction of groups of children by pupils instead of teachers; the grouping together of younger and older pupils for auditorium, laboratory, and workshop exercises; the substitution of an auditorium period for classroom instruction; the omission of formal physical training, supervised play with only four teachers for 12 classes; the deferring of scholastic work for first-year children until late in the afternoon. They urge that sufficient time has not elapsed to test the work of the schemes.

A further criticism is that outside instruction in the home or in the church is permitted, but that no means is provided for seeing that such instruction is the equivalent of regular schooling.

To this criticism the reply is made that it would be unfortunate if the school undertook to insure that such instruction should be the equivalent of regular schooling, for in that case the school would be supervising religious instruction which the law expressly prohibits. The program simply provides that the child can be excused during the day to take private lessons at home or attend religious instruction, if the parent so desires. These periods are never taken from the academic work and therefore do not detract from the regular work of the school. As in the case of play and auditorium, it is simply time which, in the traditional school, the child would spend upon the street. What is taught in these outside classes and how it is taught is not and should not be the concern of the school.

Interest in the Gary plan is by no means confined to the larger cities, Superintendent Van Sickle finds.

Even in communities where the part-time problem is either less acute or else none-existent, and where the expenditures for schools have not become so burdensome as in New York, there will be decided interest in the Gary duplicate plan. This gigantic experiment in education, now in full operation in one of the smaller cities and in partial operation in the largest American municipality, is unquestionably of vast importance, yet the changes required in installing the system in existing schools are so radical and so expensive that school authorities will be disposed to await the result of an adequate trial in New York before departing from the present policy which reserves a seat for every child.

WAR MAY CAUSE SOME BREEDS OF HORSES TO BECOME EXTINCT.

Farm and Fireside quotes American horsemen high in authority as saying that about one-half a million of our horses have been sold on war orders for about one hundred million dollars since the outbreak of the war.

Fully 90 per cent of the artillery horses purchased were sired by draft stallions and were out of small mares. The same horse authorities claim that the Belgian breed in Europe has been practically destroyed, and Percheron breeding stock has also been heavily sacrificed for war use.

A representative of one of America's greatest horse importers says it would not be possible to find 200 draft stallions suitable for export to America, even were exportation allowed.

The crux of the matter clearly indicates that American horse users must depend on the produce of American studs for draft sires for many years to come.

Saluting the Anthem.

When began the custom for individuals and audiences to be standing when the "Star Spangled Banner" was sung or played?

It is a fair question. It was adopted by the army and navy long ago, but the army and navy did not originate the very appropriate and patriotic custom.

Many years ago when Jenny Lind, one of the sweetest singers the world ever produced, was the chief attraction at a Boston concert Daniel Webster, the great senator, secretary of state and patriot, was present.

Jenny Lind sang the "Star Spangled Banner" as only that song bird could sing it. The audience called her back several times, and she sang a verse of our present national anthem. Each time one man stood up and at the close gracefully bowed to the singer. That was Daniel Webster. It was a good example to set, a needed custom to establish, and one that has been an important factor in impressing patriotic lessons.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

A Norfolk Coast Garden.

Unique among English parishes is Wingland, on the Norfolk coast. Rich with soil producing almost unbelievable amounts to the acre, it has no school, postoffice, public house or tax collector. Wingland has a churchyard, and in it lies one grave, that of a boy thrown up by the Wash. Along the north coast of the county, where the cliffs are chalk, sand, clay and loam, the incessant sea is making inroads. Once happy and fruitful villages now lie seven fathoms deep below the waters. The land is practically all reclaimed and is only a few feet above the sea, but is one great garden. An acre has produced more than \$1,000 worth of flowers, fruit and vegetables in a year. Here bulbs of hyacinth and narcissus as good as if not better than those that come from Holland can be bought. Here they grow millions of flowers that grace the tables of Lancashire and Yorkshire.—Argonaut.

New Spring Silks

Just Received an Advance Express Shipment. Including New Tub Silks.

Charming new patterns—25 of them all told—The new plaids, the new stripes, the new checks, also new plain colors. Messalines, Chiffonette Tafetas, and Tub Silks.—Especially pretty and new are the crepe finish tub silks, with satin stripes. Others are the new wide stripes and large checks—also new "candy stripes" silks—we invite your inspection. Priced \$1.00, \$1.15, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75 yard.



