

TRAINING LITTLE CITIZENS

These Articles published weekly in these columns are Issued by the National Kindergarten Association, New York City

The Outgoing and Homecoming of the Child

By Nella Gardner White

Did you ever watch pigeons circling about the pigeon house, and listen to their cooing before they settled down for the night? The flying in and out of the pigeons suggests "the glad outgoing,—sweet homecoming" of childhood, around the mother's knee. Froebel recognized in this scene a symbol of life, a lesson for us, as mothers, which we cannot study too faithfully.

The "outgoing" nado the "homecoming," there is a world of meaning in each word. Do you send your child out each day, to school or to play, happily, trustingly, lovingly? Is he glad to go, but gladder still to return? What sort of a homecoming does he have? Aren't we, Mothers, too apt to make that homecoming full of scoldings for tardiness, or nagging over table-department, or rushing the children off to bed so we can have the evening to ourselves? Those things seem of small importance, but would not it be of more lasting value to us and to our children if, instead, we made of that homecoming a happy summary of the day's affairs?

There is no child who is not glad to tell what he has been doing all day. If he has been at school there are often little difficulties, little vexations that the teacher has not had time to satisfactorily explain or smooth out. A word or two from Mother may make it all clear and right. And if he has been at play there will be so many things to tell. It is while out at play

that the child becomes acquainted with the fascinating realm of out-of-dors. Flowers, birds, trees, bees and butterflies,—he may become closer acquainted with them all through the retelling of his experiences among them. Wouldn't he be more interested in insect life if he knew the life history of the butterfly or of the ant with its almost human arrangement of home and work? Wouldn't he find more satisfaction in the fields if he knew that there were weeds that ate bugs and some that lived on other plants, like selfish folks? And wouldn't you like to have him so form the habit of telling them, even after he passes out of childhood? Wouldn't you like to be the one he always comes back to for understanding and intelligent enlargement of his small ideas?

And isn't it in this deep abiding faith in Mother and Father, and in the intimate comradeship with the outside world, that the faith in he Infinite is born? Perhaps, in childhood, the connection between the Creator of the Universe and a white-fringed, goldenhearted daisy may not be overly clear, but if the connection is made at all, if the child sees the manifestation of the Divine in all the forces of nature, it will not be such a far cry to discovering such manifestations in his own soul. Then, as you help him to weave his daily experiences into a happy whole at the day's end, so may his larger experiences fashion themselves into a pattern that he will not be ashamed to show himself or his Creator at the "twilight hour" of life.

THE PEOPLE'S SAY

Editor Banner-Courier:

Please publish this reply to the Enterprise's misconstruction of my communication which it used as the basis of an editorial last week. Respectfully, Robert Ginther, Editor Enterprise.

Your editorial comment on my communication of last week is certainly a fine piece of imaginative thought. It reveals a thinker whose conception of things is "above the clouds." It isn't real. Either you haven't lived long in this country and know little of its history, or you don't understand the meaning of English words as applied to political economy. You say we are a nation of "interdependent cooperatives." Do you know what this means? It means that we are all associated together voluntarily on an equal basis in one organization, each receiving their equal share from the common soil. It means, for illustration, that every man who works for John D. Rockefeller gets just as much from the oil industry as John does! That John and his million "employees" have an equal say in the management of the oil industry or, coming closer to home, it means that the "employees" of the paper mill here have an equal say in the management of the paper industry of this town and each gets as much per day as the manager does and they all have the same privileges in every way, that the manager has. This is the meaning, Mr. Editor, of "interdependent" cooperatives. Not only Webster but our political economists all tell you this. You must have been in dreamland when you were writing your comment, for nothing on this earth has ever existed as you have expressed it in your picture of hope. I regret to note that you misunderstood my communication in spots. I trust your readers have not.

It is certainly written in simple English. Nowhere can you find that I have taken "the principle of American government to task" as you say it. When you say "American government" this we all understand means our political form, and you ought to know it. And I presume you know as well as I that our political form is as nearly perfect as human intelligence has been able to make it. Our economic system is not, in paragraph three of your editorial you single out my one illustration of collective effort as though I meant it the only thing we did collectively. The statement I made just preceding it shows you plainly otherwise.

No, Mr. Editor, you are "off your base" when you use and try to make these two words "interdependent" and "cooperation" fit our "complex civilization." Instead we are a world of "dependents" economically, nine-tenths of us, and I repeat, our history proves that we rather enjoy it.

ROBERT GINTHER.

