

Oregon City Enterprise

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BOYS AND GIRLS ARE NOT BORN BAD.

Jacob Rils, the New York sociologist, who has been engaged to come to this city to give a lecture on Wednesday, April 12, is an authority on questions concerning the slim side of life having seen much of the slums in the Metropolis as a reporter on New York papers. He has seen boys and girls under all the conditions that exist in a great city—at least he has seen conditions in nearly every conceivable phase—and he has this to say in the matter:

"Bad boys and girls are not born but made. I do not believe in the theory of heredity. All boys are good boys, all girls are good girls, when they begin life. They are made bad by environment and training. The children must have room to play."

Naturally Mr. Rils is speaking of environment because of the fact that he has been so closely associated with environment. Among the people in the closely packed tenements little can be counted on in the matter of training, for there is next to none. Environment, then, is about all there is in the matter. Children are made bad by environment, he says.

In this Mr. Rils speaks the truth. Children are not born bad. We have not that kind of a Creator—we have handed down from one generation to the other, in a greater or lesser degree, but not bad. It is true that certain writers in the Bible claim otherwise but those same writers have made statements on other things which show they were mistaken in what they wrote and they were mistaken when they said that the iniquity of the fathers would be handed down to other generations. The father may set a bad example that the young boy or girl will follow, and in so far as the iniquity handed down, but the Creator has not made it possible for the babe to be cursed by an inborn instinct that is bad. We haven't that kind of a Creator; that wouldn't be a fair proposition to the babe, and the Creator is always fair or more than fair.

All of which leads up to the fact that Mr. Rils is a good man and has had much influence in making those good who associate with him. And he has seen and knows whereof he speaks when he says boys and girls are naturally good and if they become bad they are made bad—by environment, meaning by bad example and bad associations. If you believe this you will enjoy hearing Mr. Rils when he speaks here, and if you don't believe this you best hear him so as to judge as to whether or not you are in duty bound to revise your present belief.

NEW RAILWAY PROJECT.

The prospect of the building of a railway out Molalla way through Beaver Creek seems to have taken on the garb of certainty. If we are to believe the statements of business men interested, and coming from men who generally say what they mean and know what they say, then is the matter settled in so far as the grading is concerned.

That should be good news to citizens of Oregon City. The building of such a road means business salvation to the city and community; failure to build might put the city into the suburb class, away from which it has been struggling for several years.

The road is likely to be graded to Beaver Creek with the money already subscribed. But that is not all that Oregon City should accomplish in this matter. It will be nice to grade a road and then interest outside capital to come and complete and operate. But it will be a much wiser move to build and equip and operate by citizens of Oregon City—men who have interests here and who will lose no opportunity to turn a trick for their home town. But little more money will be made necessary to accomplish this, and if Oregon City business men

are wise it will be raised and the road completed, equipped and operated by its citizens with the management always in the hands of her people.

The section of country to be tapped by this proposed road is among the best in the county. The road proposed will tap a goodly section of it if built out Molalla way in a line that constitutes good railroad building. But what about building the line in such a shape that while it may not be ideal railway building it will be at least an ideal lay-out as to the tapping of the territory traversed and so constructed that it will exploit as much good territory as possible and direct it Oregon City way? Only a few dollars additional will be needed to make it a contributory line in a business sense, our own city reaping the benefits and the people of the county given a line leading them in this direction for business and social purposes.

And if the business men own and control the line and its operation it will be an easy matter to make the rate such that trade will follow the low fare and freight transportation privilege, thus interesting them in the city whether their natural bent is this way or not.

WILL YOU SEE ROOSEVELT?

The time is close at hand when Theodore Roosevelt will visit Portland for a look into the faces of the people of the Rose City. He is the object around which many pleasant social functions are rallying in California, and his talks are interesting thousands of her citizens.

Many wealthy people do not like Mr. Roosevelt. He talks too much to suit them, and the character of his talk jars on their nerves. Mr. Roosevelt is a man who believes in a man getting his wealth honestly or not getting it at all. Many people think it is honest to get wealth according to the rules of the game, and never argue beyond that point. Mr. Roosevelt doesn't think that is necessarily honest if you are instrumental in making the rules, and then make them to fit your case and so that you can beat the other fellow—having loaded the dice in your favor and playing with the dice so loaded.

In many cases the dice are loaded and the game is being played with the dice that have been fixed. Mr. Roosevelt says that is not honest to do so and he will do all in his power to secure a new deal. The men who are profiting by this crookedness, and knowing they might be defeated if the game was fair, don't like the prospect and naturally hate Roosevelt because he has called attention to that which is bad in the game as being played. When you hear a man denouncing Mr. Roosevelt just stop and look about a little and see if there is not evidence about that shows a reason why he hates him, and his methods, and figure if it wouldn't be better not to talk at all but just keep still and saw wood.