This New, Stylish, Front Lace, Elastic Hip

Henderson Corset

at West's for \$2.50

Made with special ribbed banding in front under the lacing to protect the flesh—heavy wide elastic over the hips in the back—good quality cantil—medium bust—Has the Henderson fine fitting qualities—comfortable—price \$2.50

Other Henderson Corsets \$1 to \$3.50
"Nemo" Self Reducing Corset \$3.50 to \$5

N.W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

Now Laugh!

Smile.
Don't think about it.
Probably won't happen that way, anyway.
And, if it does, 'twon't be as bad as you fear.
There's the real trouble—being afraid.
We take a little trouble about the size of a gnat and look at it through the magnifying glass of fear until it looks as big as an elephant.
Then we are afraid of our own creation.
Thing to do is to squash it while it is still no more than a gnat.
We don't hate squirmy things because of what we squirmy things will do to us, but because of what we fear they might. Our reason tells us they are harmless, but our fear contradicts.
Men are just as bad.
No need to tell a woman in what way.
Smile.
There's so much joy for the least of us.
There's so little pain for the most of us.
It seems funny to me that any of us can't smile all the time at the rest of us.
Now laugh!—Los Angeles Times.

Historic Rose Tree.

The most venerable rose tree in existence is said to bloom against the ancient church of Hildesheim, in Germany. Notwithstanding the many parties which at different times have been in the ascendancy, they all seem to have respected and tended the rose tree, which, it is said, was planted by Charlemagne. The trunk is now almost as big as a man's body. There are five principal limbs trained against the church, the tree being protected by iron railings inclosing an area of about twenty-six square feet. The German soldiers in early ages tended the tree; Catholics and Protestants, in turn masters of the town, drained the ground; the soldiers of Turenne fastened up the branches with clamps, and those of Napoleon, a century and a half later, erected the railings.

For the Visitors.

In full view of the crowd in a very busy street two vendors of berries were busy with piles of thin wooden boxes, each scantily filled with immature fruit. Emptying box after box, the vendors, deftly punched up one layer of the box bottom to a sharp angle pointed in the middle, propped it there with paper and then refilled the receptacle, taking great care that the finest and freshest looking berries should make a showy top covering.

One of the spectators grew indignant. "How in the world," he demanded, "do you expect to sell your wares when you openly show that they are not what they seem to be?"
"Aw, gwan!" said the vendor addressed. "This is New York, and there are more trains coming with more people."—Everybody's.

DOCTOR SAVES A BLACKSMITH.

Some time ago I was taken with kidney trouble which caused me to give up my work as blacksmith. I lost my appetite and could not sleep, from the dreadful pains that would come over me, from my kidneys. I was treated by a physician for about three months. He could not help me so finally he prescribed Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root. I started taking same and before I had finished taking the first bottle I began to eat and sleep

better than I had in a long time. I continued to take same until I was entirely cured and took on considerable weight.

I am now back working at my trade again and never felt better in my life. I appreciate what Swamp-Root has done for me and will recommend it to anyone who suffers with their kidneys. When physicians fail to give relief and then prescribe Swamp-Root, they sure know of its merits. I am, Very truly yours, S. A. HALE.

State of New York, ss

County of Monroe.
S. A. Hale, of Henrietta, N. Y., being duly sworn deposes and says that he is the person who wrote the foregoing

testimonial letter to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., and knows the facts stated therein to be true.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of July, 1909.

MORRIS T. GRIFFIN,

Notary Public.

Prove What Swamp-Root Will Do For You.

Send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample size bottle. It will convince anyone. You will also receive a booklet of valuable information, telling about the kidneys and bladder. When writing, be sure and mention the La Grande Daily Observer. Regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles for sale at all drug stores.



Girls are looking for careful men with Bank accounts for husbands, so are their parents

She likes her Valentine

GIRLS DO NOT WANT A LIFE OF PROVERTY; THEY PREFER MEN WITH MONEY. YOU CAN'T BLAME THEM.

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