Editor Banner-Courier:

I read with a great deal of interest your articles on taxation, and will avail myself of the opportunity offered to express myself, through your columns, on the taxation question. I agree that our overhead expenses in the management of our government is greater than it should be, and if the business of the state, county and city were conducted along the lines of private business, large savings could be made, but there always has been, and always will be, more or less waste in the management of public affairs under our system of government. The two main causes for high taxes are:

- 1st. Inequality in assessing, and
- 2nd. The increased demands for education and roads. In this letter I will discuss the public service corporation and later will take up the private corporations in Clackamas county. There are two values for every public service corporation, one for rate making purposes and the other for taxation purposes. The public service commission fixes the value

per cent of the value, the commission would reduce the assessed value of the corporation \$500,000.00. Ask yourself how many farmers are earning seven per cent, and then determine whether or not it is fair and equal to have the two standards of assessment, one for big business, and one for the other fellow.

Take our largest public service corporation in Clackamas county the P. R. L. & P. Co. The following are the values fixed by the public service commission for rate making purposes:

Oregon City plant.....	\$1,912,771.
Cazadero plant.....	1,685,143
River Mills.....	2,059,483
Bull Run.....	2,949,728
Rail and Wire lines in Clackamas Co.....	2,885,014
Total.....	\$10,583,139

In addition to the above values the P. R. L. & P. Co. received \$156,455.65 in 1919 for granting the Crown-Willamette and Hawley Pulp & Paper Co. permission to take water out of the Willamette river, which the P. R. L. & P. Co. received from the state of Oregon for nothing. If you would capitalize that sum at 10 per cent (so as to allow sufficient out of the earnings to pay taxes with) you would have an additional value of \$1,564,556.50, or a total of \$12,147,695.50, while the tax commission has fixed the value of the P. R. L. & P.'s property in Clackamas county for 1921 at \$3,561,333.25 instead of \$12,147,695.50, which it should be. This same condition applies to all the other public service corporations, not only in Clackamas county, but all over the state. While our taxes are increasing each year we find that public service corporations are well taken care of by the tax commission. The following is a statement of the values fixed by the state tax commission of the three public service corporations in Clackamas county for taxation purposes:

P. R. L. & P. Co. 1915.....	\$4,432,697.73
P. R. L. & P. Co. 1921.....	\$3,561,333.25
Valuation since 1915.....	\$ 871,364.48
O. & C. R. R. Co. 1915.....	\$1,035,447.90
O. & C. R. R. Co. 1921.....	\$ 845,162.50
Valuation reduced since 1915.....	\$ 190,285.40
S. P. Co. 1915.....	\$ 117,885.00
P. E. & E. C. now being S. P. Co. 1915.....	\$ 109,591.00
1921.....	\$ 129,722.00
Total reduction assessment valuation.....	\$1,159,403.38

There has been a general reduction in the valuation of public service corporations by the state tax commission on the theory, that their net earnings have been less. This undoubtedly is true, but the same rule should apply to farm and other property. If the state tax commission complied with the law and fixed the value of public service corporations in Clackamas county for taxation purposes, at their dividend paying values, this alone would add approximately four and one half million dollars to the tax roll in Clackamas county. The values given in this letter cover what is known as operative property of the corporations, and is fixed by the tax commission for assessment purposes,

but does not include the non-operative property assessed by the county assessor.

One other great natural resource that has been appropriated and is held for speculative purposes, but does not pay one cent of taxes, is water power. The law provides that water power shall be assessed the same as land. The argument advanced by the private individuals and corporations who have appropriated the water power, is that they should not be compelled to pay taxes on appropriation water power until it has been developed and pays dividends. What about the farmer who has a lot of unimproved land that does not earn dividends? If any one tried to purchase the water right from the person who appropriated it, even though it was not developed, they would find out that it was a very VALUABLE PROPERTY. Ask yourself why the same rule should not apply to undeveloped farm land that is now applied to undeveloped water power.

In my next I will take up the assessment of some of the private corporations in Clackamas county.

C. SCHUEBEL

FOR BETTER ROADS AND LOWER TAXES

To the Editor Banner-Courier.—There seems to be considerable controversy over the road question. I have studied this subject both pro and con and the main fault I find with the present road system is in not keeping them up after they have them finished.

They make no provision whatever to keep up the roads. I have a plan whereby these new roads which are being built and has been built in the past few years can be kept up and made better all the time and at the same time save the county money.