But it matters not to Mr. Roosevelt how many criticize him—in fact he grows fat on criticism—he still keeps right on doing and saying what he believes to be right. There is no man in public life today who can thrive on more opposition than he can, and the more he is assailed the stronger he seems to become. He is a good man to listen to, and it is wise to at least stop and consider the criticisms that he hands out to those who look to him as doing wrong, and in many cases doing wrong that they may profit personally.

SUBSCRIBE FOR NEW RAILWAY.

Not only are the citizens of this city interested in the success of the attempt to build a railway out Molalla way through Beaver Creek, but the citizens of Beaver Creek are taking an interest. This is certainly a gratifying outlook for the project. Not only does Oregon City need this road, but the people of Molalla, of Beaver Creek, and in fact the man and his family on every farm that lies within two miles of the proposed route, with many other farms spread out fan-like in the country beyond Molalla.

It is true that the project means much for Oregon City, and its citizens cannot subscribe too liberally in an effort to make the work easy for the officers of the company; but the city is subscribing liberally and now the other sections to be benefited should do their share.

And it is likely that the people along the way will do all they can. The success at Beaver Creek is an indication of this. But a word on the matter of coming to the front and doing what one can, without an undue wait: This

will be greatly appreciated by the people interested in the success of the road.

ROOSEVELT HEADED THIS WAY.

Roosevelt still has the power to draw crowds and then to interest and entertain them when once gathered about him. And he rarely opens his mouth to talk that he doesn't say something that some people are glad to hear, and something that leads people to stop and think as to where we are drifting, or from what we are getting away.

The man whose skirts have been drabbed with political crookedness or municipal graft doesn't like to see Roosevelt come to town. If he goes and hides he is noticeable for his absence and comment is made. If he takes a front seat at the "doings" there is always some one to nod his way when the Ex-President strikes at the particular form of iniquity at which he has been playing.

Roosevelt has struck some swift blows at municipal and political graft since he started on this journey, and the man with the graft is wondering what he will hit at next. And the fact that there has been much graft in certain high places in Portland is not likely to lead Roosevelt to turn aside, and the grafter can't turn aside the way he is situated but must join the procession and live in hope that his pet scheme may fail to attract attention.

Among the Apple Trees

A Story of Farm Life
By CLIFFORD V. GREGORY

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(Continued From Last Week.)

CHAPTER XII.

THE first glance told Gladys of the suffering that her father had been through. His face was haggard and worn, and his shoulders were stooped wearily.

"I didn't want to take you out of school," he said, "but mother's been calling for you and calling for you until I just had to send."

Gladys tiptoed to the room where her mother lay sleeping. She was tossing uneasily and muttering incoherently.

"Don't you come for an auto ride," he pleaded, "just for old times' sake—for the sake of those old songs you were playing?"

"I was thinking of old times," said Mabel as she rose and followed him down to the gate. "Do you remember the time you maneuvered to get me in the back seat with Beth?" she went on mischievously as he helped her to the driver's seat.

"That was a different Harold," he said. "Those old days seem like a dream more than they do like part of my real life."

"You have changed," said Mabel, eying him approvingly.

"And I have you to thank for it," he said. "You have made a man of me, Mabel. I used to think of nothing but my own good times, but now—well,

ly. Gladys dropped to her knees in front of the bed and threw her arms about her mother's neck.

"Oh, mommie, mommie!" she cried. "It's Gladys, your own little girl! Don't you know me?"

"No, it can't be Gladys," her mother answered. "Gladys and Mabel are away to school, and it's so lonely."

Gladys soothed her to sleep again and then sent her father to bed to get some much needed rest. All through that long night her mother tossed and talked at intervals, and the watching girl realized for the first time just how much of a sacrifice it had been for this quiet little mother to give up her girls to the great, hungry college.

In the morning the doctor came and pronounced Mrs. Sanders better.

"Just you stay here and take care of her, young lady," he said, "and I'll guarantee that she'll get well all right. It's just this everlasting loneliness that's got on her mind and made her sick in the first place."

The doctor's prediction seemed to be correct, for Mrs. Sanders slowly but surely improved from that time on. In a couple of weeks she was able to sit up, and her eyes lighted up with pleasure as she watched Gladys fly about the room setting things to rights and lending a brightness to the house that was so pitifully lacking when she was away.

"You don't know how much good it does me to see you here," her mother said one day as Gladys came in with a big armful of blossoms, "to bring outdoors in to mommie," as she said.

Gladys dropped the flowers and came over and kissed her. "I'm going to stay always now," she said.

It was a couple of days later that her father came out where she was feeding the chickens one morning. "I reckon it's about time for you to be going back to school, isn't it?" he said quietly. "I guess I can get along all right with mother now."

Gladys looked up quickly. "I'm not going back," she said.

