

# MALHEUR ENTERPRISE EDITORIAL SECTION

**I**T may be probable that all children are not in the same mental class as Winnifred, who at 12 years can speak eight languages and is almost a prodigy in mathematics, but that all children might have a vast amount of book knowl-

ledge in excess of the present average is now a well known fact. The papers have dropped the Montessori method which is practically along the line of child education used by Mrs. Stoner only because it has ceased to be news. This lady has eliminated the word "don't" from her vocabulary, and why not? It is the everlasting don't that has cursed humanity for as many thousands of years as man has made history. Don't and threats of punishment have proved a failure, a prodigious and overwhelming failure.

It is proven almost beyond doubt that there is but little in the old cry of heredity; the old dogma that the sins of the fathers shall be visited on the children, is on par with the doctrine of hell and damnation for all who believe not some certain things.

It is not proven that a child born from depraved and criminal parents, removed at birth and given to some family to raise who know absolutely nothing about the parentage of the child (thus eliminating the possibility of mental telepathy holding sway) will prove depraved. Alcoholism has been well proved to be not transmitted to offspring. Admitting this we come near to the domain of the metaphysics of Christian Science.

Their doctrine of the unreality of evil, applied intelligently if not literally, might be that after all evil is a state of mind as well as good. If Winnifred was never allowed to come in contact with don't-how could she know of evil? If she attempts to put her hand in the fire, instead of don't-why not-that will burn you? Instead of showing the child how NOT to hold a spoon, why not always show how TO hold it, eliminating don't. If we desire to memorize anything do we not continually repeat it and why not do the same to the child if we desire them to learn anything. Application of knowledge comes to all later. We learn that two and two make four, that six times nine is fifty-four, and a long time after learn that nine pounds of rice at six cents per pound amounts to fifty-four cents.

We are all anxious to have our child obey, and what child would disobey if they were never told don't.

Webster had a vocabulary of some 9,000 words. Bryan has, perhaps an equal vocabulary (less wise perhaps); now suppose the baby commences to talk at two years and useful words are taught to the child at the rate of one each day (perhaps too much for the first year but the increase with age would more than make up) for ten years, at twelve years the child has a vocabulary of 3600 words as against some five hundred of most smart children of that age under our present methods.

Old methods must make way for new as fast as the old are shown inadequate or wrong. The world will learn from the present war, not learn it, but have the knowledge brought home to them, that constant talk about fighting will cause a fight. We all know that about boys and men. In school, constant talk about one boy being able to whip another will surely bring on a row. In a town constant talk about the ability of someone to whip someone else will result in a row. Nations are but an agglomeration of men and boys, mostly boys.

Away with don't: Away with threats of punishment in either this world or the next. God made men to be happy and he never made a threat nor said don't. He made man to live on land and the sea will drown him. He made fish to live in water and taken from its element changes from life to what we call death.

Speaking of recall: It's a good thing for some editors that the people cannot recall them at a special election.

In this connection perhaps Hamlet's words might be appropos: "If all men got their deserts, who of us would 'scape whipping."

Watch Mexico the day peace is declared in Europe. Ten million soldiers free to settle all diplomatic questions. The day of "watchful waiting" will come to a close and the dawn of a day of settlement will have arrived. Who will pay? Let Bryan answer.

One thing which makes us find so few people who appear reasonable and agreeable in conversation is, that there is scarcely anyone who does not think more of what he is about to say than of answering precisely what is said to him. The cleverest and most complaisant people content themselves with merely showing an attentive countenance, while we can see in their eyes and minds a wandering from what is said to them, and an impatience to return to what they wish to say; instead of reflecting that it is a bad method of pleasing or persuading others, to be studious of pleasing oneself; and that listening well and answering well is one of the greatest perfections that can be attained in conversation.—Maxims.

