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All Out of Step but O.A.C.

Editor Ingalls of the Corvallis Gazette-Times, always loyal to his home town and its institutions, defends the O. A. C. against the Observer's recent comments, but joins with us in a general demand on revision of educational matters. Here is what the versatile editor of Corvallis has to say:

"Our friend Bruce Dennis of La Grande has joined with Col. Hofer in his fight on higher education. The difference is that the Col. is paid to do that sort of thing. That's part of what he is hired for. With Bruce, however, the whole thing is a matter of conviction.

There is an awfully large part of the Dennis program, too, with which we are in entire sympathy. Frills in education are like the frills in dressing or in eating—the largest part of the expense. The thing we ought to do is to get back to fundamentals in education in the grade schools, in the high schools and in the colleges.

This is especially true of the grade and high schools for they cost nearly 80 per cent of our total bill for education in Oregon. And our total bill, by the way, is about 25 per cent of our tax, and our total bill for higher education is 7 per cent of our tax. So it is plain to be seen that if proper steps were made by local authorities to cut out the superfluous in grade and high school courses, the education tax would have safe chance of a material reduction. The place to reduce is where the reductions will amount to something. Educators will say at once, of course, that such a thing would be a step backward. Maybe it would from their point of view. Workers around Gary are now dragging out their savings of war time to buy sirloin steaks and other luxuries that they became accustomed to during the period of high wages instead of making their menu fit the new wage scale. That is the trouble with educators—they want to maintain a sirloin steak curriculum on a chuck-steak pocketbook.

We are not familiar with the curriculum on a chuck-steak pocketbook leaning outside of Corvallis, but everybody knows that there are few frills here. This is a school of practical, technical instruction and that is all it is. Nothing else is taught and nothing else is allowed. The board of higher curricula would see to that even if there were a disposition to introduce anything else, which there is not.

"But the things most writers on the subject overlook is that 1921 is an exceptional year for higher education tax. As a legislator, of course, Mr. Dennis is informed about that. But the rest of the state may not be. The people usually forget very quickly. The reason it is exceptional is because of the extra sums levied to take care of a long neglected building program.

For instance, the higher education tax in Oregon for 1921 is \$4.42 per capita. Next year it will be but \$2.00. "The total higher education tax in 1921 is \$3,469,196.

"There is a decrease of \$1,955,091, or over a third in one year without any change in the law or in the college curricula.

"These figures are based on the assumption that the assessed valuation in Oregon will be the same as in 1921 or \$1,940,839,049.

"Now there is no such possibility of reducing the high school and grade-school tax one-third except by cutting out the superfluous and giving broad courses and confining the operations of the schools to brass tacks matters. The idea of teaching cooking, for instance, in the grades, is absurd. The next thing some 'educator' will want to introduce is painting and china painting and cubist verse.

"In the meantime, a survey of a reduction of one-third, or over a million dollars in our higher education tax ought to bring some comfort to the despairing for a reduction from \$4.42 per capita to \$2.0 is a material reduction."

Questionaires

Isn't this business of questionnaires to determine a person's fitness for a job, or for association with sane folk, going too far?

The alienists' questions, according to most people's way of thinking, were either silly or calculated to drive sane people crazy. Edison's questions, not bad in themselves, have resulted in a crop of interrogatories that is enough to make the world dizzy, if the poor old world were not already suffering from wobbly cerebralization. The latest Edisonian imitator is an

other inventor, Hudson Maxim, who in a New York paper springs a quiz which includes these gems:

"1. Where on the surface of the earth would a hunter be standing who, seeing a deer to the east of him, would point his gun north to shoot the deer?"

"2. What causes the cold currents coming down from the north to hug the American coast?"

"3. What is the difference between two and two and twice two?"

"4. Punctuate this sentence to make sense: 'That this is it that is not it not that it is.'"

Surely, as Artemus Ward would say, "This is 2 mutch!" If we were to venture a casual answer to the first question, we should suggest Matrawan, N. Y. As for the second, very likely that cold current hugs the shore to get warm. Whether there is any difference between "two and two" and "twice two" we are content to leave to the third grade in school, which specializes in such matters. To any super-punctuator can punctuate number 11 "to make sense," the ignorant writer of these lines is willing to eat every punctuation mark in the composing room, with a dressing of carpet tacks.

The saddest thing about it is that Mr. Hudson Maxim and most of his fellow-inquisitors seem so dreadfully serious about it. What the world needs is to stop asking and answering fool questions, and get to work earning an honest living.

Lenine and the Famine

Bolshevism is not responsible for the crop failure which now threatens to depopulate southern Russia. It is the result of heat and drought, ever which no human agency could have any control. But Bolshevism may be charged with the responsibility for the famine, just the same, because Bolshevism has created the conditions which make it so hard for the starving districts to get food.

Russia normally is an overflowing storehouse. It has always exported wheat in large quantities. Nine-tenths of the Russians are farmers. Famine has been almost unknown. When crops failed in any section, food would flow in from more fortunate sections.

