

The Oregonian

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Portland, Sunday, July 8, 1917.

EDUCATION.

"I call a complete and generous education," said Milton, "that which fits a man to perform justly, skillfully and magnanimously all the offices, both public and private, of peace and war."

It is in such spirit as this, and with belief as devout as Plato's that education is the most important function of the state...

So the teacher, whom we sometimes more honorably call an educator, is not so much concerned with definitions, of which there is no lack, as with the prime purpose of it all...

But it is most singular that the bulk of the offerings thus far have failed to sense the outstanding fact that, so far as we are concerned, this is not a war of revenge.

The "Carry on" of the Canadians fired the men to capture many a trench on the western front. In two words it expressed determination to keep the flag to the front, to do it, to fight the war to a victorious conclusion, to break the power of mean revenge.

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tion to conditions brought about by the war," as President Aley has said, and why, happily, in the years to come it will devote its energies to the new problems of peace.

Drop a tear for Weary Willie. The greatest of all calamities has overtaken him; he must go to work or starve.

It is positively dangerous to ask for a job nowadays. Even the old plea that one's wife is a widow with six children fails to soften the heart and open the pocketbook of the citizen.

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the same place rate as men, with a minimum wage high enough to insure that incompetent women will not be employed.

The British munitions department has also given practical effect to the dictum that labor is not a commodity devoid of senses, but is human, with results by which employers may profit.

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day by day. Inspired by confidence in the support they will receive from the rear, the Russians will go forward and will make no more retreats.

Demand for a coherent method of teaching science in the public schools, voiced by Professor R. A. Millikan, of the University of Chicago, will be indorsed by those who believe, as he does, that the nations that make most progress in the future will be those that put emphasis upon scientific attainment.

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ducers of corn \$500,000,000 a year. The bill expressly authorizes the President or the food controller to establish a guaranteed minimum price for producers of food.

FARM WORK FOR THE CITY MAN. It is a good time for the city man who is perplexed over his vacation plans to consider the advantages of farm work over an equally laborious tramp through the mountains, or an excursion after fish that do not always bite.

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Atherton fears that authors will be obliged to cease patronizing the schools that turn out the highly specialized. Which is about the same as saying that the author's child will have no better chance than the average child, while there is little data to show that under present conditions he is making better than an average showing.

A hurry-up call to the Nation's lawmakers! Not only the author faces a tax, but the Nation faces the dreariest prospect that if the tax is imposed thousands of boys and girls (the sons and daughters of authors) will arrive at man's or woman's estate obliged "to begin life as second and third-raters, and of infinitely less service to the Nation."

The publisher of "Paradise Lost" paid in cash only the equivalent of \$25 for it, with a stipulation, so it is said, that he would pay \$25 more after 100 copies had been sold, and his widow was so glad to be glad to accept \$40 for the rights of publication after his death.

An interesting discussion has arisen in Canada over the adoption of a flag of empire, one of the chief points in dispute being the selection of an appropriate animal to be employed symbolically in the crest of the arms. Both the bear and the beaver have friends.

The call for more cooks for the Army will serve as a reminder that the habit we have fallen into of letting women do most of the cooking has its disadvantages.

Theodore Jasper, the New York publisher, is a real optimist. When money is tight, he sells books to the stay-at-homes; when times are good, he gets the benefit another way.

"Johnny Yank" has been suggested as a designation for our soldiers abroad, being a combination of "Yank" and "John" of the Civil War, but the French people probably will make the final choice.

The spirit of "internationalism" fostered by the Germans to gain their own ends, is dying out on the eastern front. The Russians have begun to recognize the wolf in sheep's clothing at last.

Spy hysteria ought to be avoided, but there should be no temporizing with spies when they are caught. Aliens as well as citizens must be made to realize that war is a serious enterprise.

Judge Landis is not going to be any easier on slackers than he was on Standard Oil on another memorable occasion, but he is having better luck enforcing the penalty.

Winning a scholarship by feeding the pigs is a peculiarly fitting demonstration of the fact that the right kind of boy can find a way to get whatever he goes after.

The American suitcase has been introduced into France, and soon our allies will be wondering how they ever managed to get along in the old-fashioned way.

The Klamath Indians are up to the minute, backing their plea for self-government with regular Fourth of July oration. The spirit of liberty is in the air.

Threats to kill members of the exemption boards will not stop the operation of the draft, and obstructionists will do well to modify their plans accordingly.

What has become of the good old muskleton of our childhood days, a slice of which went as far as a whole cantaloupe does now?