**T**HE Harney County News of a late date contained an article largely quoting from President Farrel, of the O. W. R. & N. Co., giving reasons for failure to extend the Oregon Eastern at present. President Farrel, quotes the

News, states that "the extension must wait until people are willing to invest in railroad securities; that the portion of the road now built produces practically no revenue; that the land in Harney county is held by big companies which retard development and settlement."

As to the first objection we rather think that the construction of the Oregon Eastern to the coast will divert all through freight from the present hill climbing railroad the O. W. R. & N. The Oregon Eastern presents no heavy grades from Nyssa to the coast and is a certain competitor for all through traffic. We rather think that had the O. S. L. kept the road and continued building, that today the O. W. R. & N. would be a local road from Nyssa-Huntington to Portland on account of those same grades.

As to the second reason: a road commencing at a point where traffic does not originate and ending in a steep canyon through which it has passed for 60 miles out of 76 cannot be expected to have any traffic. Imagine the O. W. R. & N. commencing at Huntington and ending at Pendleton, where would they realize?

The Oregon Eastern is a splendid standard road with the best of bridges and concrete culverts intended for heavy transcontinental trains and rolling stock, an absurd construction for a local road from Vale to Riverside.

Harney Valley is one of the few remaining wheat growing countries yet undeveloped in the west. Its elevation and somewhat greater rainfall than in the lower valley ensures a fair crop of grain every year. The Oregon Western Colonization company is the greatest single land holder in the county. Its lands are for sale and are being sold on the strength of the advancement of the Oregon Eastern into the country. The sale must naturally be slow through the delay in building the road. Wheat nor in fact anything can be raised except stock, until there are transportation facilities furnished.

Harney county has one valley containing 300,000 acres and another with 200,000 acres. It has the reputation of being the best irrigated of any county in the state and its irrigated lands produce one to two tons of wild hay per acre. Why? Why not more? Wild hay is the best stock feed in the world and can be raised at no cost. With an area of nearly six and one half million acres Harney has no railroad. The O. E. ends in Malheur canyon and has no traffic and Harney might raise millions of bushels of grain but has no transportation, an absurd and unbusiness like condition, brought about by railroad speculators and illogical from an economic operating standpoint.

Give Harney county a railroad and the lands of the great P. L. S. company and of Mr. Hanley's company will become so valuable that they cannot afford to raise wild hay, but will either produce greater crops themselves or will let someone else farm the land, the latter being most probable. Put the Oregon Eastern into the wheat growing section of Harney and a revenue will be produced even though fears of competition stop the road far short of the coast.

**T**HE Vale Hot Springs offer an opportunity for some energetic promoter to reap a mild harvest for himself and at the same time render the county and thousands of rheumatics a great service. With an inexhaustible supply of water coming to the surface at a temperature of 216 degrees F. within 1500 feet of a town paying \$8.00 per ton for heating coal, the spring containing medicinal elements unequalled by any spring in the world, we have a combination hard to beat.

**PROMOTION OPPORTUNITY** There is no necessity for a heavy first expenditure. An income can be assured with but a trifling expenditure compared to the benefits. The entire town can be signed up for heat and hot water. A moderate sanatorium would prove a revenue producer from its inception, a green house garden would produce a big income from year round vegetables.

Owned by progressive citizens who have their money locked up in loans to the community, which cannot be withdrawn without great harm, the springs offer great inducement for outside capital.

If Colombia was robbed at all why pay anything short of the entire amount? Why try to settle for 62½ per cent?

Said "BIL": "I cannot kneel." A few hard raps with the rolling pin and a dig or two on the shins with the family poker, and he knelt with alacrity, or something like that.

"He only judges right who weighs, compares, and, in sternest sentence which his voice Pronounces, ne'er abandons charity."

—Wordsworth.

**T**HOSE who are throwing their influence against the formation of a water district for the construction of the Warm Springs project have the unique distinction of being willing to damage themselves for the purpose of

proving their personal opinions correct and at the same time hurting their material interests as well as those of their fellow citizens. We look as well as those of the north of the great Snake river and see the wonderful improvements which the use of water has brought about; see towns and cities where a few years since grew sage-brush; see thousands of carloads of produce going into the great markets of the east; nearer at home is the great Owyhee country with its thousands of acres of grass and grain while to the northwest is Brogan and Jamieson about ready to add their produce to the vast volume of food for the eastern multitudes.

