

Cottage Grove Sentinel
A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty of Backbone

Bede & Smith Publishers
Elbert Bede Editor

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BATIK FOR OUR SCHOOLS.

The United States is educating some seventeen millions of children and the annual tax bill is more than a billion dollars, so that it is readily seen that education is a problem worthy of the consideration of all those having the welfare of the nation at heart. That the situation is being given serious consideration is evidenced by recent statements made by some of our leading national citizens and by the fact that newspapers generally are commenting editorially on educational problems.

That it is being given serious consideration by the taxpayers is evidenced by the fact that those of Portland recently turned down a proposed bond issue of seven and a half millions of dollars for the erection of new school buildings. Probably the taxpayers went too far, but they either had to take all or nothing, so they turned the bonds down by a two to one vote.

Batik and candlestick making are two of the things taught in the Portland schools. A knowledge of these subjects certainly is necessary to the welfare of our growing citizens. No girl should think of taking a husband unless she has equipped herself for housekeeping by obtaining a thorough knowledge of these subjects. She would make a miserable failure of frying eggs and boiling potatoes if she had no knowledge of batik to guide her.

No young man should attempt to court a girl unless he is equipped to carry on an extended conversation upon ancient, modern, elementary and advanced batik and candlestick making. He should never apply for a responsible position if he must acknowledge that his learning in these subjects is limited.

The action of the Portland taxpayers may make it necessary to eliminate these subjects and Portland pupils may have to be content with education in such old-fashioned subjects as reading, writing, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, geography, history, grammar, spelling, the languages, music, art, typewriting, bookkeeping, manual training, domestic science and athletics. Certainly boys and girls thus poorly equipped will have hardly a chance in this cruel, cruel world when they come in contact with those where the taxpayers have provided complete courses in batik and candlestick making.

Exponents of our present educational system, those who demand for our youngsters education in such vital subjects as batik and candlestick making, have good reason to be worried by the strange notions being expressed by many of our leading citizens, some of them from our leading educational institutions.

Superintendent Grant, of Portland, where the schools may cease to function when these subjects are removed, upon his return from the session of the National Educational association, made the following startling statement:

"The matter of a change in the system of education was taken up seriously by a number of leading educators. . . It was charged that only the memory was trained by the present system and that the more important matter of teaching

the child to think and reason for itself was entirely overlooked. There were a number of changes in the curricula of the schools proposed."

The president of Princeton college must intend to wreck that institution, for he recently announced that the entrance standards are to be raised and that higher standards are to be demanded of students, that Princeton hereafter is to take only those boys who can bring most to Princeton and for whom Princeton can do most.

Commenting on this statement, the Aberdeen (Wash.) World said, "In other words, Princeton is to be more selective in respect to its students. It is going to abandon the effort to put four-story education on one-story brains."

A recent issue of Ed Howe's Monthly contained the following statements:

"Possibly you know our public schools have become so expensive, so ineffective, so devoted to play instead of to study, that many advocate their abolition and a fresh start made. . . Most young people consent to attend school to avoid work; their parents couldn't make them attend if they didn't want to."

The Sentinel does not share Mr. Howe's pessimistic view and only quotes his comment to show the trend of feeling on the part of some who are themselves mentally well equipped and unquestionably desire that the growing generation also shall be similarly equipped for its battle with the world.

The Sentinel has frequently sounded the warning that our educational system is in danger of getting too heavy and that unless its friends do something to keep out too many frills the pendulum of public opinion, which has swung nearly to the limit in supporting taxation for education, will swing in the other direction, with danger of crippling the schools, as they undoubtedly have been temporarily crippled in Portland.

THE FARMER GOING ONTO A BUSINESS BASIS.

Cottage Grove, Ore., June 25.—(To the Editor.)—In a recent copy of your paper I noticed an editorial which many farmers, including myself, approved and I take this means of letting you know of our approval. It ended with the statement that to better ourselves we must take the first steps—organization.

Something that has been done along that line in southern Lane county is the organization of locals of the Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union of America at Walker, Silk Creek, Dorena and Coast Fork with nearly 200 active members and new ones coming in at each meeting.

Also something I have noticed in The Sentinel for the past nine years is the fact that particular mention is given to the farmer bringing to market the first load of new crop grain, something which, I am sorry to say, is not good business for the farmer to do. According to Portland market reports the hook is already baited for those first loads of wheat at \$1.03 the bushel. Statistics show that it costs about \$1.70 the bushel to produce that wheat. Also I might add that a popular brand of flour is retailing at \$2.30 the 49-pound sack.

In 1913 and 1914 I received from 90 cents to \$1.25 for wheat and bought this same brand of flour at \$1.40 the sack. This year the wheat price ranged from 88 cents to \$1.30. Flour did not go down to \$1.40, but remained above \$2 the sack.

Here is a problem for the American Bankers association to work out for us: "Who is getting that extra 90 cents the sack on this flour?" I believe the farmer is entitled to one-half of it.

Now I move that we start a new contest something on this order: "Who will be the slowest in bringing to market the first load of new wheat of the 1923 crop?" I believe

if those who could would enter this contest it would not be over 90 days before the wheat buyers would rebait their hook for the early bird with probably \$1.50 the bushel as the price offered.