The French are impressed by the sight of our troops on parade—but wait until they see them in action!

The restriction on the use of tin cans has been removed just in time, and the author's child will have no better chance than the average child, while there is little data to show that under present conditions he is making better than an average showing.

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Gleams Through the Mist. By Dean Collins.

ODE TO THE N. E. A. Prologue. As I came through the desert thus was it: Said L. R. Alderman: "T'would make a hit, if you would tune your harp and sing and play."

So other themes and other schemes I've lightly laid away, I've hid all other songs and dreams, To boost the N. E. A. Perhaps when the convention's through You delegates may be-ee Glad that I sang these saw-haw-haw-hawings of you.

And you'll re-me-beh-keh-hember me-e-e-e-e (Barbershop chord) And you'll remember, you'll remember me.

Rubalvat. (After the manner of the late O. Klayman.) Wake, for the educators on their way, Are swiftly rolling Portlandward today, And soon our busy streets will buzz and boom With all the tumult of the N. E. A.

From the savant, who hardly has to speak To draw down his two hundred bones a week. To the teacher in the rural schools— All, all are here enlightenment to seek.

Myself, I fear, most earnestly frequent Their assembly halls and hear great argument— The City Editor, his ways are deep, In fixing the reporter's daily stent.

And I shall hear discussions, waxing wild, Or turned down softly into accents mild, About it and about—and ever more, The "it" referred to; it will be THE "CHILD" that can with logic absolute.

The two-and-seventy systems all confute, And demonstrate there is no rigid rule To teach the young idea how to shoot. Teachers may question ask, and may suppose The High School strippling some slight intellect shows.

But ah, within his inner, own conceals— He knows about it all, he knows, he knows. As under cover of departing day, I wander slowly home to hit the hay, In fancy by the teacher's chair I stand Surrounded by the classes in array.

Some are bright pupils, and there are Patient to delve and find the new and true, And there was quite a mess that gasp and sink When they have waded out past two and two.

Some grab the pearls of wisdom as they fall, In some we have to poke 'em, ground 'em small. And we can bank that seventy per cent Listen, perhaps, but never think at all.

Wherefore the teacher, after days may pass When has operated on this mass, And comes at last the end, for all her pains Must very oft turn out an empty class.

Ballade of the Systems. Typewriting only makes my meaning clear. Though once three styles of penmanship I knew, "One, two, one, two"—I learned the first by ear.

Spencerian, quite gracefully I drew; And vertical, I learned to write it too; And then the "medial" handwrit did appear. I tried them all and now I ask anew— Where are the penmanships of yesterday?

When I had done Spencerian, without a fear I tackled any job I had to do, And legibly I wrote, about a year, Before the vertical began to brew. One style is fine; but when you mix 'em up two, The chronographic ship begins to veer; And legibility goes up the flue. Where are the penmanships of yesterday?

And since I finished all my school career I hear, and what I hear I'm told is true. New wheels have been put in our writing gear. And other systems children learn to do; And when I do glance back in brief review, I almost am inclined to shed a tear, And murmur low, or murmur loud: "Boo-hoo! Where are the penmanships of yesterday?"

LENVOI. Scribes, I was taught three systems once, but you Will find I typewrite when I would be clear. Wherefore I sigh, and murmur, sad and blue— "Where are the penmanships of yesterday?"

Hence. The Young Idea used to shoot Almost unconsciously. When man was nearer to the brute And had simplicity, But branches now to shoot, you see, In such a complex way, That education came to be— And hence the N. E. A.

The old log schoolhouse on the hill We sang about of old, In carters to the lumber mill And e'en the bill is sold; And county high schools, rural norms, And other things array And every season brings reforms— And hence the N. E. A.

The three poor R's in days gone by Were all our fathers' got; It is a puzzler how high Their young ideas shot. But branches now and novel texts Spring up now; ev'ry day A brand new system one expects— And hence the N. E. A.

I do not like efficiency; It bogs me up in tears; But this fair land of liberty Just loves it, it appears. The Young Idea used to shoot In such a simple way, But now we have to steer the brute— And hence the N. E. A.

Epilogue. Harp of the West, farewell! I've sung my song; And hope my good friends, Alderman and Plumber, With laurel wreaths and twigs of bay will spile it. And tell me, verily it is a hummer! I do not know the N. E. A. phrases, Its infinite variety and beauty, But I have pulled these metric words and phrases 'Cause they said, "Yep," when I asked, "Is't my duty?"