My plan is this. When the county builds a piece of road such as our market roads or even the common crushed rock roads of which we have so many in Clackamas county, when finishing a road say five or six miles long, leave a good big truck load or two of fine, not the finest but next to the finest which goes through the sieve, every two or three hundred feet apart along the side of the finished road. Then hire a man and pay him a flat salary not to exceed one thousand dollars per year, give him a wheelbarrow, a shovel, pick and a rake and have him put in all his time on said road, when there begins to be a little depression or small pocket, fill it up with gravel when a few loads with heavy trucks begin to cut ruts, take his pick and rake and fill them up.

One man could easily keep up at least five or six miles in good shape for say \$1000 per year and maybe less.

A good reliable man, who has been road supervisor, told me that it cost at least \$1000 per mile to re-dress one of our minor 10-foot roads which had been let go for two or three years. This was before the war when labor and everything else was cheaper. Now if it cost \$1000 to re-dress one mile it would cost \$100,000 to re-dress one hundred miles.

If one man can keep up five miles for \$1000 or less, 20 men would keep one hundred miles for \$20,000 and for one hundred thousand dollars one hundred men would keep up 500 miles of road and it would be in better shape than at first.

So you see in one year's time one hundred miles of road the county would save \$80,000 under this plan. I have been told that this system would break up the county. I hope that the county commissioners see this article and give it a careful study. Yours for better roads and less taxes,

J. F. DIX,

Parkplace, Ore.

Security Folk Plan Special Meet. At the meeting of the Security Benefit association which was held Mon-

day night at Moose hall, arrangements were made for a big meeting, which will be March 20, when the degree team of Anchor council, Portland, accompanied by a 20-piece band of the same council, will be here to initiate a class of 15 new members. After the business is finished dancing will be indulged in and refreshments be served. A committee appointed to take charge of the affair was Mrs. C. Alldredge, Mrs. C. O. Dryden and Mrs. Otto Smith.

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—Adv.



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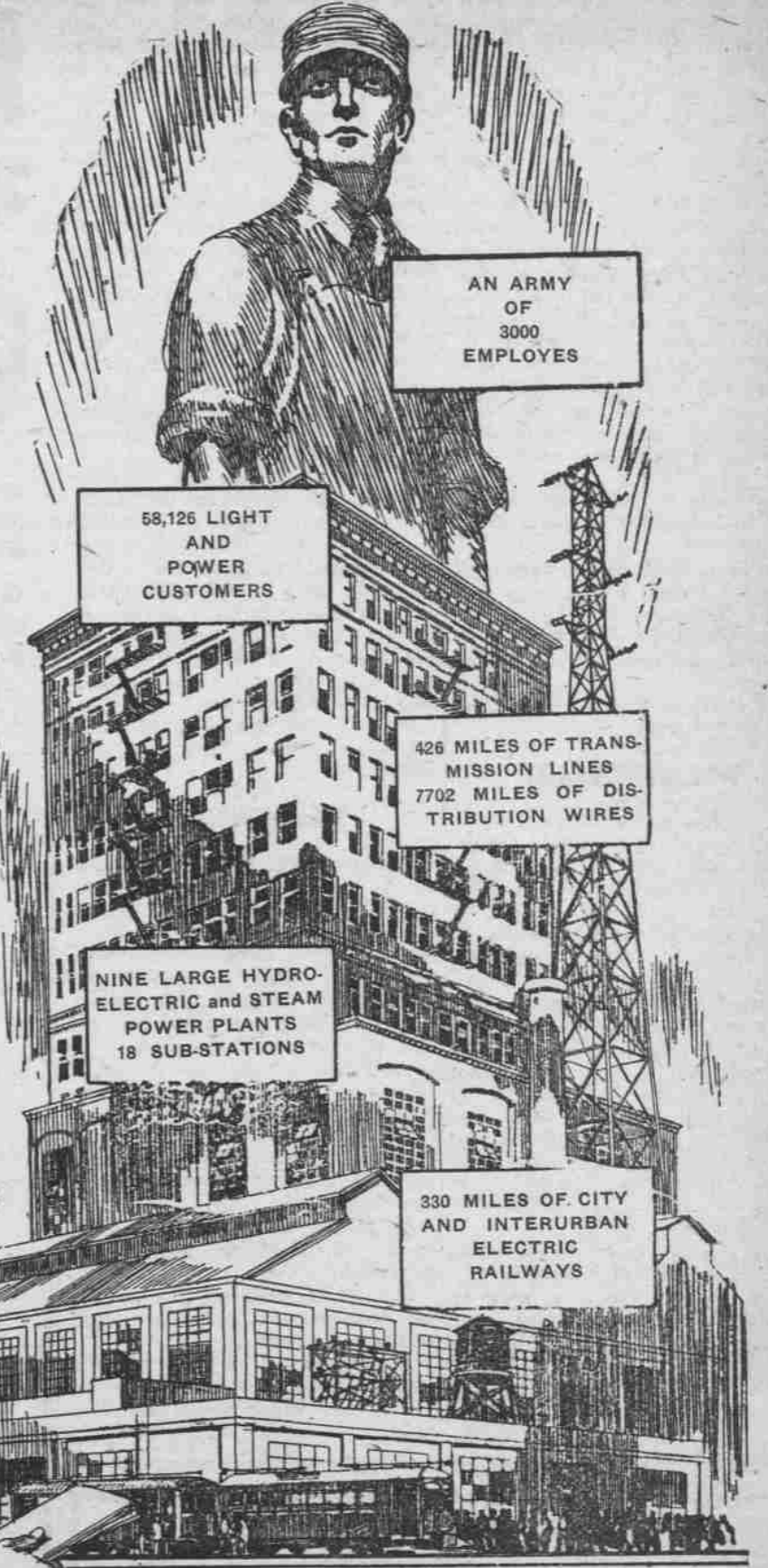
To the right, we have pictured in composite form a part of the huge properties of this company, valued at many millions of dollars, which constantly protect every dollar you invest.