Now there is no food surplus in Russia. Farmers have been content to raise merely enough for their own needs. They stopped producing food for the market when Lenine began confiscating supplies for the industrial population and giving in exchange his worthless paper money. What was the use of raising grain when those lazy city folk would take it all?

The farmers had another grievance against the Lenine government and against the industrial communities in the failure to provide them with agricultural implements. As their machines and tools wore out they were reduced to the most primitive kind of tillage.

Transportation also broke down, and that is the crucial factor in the present situation. The Bolsheviks did not keep up the railroads. They did not take any care of their rolling stock. Not more than one-third of the locomotives and cars that the revolutionary government took over are still in commission. For the most part the break-down appears to be mainly the result of sheer, slovenly negligence. New locomotives have been bought and allowed to rust until they were hopeless. As matters stand, not only does the Soviet government lack transportation for domestic food supplies, if any existed, but it cannot furnish proper facilities for moving and distributing the supplies that Secretary Hoover is providing.

Thus is the famine the latest and biggest item of the appalling price that Russia is paying for the Bolshevik phase of her revolution.

Lynching Loses Popularity

A New Orleans attorney who has been sojourning in the north this summer gave the following interesting little interview about lynching:

"Lynching as a popular outdoor sport is dying out in the South, and within a few years will be an infrequent there as it is now in the North.

"When I went to Louisiana, 18 years ago, it was said of almost every lynching, 'the crowd was led by a delegation of prominent citizens.' Unfortunately this was often true. It is not true now.

"The better element in the South is coming to see that safety in racial matters lies in a strict observance of the law on both sides. Outbursts of racial violence are denounced in press and pulpit, and officials charged with the enforcement of the law are not so prone to surrender to the clamor of the mob.

"The case of Tulsa illustrates the new tendency. Not only has that city shown conviction for its sins, but it is rebuilding the property destroyed in its recent race war. All along the line you see signs of this new, more generous and more enlightened attitude."

THE FIRST PASSENGER



IN THE OLD HOME TOWN



OVERHEAD WORK BEING PUSHED

NORTH POWDER, Aug. 15.—The frames for the reinforced concrete piers are now being made by the men working on the new overhead bridge over the O. W. R. & N. Co. tracks. This immense structure will be 200 feet in length and 25 feet high. Actual work of placing frames will take place early this week. There will be six sets of piers, or twelve 24x30 solid reinforced concrete pillars, and the cost of the completed structure will be in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

The work is being done by the James F. Clarkson Co., of Portland, and L. Pace is supervising the work of construction.

Severe earthquakes in New Zealand have ruined the roads near Auckland. Nothing can be done to provide roads through which the earth's crust will not break. Volcanic workings are constantly going on under ground.

THE MODERN FARMER.

I sure do like the farmer's life, he sits and rides all day; No more backbreaking job, when you farm in the modern way.

He rides upon the tractor and plows the whole day through, He rides upon the disc-harrow and rides the drill too.

And when he plants his corn he rides Upon the planter and drops the seeds, And when the corn comes up he rides Upon the weeder that pulls the weeds.

He rides upon the mower and as sure as I'm alive, I would hate to try the old way and cut it with a scythe.

He rides upon the horse rake and makes the hay in piles, And he rides upon the buckrake, resting all the while.

Then he rides upon the binder and the machine shocks the grain, Farming now is easy as riding on a train.

There the Grant Thresher comes along, and never seems to lag, It cuts the grain and threshes it and puts it into bags; Don't feel sorry for the farmer riding on his beat.

The hardest work he has to do is ride a cushioned seat.

Next he rides upon his tractor and takes his grain to town, He rides upon the manure spreader and spreads the manure around.

Then when night comes he sits and watches the cows milked by machine— He likes this new way better, it's done so nice and clean.

Then he sits in his touring car and takes a spin to town, Takes in the shows and lectures and good things to be found.

He also has an electric plant which lights his house and barn And he can tell his neighbors that it works just like a charm.

Then he sits conversing with his neighbors on the phone each day He has city conveniences and is modern in every way.

So we will stick to the farm awhile, go riding every day, And we will keep on making hay.

(The above was written by H. C. Tapp, of Portland, who is in La Grande visiting relatives.)

PRUNE CROP BEST IN YEARS

The prune crop of the Cove section will be the biggest in the history of that section this year, in the opinion of Chris Stackland, one of Cove's fruitgrowers who was in town Saturday. Stackland says that there are many young trees coming into bearing this year and that the trees from seven to ten years old are laden down as well as the older crops.

Other fruit crops also are looking fine. The Delicious apples are not quite up to normal in his opinion but the Rome Beauties and others will produce a heavy crop.

WALLOWA PYTHIANS CONFER TWO DEGREES

Mrs. Minnie Chelf, of Meacham, was in the city Thursday. Mrs. Chelf is the mother of Mrs. Ulric Dyer, who lost her life in the wreck of the steamer Alaska. Mr. Dyer and one child, Orva, were saved, while Mrs. Dyer and two children were victims of the disaster.—Pendleton Tribune.