Coming directly home, we find Vale in the center of a country just as good, lying at the confluence of the two greatest water carrying streams in the northwest, with one reservoir partially completed on Bully creek and with a site for another on the Malheur unexcelled in location and cheapness of construction by any location in the west. We find some ten thousand acres already under cultivation on the Malheur and 30,000 acres of splendid land awaiting only the act of the people under the water to add their produce to the world's markets; we find twenty thousand acres under the Bully creek system about to receive the life giving water stored by the energy of an enterprising citizen; we all know what this work would mean to our population.

Vale escaped temporary annihilation last fall. It is the open threat of the same power that the destruction of Vale will again be attempted, and before us is a simple and complete method of forever settling the controversy. By putting the water on the land around the town and on the country south and west of us, our position is made absolutely impregnable. Covering the sagebrush plains with grain fields and the benches with fruit and corn not only settles the future of Vale but adds to the happiness and wealth of the county, state and nation.

It is fortunate that those who are attempting to delay the matter of irrigating our vacant lands are few and that their influence is not great, but there should be no opposition, not one voice should be raised in resistance to the formation of an irrigation district.

Those Pre-eminently Entrancing Ornaments of the human family can go some when they get ready.

"What is fame? The advantage of being known by people of whom you yourself know nothing, and for whom you care as little—Stanislaus.

"Truth does not do so much good in the world as its appearances do evil."—Maxims.

Get your swatter ready. If you use it as well as some of our citizens use the hammer not a fly will live to lay eggs in the ham.

**P**ERHAPS the correct statement of this is the most euphonious: "There ain't no sich thing." Neutral commerce must be unobstructed with neutrals. Sounds good, but what if the ultimate destination is one of the

belligerents? Witness copper to Italy and from thence to Austria. Food for civilians should not be delayed. Sounds good, but suppose the civilian already has a ton of grain and the army head takes that ton away from him, must another ton be supplied to the civilian from the outside neutral. Germany complains

that we sell goods of all kinds to the Allies. Is it not proper to sell goods to England or France or Russia just the same at one time as another? If England cannot convey her own goods through her power on the sea, of what use is her navy? That's what she built a navy for. Suppose Germany whips the navy of England and gets control of the seas will she buy from the United States or not? The United States is not fighting Germany and will deliver goods to her if she, Germany, can keep her ports open and her seas free from floating mines. The United States is not fighting the Allies, therefore why put an embargo on goods? England has made her blockade good against Germany, why not Germany make her blockade good against the Allies? If she is not able to do so must we help her? That's war.

As a matter of fact, charity and a humane feeling for others foreign to us in language and in fact has induced the United States to help Germany and that with the consent of England. What right have we to feed the conquered people of Belgium?

Germany has conquered Belgium and acts, in every way but one, as monarch of that country; she provides no way for feeding the conquered. Not even the great ancestors of the Germans, Attila and Alaric were so savage and brutal in their treatment of conquered foes as are the Germans today.

They complain of our attitude toward them. England has not called on us to feed German prisoners through charity. Belgians are German prisoners in fact and Germany has boasted that she has food for all and only protests from principle. She takes advantage of her isolation and power and refuses to assume any obligation if one of her submarines sink a neutral on passenger ships.

The facts are that in a war like the present the exigencies of the belligerents make the law and that will be the law until a greater power makes a new one. Vanderbilt said "the public be damned." Warring nations: "Damn the neutrals."

It was a lucky thing for some of Vale's elite that the city marshal was busy beating up a bartender the other night.

Ontarian:—Geological formation of the upper SILURIAN age.

"Pitiful, who fearing failure, therefore no beginning makes; Why forswear a daily dinner for the chance of stomach aches?"

—Matthew Arnold.

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