I hope to receive a reply to this through your "live wire" paper.

GEORGE M. KEBELBECK,
Pres. Coast Fork F. E. & C. U. of A.

The Sentinel can only reiterate what has been said. "The farmers themselves by cooperation can solve most of their own problems." No other class of people has been put on its feet except by cooperation unless some unusual circumstance made a demand for their goods greater than the supply. During the war, for example, the need of cooperation on the part of producers was hardly necessary.

Mr. Keibelbeck's statement that rushing the market with produce gives the buyer the edge on the market is true. The farmer, if he can, should keep that for himself.

The Sentinel is not in a position to fully explain the apparent discrepancy in the price of flour, with wheat at the same price that it was when flour sold much cheaper, but it probably can give a partial explanation. If flour mill machinery has advanced in price in the same proportion that machinery has in the printing industry, it costs three to four times what it did before the war. It takes, therefore, two to three times the investment that it formerly did to produce a sack of flour. Wages in the flour mill industry also probably are much higher than before the war. The manufacturer figures his profit on his investment, so that there is actually a greater profit to him upon each sack, though perhaps not a greater percentage of profit. The retailer adds his profit according to what the flour costs him and his profit also is greater on a sack, though the percentage of profit may remain the same.

These statements are made because a reply seems to be asked and are not to be taken as discouraging the members of the union in their efforts to bring about a fairer break for the producer. In that effort we wish to offer them every possible encouragement. We will give them any reasonable amount of publicity in bringing that about. We wish to see them arrive at a position in the business world which will enable them to say, "Our wheat costs us \$1.70 the bushel, to which we must add a profit in order to continue in business and in order that we may have the things to which our efforts entitle us." That is the basis upon which the farmer's produce should be sold, not upon the whims of an uncertain market. The farmer can put himself in that position if he will.

GIVE AND TAKE.

This old life of ours is a game of give and take. It must be so if we are to be happy and get along with our neighbors. Some want to take too much and some probably give too much.

Usually it seems to us that the other fellow wants to take too much and he probably thinks that we want him to give too much. In the heat of the argument we feel that we are absolutely right and that the other fellow is absolutely wrong. Sometimes we enrage those who have been friends for years and a few days later, in the light of calm reasoning, we may admit that possibly the other fellow had just as good reason to feel that he was right as we had to feel that he was wrong. At any rate we give him credit for being sincere. If he comes to the same conclusion and the two of us use good judgment, the ridiculous situation is talked over calmly, each gives on points which no longer seem as vital as they once did, all feel better and we cogitate upon the old saying, "What fools these mortals be."

If you can't give a little, don't get yourself into a position where the other fellow is likely to say you

want to take too much. Above all things, if you get into that position, don't say the harsh things you think. A few days later you will put yourself on the back for holding your temper when at the time you may have thought that you were exhibiting a lack of backbone.

This does not mean that there is never a time when backbone should be exhibited. This does not mean that there are not times when righteous anger is justified, but such occasions are few compared to the number of times when you feel that drastic action is justified, and it's a wise person who can correctly judge when firm or harsh words will not be later regretted.

It is rather peculiar that things which a few months ago, or a few years ago, seemed vital to our well-being, no longer have any importance to us and yet in the beginning we may have severed friendships for the time being by saying unkind things to, or about, the one who differed with us.

Life is too fleeting to spend in turmoil. Give and take and in the end all will be happier and we will find that we got most of the things we were entitled to.

FARM POINTERS

(From Oregon Agricultural College.)

Oats and vetch silage gave better milk yields in an average of three feeding tests at the O. A. C. experiment station than corn or sunflower silage. Rating the milk production on corn at 100 per cent, that on oats and vetch was 105 and on sunflowers 98. In fat production with corn rated at 100, results with oats and vetch were 107 and with sunflowers 100.

To make the most economical use of land, conserve its fertility and make the most profit in farming, a scientific crop rotation system is necessary. This gives a recurring succession of crops with different nutrient requirements and increases yields at the lowest possible cost. The larger yields from crop rotation are almost clear velvet.

Does the cane maggot know that unless it kills the tip of the berry cane before starting to tunnel toward the ground the growing cause will kill it—apparently it does not. The O. A. C. experiment station has found that the little maggots bore their way from the inside of the tip to just beneath the bark and there germinate, usually causing the tip to droop and die, before they continue their journey downward. If the plant recovers, as blackberries often do, the insect has never been found to live to complete its dangerous journey.

Certified seed potato growers must sign up not less than ten applicants for certification before the project is accepted by the state college extension service, because of the high cost of visiting a single farmer in a community. An entrance fee of \$1 is charged, with no other costs for field inspection. If the crop passes bin inspection a charge of 5 cents a bushel is made.

Pretty soon the necessities of life will cost more than the luxuries.

All fiery orators are not shining lights.

The person who is in love with himself will have no one to interrupt him in prosecuting his suit.

It is impossible to fight for the right without forcing someone to defend the wrong.