Come in and let's talk it over.

Portland Railway, Light and Power Company

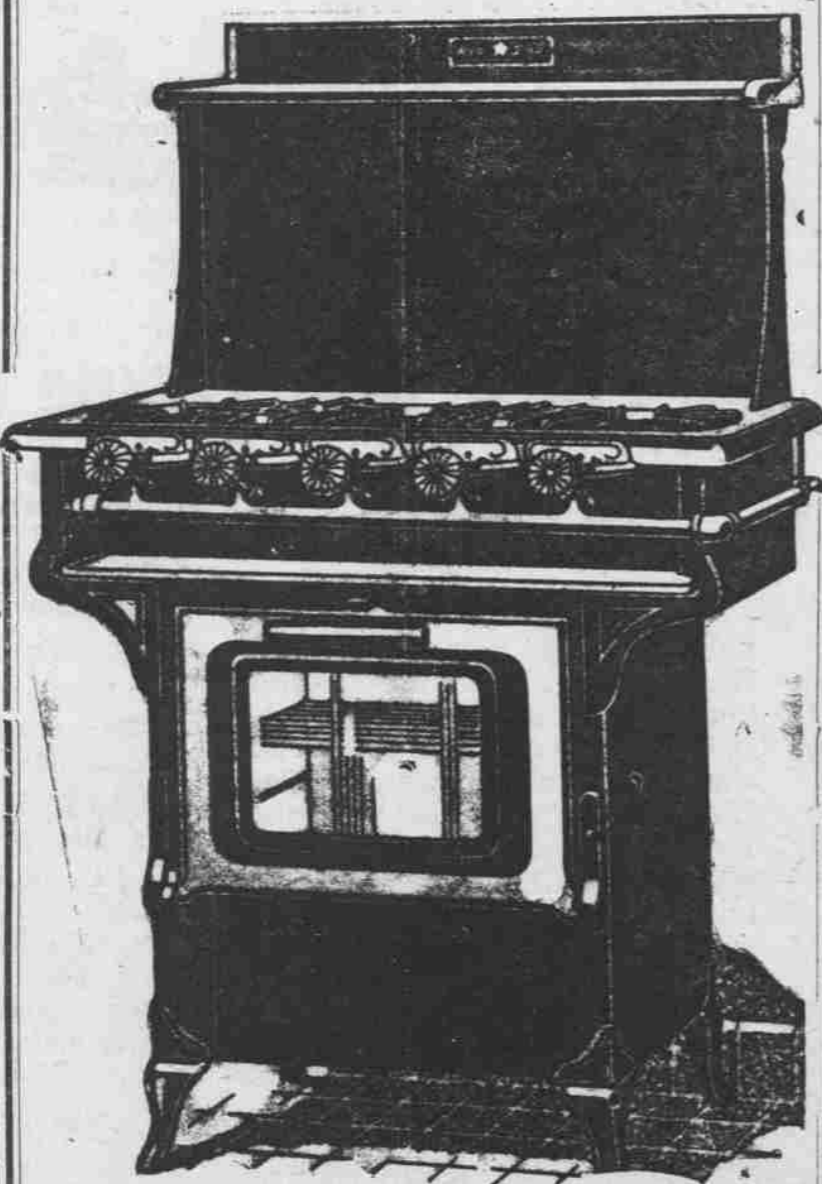


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