

Coos Bay Times

Entered at the postoffice at Marshfield, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class mail matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. In Advance.

DAILY. One year \$5.00 Six months \$2.50 Less than 6 months, per month .50 WEEKLY. One year \$1.50 Local readers, 10c per line.

AN INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPTING SUNDAY, AND WEEKLY BY

THE COOS BAY TIMES PUBLISHING CO.

The policy of the Coos Bay Times will be Republican in politics, with the independence of which President Roosevelt is the leading exponent.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO COOS BAY DAILY TIMES Marshfield Oregon

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL DIFFERENCE.

In another column of this evening's paper The Times prints two communications in reference to a regrettable difference that has arisen between the management of the Marshfield public schools and the parents of some of the Seventh grade pupils. The articles are self-explanatory and require no elucidation. Both are admittedly fair statements of the opposing sides in the controversy. By this simultaneous publication of both sides The Times gives all parties a hearing and avoids the "long drawn out controversy" which one of the writers frankly and fairly recognizes would be undesirable.

There is nothing that is so detrimental to a community or demoralizing to its educational interests as a bitter and acrimonious difference between the patrons and teachers of its public schools. In this one department of civic life entire harmony of community interests is not only desirable but absolutely essential. The Times has sought to avoid publicity in this matter primarily and solely in the interests of the schools and the community. The affair developed to such an extent, however, that one of the parties felt they possessed a real grievance and the other was reluctantly confident that only the best interests of the schools were being served. Then it was as one of the directors wisely expressed it, that "a condition was created which a presentation of both sides would tend to clarify." This has been done and the matter should now be regarded as a closed incident. The directors were in possession of all the facts and in the interests of the school their decision should be accepted as final. It may be said in passing that one of the pupils promoted was a son of one of the directors and that this boy found the exactions of the next grade so very difficult that he has of his own volition requested that he be permitted to return to his former grade for more thorough preparation.

In justice to Mr. Briggs, The Times wishes to state that he is not speaking for himself alone but for the parents of all the pupils involved. His well written statement is an able and eminently fair presentation of their side of the case. This information was considered by the board before final action was taken.

A careful reading of both articles discloses that the parents' grievance is based on Prof. Golden's statement to the pupils that if they passed the 80 per cent mark they would be advanced. This is qualified in Prof. Golden's presentation of the points involved by the statement that such promotions are at the discretion of the principal as provided in the rules of the school. The rule under which Professor Golden justifies his position sustains him, for it expressly provides that these mid-term promotions "may be made" but does not require them. It is unfortunate that this condition was not more plainly stated or more thoroughly understood. At the time a generous acceptance of the verdict of the school board will redound to the credit of those with a grievance and be for the best interests of the schools and the general welfare of the community.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The two greatest figures of the Revolutionary period of America's history were admittedly George Washington and Benjamin Franklin, the one representing the best blood of the colonies of Great Britain in the new world, and the other representing the mental, frugal and practical genius of the Pilgrims. Both became, not merely national but world wide influence, and will continue so

LET US TALK IT OVER.

Teach me to sound one note, oh, God, Full, rounded, that shall not be lost In life's great onward, garnering sweep, And lo, I will not count the cost. God, I cannot bear to go This journey through of joy or pain, And at the end my dying hands Hold not one golden, deathless grain. Let all life's joys, if so must be, Pause not to hearten me, but pass As heedless of my hungering As chasing shadows on the grass; But give me that one boon I crave, To know, ere death and I shall meet, That love is richer for my sake, And life somewhere grows strong and sweet. —Caroline Renfrew.