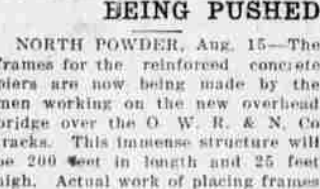
MEN BACK AT WORK ON THE RAILROAD

Since reopening the shops about two months ago the O. W. has gradually increased its shop forces until now practically a normal crew of men are back at work.

With the addition of a number of crews for hauling gravel and with the coming grain movement a number of crews of trainmen have also been put back to work.

A bird sanctuary for great black backed gulls has been established in Lake George, Nova Scotia.

THE OFFICE CAT



—By JUNIOR—

Enrico Carnoso. You have heard your last applause, And they will lay you away, In old sunny Italy, And the voice that the multitude, Loved so well, will no longer be heard.

Only in recording the past, and You have reached the shores of destiny At last. —Hattie S. Launing.

Wars may come and wars may go, but war taxes go on forever. Nobody loves a rag-chewer, A moth hasn't a friend in the world.

"Enjoy nature's music," urges a Chicago concern which advertises a musical ventilator to be placed in an open window. It has, therefore, nothing to do with snoring, as some might imagine.

"I don't know whether to accept this testimonial or not," mused the hair-restorer man.

"What's the matter with it?" demanded the advertising manager.

"Well, explained the boss, "The man writes: 'I used to have three bald spots on the top of my head, but since using a bottle of your hair restorer I only have one.'"

Yep. People who complain that a paper never has any news are the one who

Oh, Gee, Fellers, Just Think of Such Luck.

Greensburg, Ind., July 22 — This was Christmas, the Fourth of July, a birthday anniversary and the first day of school vacation—all in one for 8-year-old Charles Volles.

The youngster stumbled over a barrel of candy while chasing a rabbit through a blackberry patch south of town. The Big Four railroad refused to claim it and Charles had undaunted possession today, while officers investigated to learn if it was stolen from a store at Letts south of here.

A liquor man says it's the wet nations of the world organized against prohibition. A sort of "tippie" alliance.

OAC TECHNOLOGY

Oregon's Higher Institution of Technology
Eight Schools; Seventy Departments
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For information write to the Registrar
Oregon Agricultural College
CORVALLIS

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The Highest Priced Clothes In Town!

Yes, Gentlemen, we are proud of the fact that we have within our doors the highest priced suits in town, but you must not miss the other side of this statement which reads: "The Highest Quality Overcoats In Town," for those two statements read in their proper relation signal clearly the oft-repeated, proven promise of the greatest Suit Values in town.

Come in and try on one of these new suits made by

HART SCHAFFNER & MARX

Make the triple mirror test and get the "fabric feel" that signals true supremacy.

\$35 to \$70

Young Men Leaving Soon For College

Will find some of the very newest, young men's models here now for early selection. Be fitted now and save delay, or necessity of measuring.

NK West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

get all bet up if it isn't delivered to them right on the minute. —Flint (Mich.) Daily Journal.

One thing that makes us better satisfied with summer is the advance styles in men's hats that they are showing for fall wear.

How Would This Sound? How it pours, pours, pours, In a never-ending sheet! How it drives beneath the doors! How it soaks the passer's feet! How it rattles on the shutter! How it rumples on the lawn, How 'twill sigh and moan and mutter From darkness until dawn.

One nice thing about us writing this column is that we do not have to read it every morning like we did when someone else wrote it.

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Self Advertisement. The driver just ahead of you joggling leisurely along until you come up. You are in a hurry, and sound your horn as notice that you intend to pass. Bing! He "steps on it" and crowds the middle of the road. That's the road hog. His behavior informs you as plainly as any label could just the kind of a bird he is.

Carr's Carr's

Where Your Credit Is Good Use It

COMPLETE HOME FURNISHER

Only Four More Weeks Until School

Get your sewing done early—We have the goods

School day Cloth, per yd.	36c to 39c
Romper Cloth, per yd.	23c to 28c
Apron Ginghams, per yd.	12c
Dress Ginghams from	15c to 75c
Thread, per 150 yd. spool	5c
Pearl Buttons, per card	5, 8 and 10c
Three doz. Twenty Snaps	10c

A full line of School Supplies

Andrew's Variety Store

Welders of All Metals

THE BEST EQUIPPED IN EAST OREGON

Cylinder Regrinding—Crankshaft Regrinding
Pistons,—Piston Rings,—Piston Pins

Cars and Tractors of All Makes Overhauled

Machine Work of All Kinds

We are equipped and manned by experts for the above work

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R. W. Leighton, Prop.

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—is a servant always at command, that never tires; night or day, hot or cold, snow or rain, it is always ready to quickly, cheaply and cheerfully perform tasks that otherwise require time, expense, inconvenience and in case every day, by its evelity, it saves lives and property of water element beyond computation.

Home Independent Telephone Co.