"Not going back?" he cried, his eyes lighting up with a sudden hope.

"No," she answered, with a brave attempt to smile. "I've had my good

time, and now I'm going to stay here and make things easy for you and mommie."

The happiness that shone in her father's face was worth all the sacrifice, albeit it was a guilty happiness as he thought of what it meant to her. But she cut short his objections by telling him it was time to go and feed the pigs and then ran into the house with a merry song on her lips.

A few days later Jeff came over one evening after supper. He found Gladys out in the orchard with her arms full of the fragrant apple blossoms.

"They're so thick the tree would kill itself trying to raise so many apples," she said. "And then mommie likes the flowers so well."

"How do you like farming?" she went on. "Is it as much fun as going to school?"

"Almost," he acknowledged. "You must come over and see the place. There isn't a weed on it, and I've got the cornfields in the best shape for planting of any I've seen anywhere."

"I'm afraid you're getting vain," said Gladys, smiling at his enthusiasm. "I'm going to be a farmer, too," she added.

"You don't mean you're not going back?"

She nodded.

"Then maybe you do understand?" "Yes, I think I do. It's hard—in a way—but it will be fun too. You'll have to work if you make good your boast of having the best farm in the county. Just wait till you see what I'm going to do with this."

He stood looking at her in silence for a moment. That stray lock was out of place again, and in the dim moonlight, dimmer for sitting through the millions of apple blossoms, she looked like some woodland fairy come to touch the blossoms with her magic wand and turn them into tiny apples.

"I don't like competition, Gladys," said Jeff, taking a step nearer. "I wonder—can't we be partners?"

Perhaps she nodded, or perhaps it was only the flickering shadows that made him think so, but the next moment he had caught her in his arms, apple blossoms and all, and was telling her that he had loved her ever since that time she nearly scared him out of the apple tree. And for once she didn't accuse him of talking foolishly.

The apple blossoms faded and fell, and summer came to fulfill the promises of spring. Mabel came home from college again, protesting against allowing Gladys to stay home while she finished her course. But Gladys was firm and had her way, as usual.

One evening nearly three weeks after she came home Mabel was sitting on the porch listening to the strings of her mandolin and trying not to feel lonely. Gladys had gone riding with Jeff, and the sight of their happiness somehow made Mabel feel lonesome and left out, though she tried to drive the feeling away by playing and humming some of the dear old melodies.

Suddenly she was aroused from her reverie by the sound of an automobile coming up the driveway. It stopped at the gate, and Harold leaped out and hurried over to where she was sitting.

"Not a word of scandal!" marred the call of a neighbor on Mrs. W. P. Spangh, of Manville, Wyo., who said: "She told me Dr. King's New Life Pills had cured her of obstinate kidney trouble, and made her feel like a new woman." Easy, but sure remedy for stomach, liver and kidney troubles. Only 25c at Jones Drug Co.

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horse power on the Upper Clackamas. With the completion of this development work the company will use the same water three times at different plants on the river.

The company proposes to supply electrical energy throughout a large district in Oregon and Washington. Heretofore it has not been selling power on a very extensive scale, needing most of the energy generated at its various plants for its own projects. In future it will have an enormous volume to dispose of and it is President Josselyn's idea that it will be more cheaper to the consumer as the volume of the business increases.

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"I didn't do it for popularity, Mabel and I'm afraid I never would have done it just to even things up, but I did it because a certain brown-eyed girl told me to. And the brown-eyed girl is the reward I want, Mabel. Can't you tell me that you care for me just a little?"

Mabel looked up at him gravely. "Are you quite sure that it isn't Gladys that you care for?" she asked.

"Perfectly," he answered. "It was that other Harold that cared for

Gladys. That was before I had learned to know what a true woman's love is really worth. But I know it's loving too much," he added bitterly, turning his head away.

"The only way to get things is to ask for them," she replied, with a little laugh. "or just take them."

He turned quickly toward her. "Then"—he cried.

She nodded.

And then the auto wandered along at its own sweet will until the spark coil obligingly burned out just as they reached the most secluded spot in the whole road, and only an inquisitive owl in a nearby tree heard the rest.

THE END

ROAD FROM CANBY OUT MOLALLA WAY

(Continued from page 1.)

from employees of the promoters come to pass the enterprise will put a cluster of thriving towns nearer the Portland market and make Canby a bustling center of a rich agricultural district.

A man with a large family can live better on the farm where money grows, than in the city, where money goes.

Not a Word of Scandal
marred the call of a neighbor on Mrs. W. P. Spangh, of Manville, Wyo., who said: "She told me Dr. King's New Life Pills had cured her of obstinate kidney trouble, and made her feel like a new woman." Easy, but sure remedy for stomach, liver and kidney troubles. Only 25c at Jones Drug Co.

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