BEWARE OF MAN SANS SELF STARTER

A girl should never do the proposing, because a man who hasn't nerve enough to ask the girl hasn't gumption enough to make a living for two.

The man who dreams of the things he would like to do is sometimes worth more to the world than the one who is satisfied with the things he is doing.

will help you until you can issue your own reports. You must have the loyalty that goes with confidence or you will fail. You must have standing by, backing up, even under difficulties. Nothing will so quickly wreck an association as members with supposed grievances spreading the propaganda of their enemies. Stand by solidly and control your own business."

Oregon is awakening to the fact that she is a laggard in cooperation. Portland financial and business interests realize that the producers must be prosperous if the metropolis is to have a substantial backing. Stabilization of markets and price maintenance to a profit basis must be brought about.

With hearty joint action between city and country and loyal cooperation with producers Oregon can do what California has done and what Washington is doing. The state market agent law was enacted to help along this cooperative work and the department stands ready at all times when producers are ready.

WEEKLY LETTER FROM STATE MARKET AGENT

Boyd Oliver, of California, associated with the Aaron Spario cooperative law firm, drove home some truths to cooperators in his talk to the Washington-Oregon hay growers' conference at Kennewick, Wash., this month.

California is leading the nation in successful cooperation, but its success has been attained only after many mistakes and failures. Oregon should profit by the experience and avoid much of the grief California producers had to endure in the long fight to success.

Mr. Oliver said that first there must be sincere and active cooperation between country and city and until there is this joint action full success cannot be attained. He said that the business and financial interests of California have come to know that the prosperity of their cities is based on successful farming.

He related how at one time California had 40 local cooperative associations handling oranges and that the growers thought they had solved the problem of marketing, but he stated they might far better have had none, as each local was marketing its own fruit and the result was that the 40 associations were fighting each other, glutting localities and that failure followed.

Then they organized by commodity, instead of locally, all under one central head and selling agency and the price of oranges was raised from \$5.50 to \$8.50 and the market stabilized.

He said this plan of commodity merchandising stopped the demoralization caused by all dumping on the same market. Only as much as the locality required was shipped, while the central agency found new markets and supplied them only what they demanded.

Mr. Oliver said that the success of California's 30 or more successful cooperative associations was in simply applying the same principles as are applied by the big successful private industries of the country—nothing more.

He advised long time contracts with producers. He said the commission and middlemen let up on their propaganda when the farmers were tied up for years ahead.

And then Mr. Oliver shot this at the conference: "Get a manager who knows; no matter what the salary—get him. Keep the confidence of the members—you must have it or you will fail. Play your cards face up on the table; let all the members know what you are doing. Don't drive; it can't be done. You must have publicity. At least once a week you must let the members know what is being done. Your state marketing department

THINGS WE THINK
Think of the Things Others Think
Think of the Things Others Think

About the only way a woman can avoid being accused of gossiping is to be deaf and dumb.

Some men are docile by nature—but the large majority are married.

Broken promises make the rough places in the road to failure.

GOT MORE THAN HE HAD COMING

The man who doesn't think his wife the best and sweetest looking woman in the world deserves one that isn't.

It's not strange that wives admire the advancement and progress of their hubbies—it's natural for anyone to admire his own handiwork.

Some New York jokers recently gave a woman poison—and will find the jury has very little appreciation of humor.

If a female Indian is called a squaw, why shouldn't a baby Indian be called a squawker.

MAY PAINT THE TOWN RED

We note a dispatch concerning a European divorce dated from Carmine. Plenty of local color probably will be developed in the proceedings.

TRUST THE WOMEN FOR IT

There are those who continue to harp that women can never learn politics and will never know how to vote intelligently. We're willing to wager a few annual subscriptions to this great family journal that they will learn one and know the other just as soon as the men will.

Automobiles are like people. Those that are worth the most make the least noise about it.

This is the golden age of the go-get'er.

If we could all have the things we wish for, there would still be about the same amount of inequality that there is now.

THE MILKY WAY

The man who thunders out his refusal to do an act of kindness will find the milk of human kindness soured in his breast.

A grownup man appears out of place holding his sweetheart on his lap—but it is really the girl who is out of place.

CONSISTENCY, HUNT THE MUD

The minute millionaires begin putting their money into circulation by extravagant means, people begin to criticize. So long as they keep it sewed up in a sock no one says a word.

The ungrateful man is the one who, having had his view from the top of the ladder, coming down tramples on the fingers of those working their way up.

AND WON'T BE NEARLY AS NICE ABOUT IT

The young man who spends lots of money on candy for his sweetheart may have to pay an equal amount for dental bills for his wife.

WASTED EFFORT

A scientist claims to have discovered how to make diamonds from illuminating gas. As a problem in science this discovery may be of interest, but making diamonds out of illuminating gas does not leave any margin for profit.

You would give your boy a good trouncing if he spoke as implicitly to you as you sometimes do to him.

"You must keep this to yourself" starts many a piece of juicy gossip on its way.

Very few married men play football. They don't want to take chances letting their hair grow the required length.

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The one toilet article that everybody needs

TALC JONTEEL
Perfumed with the costly new odor of twenty-six flowers
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Tiny Tot Baby Talcum
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