CONTENTED men are found only in coffins. That's a rather greswome manner in which to open a confidential little chat that I desire to have with the readers and owners of the Times this evening. It was suggested by the lack of satisfaction with which I read that announcement of the dedication of The Times to the people and the best interests, moral and material, of Coos Bay. There was so much I wanted to say, and I said so little, even if it did fill nearly three columns, as my friend Archie Whisnant reminded me. But I did so wish that you would understand. In understanding you would believe me sincere and earnest in my purpose to make the Times your paper. Not figuratively, but literally yours. As I stated, I have an ideal as to what a daily newspaper should be, and it is my hope and purpose to make the Times an expression of that ideal. I want it to be more than a mere chronicler of your daily comings and goings, and the little and big incidents of life as it is lived day by day on Coos Bay. I want it to be taken into your hearts as well as your homes. I want it to become a part and parcel of your lives; not a mere bit of printed paper. The transitory character of one day's issue of a newspaper makes it a matter of small concern considered in units. It is only in its serial form of weeks and months and years that it may be considered as a factor in the formation of a friendship that one feels for a being pulsating with life. It is the feeling one has for a good book, the reading of which helps form our character and shape our career. And what a great book the file of a daily newspaper is. Crudely expressed, perhaps, and without the touch of genius that makes the creature of the novelist's brain a being of real flesh and blood, but it is not required in the newspaper's story. The people who move therein are greater than the novelist's creation. They are real people. You meet them, talk with them, know them. Their souls are not bared or their emotions dissected as the hero of your favorite novel, but their hearts throb with human sympathy and deep in their souls is the same yearning that comes to you in the still watches of the night when you are alone with your conscience and your God. It is the earnest and sincere purpose of the Times to promote a better understanding, a deeper sympathy and a broader charity between the members of this great family—to foster a spirit of tolerance and mutual forbearance. Life is far too brief to spend one moment of the narrow span of existence in bitter re-ermination or self-centered pursuits that cast a shadow across the pathway of one who is journeying by your side to the same goal. The Times wishes to be helpful and purposeful in its efforts to solve this problem of human happiness. That is why it desires to be more than a daily newspaper. That is why it has been presented to you, and wants you to accept it as your paper, to share your sorrows and rejoice with you when you are glad; to battle by your side for your best interests, because your interests are its interests, and with you it will share the results of the conflict. That's why it stands for the square deal, because it knows that down in your heart of hearts you know it is right, and any contest that is not won fairly is not worth winning, and the fruits of any victory except one for the right turns to apples of ashes on the lips.

to be until the flood gates of this era shall be closed forever.

Today is Washington's birthday. He who was first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen, is still unsurpassed in the devotion which his countrymen and all mankind exhibit for the ideal which his life furnishes. The little nation which he helped to establish has become the greatest of all earthly powers, both for strength and for good. The greatness of Washington as a military man, like that of General Joubert and his Boer army consisted largely in the newness of his tactics, which were the fruit of new and hard conditions in the midst of hostile and savage surroundings. He taught the world something just as Joubert did. The greatness of his statesmanship consisted in the fact that he was able to resist temptation, both in the matter of personal advancement and glittering but entangling alliances for his country. His position is secure because the splendid Anglo-Saxon race and the untrammelled freedom of unexploited nature stood back of him and, greater than all, conditions made America an asylum for all people whom unjust privilege and intolerance had excluded from Europe. He did not make the times in which he lived, but it was his fortune and undying glory that he suited the age and came into the niche which history had prepared for him as naturally as a fixed star sends its beams through space. Let us feel the pride which belongs to all America, that we and ours are responsible for this great light.

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D. R. GEORGE W. LESLIE Osteopathic Physician Graduate of American School of Osteopathy Kirksville, Mo. Office Hours: 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. Other Hours by Appointment. Office in Nasburg Block Phone 1611. Marshfield, Ore.

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D. R. A. L. HOUSEWORTH Physician and Surgeon. Office over First National Bank. Residence, two blocks north of Crystal Theater. Office Phone 1431. Residence Phone 1656.

Lawyers.

Francis H. Clarke Jacob M. Blake Lawrence A. Liljequist

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J. W. BENNETT, Office over Flanagan & Bennett Bank. Marshfield, - - - - Oregon

C. F. MCKNIGHT, Attorney at Law. Upstairs, Bennett & Walter Block Marshfield, - - - - Oregon

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