

Coos Bay Times

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Marshfield Oregon

SOME REASONS FOR HAVING A FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The public libraries have without delay become an essential part of a public education system and are as clearly useful as the public schools. They are not only classed with schools, but have generally become influential adjuncts of the public schools. The number of readers is rapidly increasing, and the character of the books is constantly improving.

Not infrequently the objection is heard that the public libraries are opening the doors to light and useless books; that reading can be, and often is, carried to a vicious and enervating excess, and therefore that the libraries' influence is doubtful and on the whole not good. This argument does not need elaborate exposure.

The main purpose of the library is to counteract and check the circulation and influence of the empty and not infrequently vicious books that are so rife. A visit to any newsstand will disclose a world of low and demoralizing "penny dreadfuls" and other trash. These are bought by boys and girls because they want to read, and can nowhere else be obtained reading material. This deluge of worthless periodicals and books can be counteracted only by gratuitous supplies from the public library.

Whether these counteracting books be fiction or not, they may be pure and harmless, and often of intellectual merit and moral excellence. The question is not whether people shall read fiction—for read it they will—but whether they are to have good fiction instead of worthless and harmful trash.

The tendency to read inferior books can soon be checked by a good library. If the attention of the children in school is directed to good books, and the free library contains such books, there will be no thought of the cheap newsstand as the place for finding reading matter.

The economical reason for establishing free public libraries is the fact that public officers and public taxation manage and support them efficiently, and make them available to the largest number of readers. By means of a free library there is the best utilization of effort and of resources at a small cost to individuals.

While a private library may greatly delight and improve the owner and his immediate circle of friends, it is a luxury to which he and they only can resort.

The books of a public library actively pervade the community; they reach and are influential with very large numbers and the utility of the common possession—books—is multiplied without limit.

LET US "DO IT."

A New York city, Rochester by name, has a Chamber of Commerce which has been working for that city for years under the slogan of "Do it for Rochester."

Every advertising pamphlet, every business letterhead of its enterprising citizens, kept one thing before the people—"Do it for Rochester." In its long run it had a splendid effect and kept people keyed up to work for a better city, besides letting outside folks know the city was alive and doing. Rochester is a manufacturing city, but beauty and business have been combined in recent years until parks, homes, streets and business sections give evidence of careful and systematic building and beautifying.

They did it for Rochester. We ought to be able to do it for Coos Bay along this line.

Just arrived on the Alliance; newest line of ladies' shirt waists and muslin underwear in the city. Coos Bay Cash Store.

With the Toast and Tea

The Fall of the Giant.
In the valley by the mountain
Stands the giant forest tree,
O'er each rival tree top towering,
Peering out upon the sea.
Sound, round and rugged,
In the air so tall,
Straight, great and lordly,
Reigning over all.

Ever upward bravely reaching
Through the tempest and the swell
But his height shall feel the furies
And the winds shall sound his knell.

Long, straight and often
Blows the fateful blast,
Old, bold and sullen
Death will come at last.

Harken now the wind is bugling
Come ye warriors of storm,
Flash thou, lightning, fire and vol-
ley,

See the giant lash his arms,
Bend, bend and quiver,
Bow to thunder's peal,
Shock, rock and swivel,
See that proud head reel.

Lo, the giant torn and tattered
Dancing to the wind's mad call,
Meekly bowing, backward bending
While his dismal dirges fall.
Squeak, creak and crackling
Far the echoes go;
Crash, slash and rumble,
Smote the earth a blow.

—FELIX O'NEIL.

Never count your rainy weather
until it is hatched.

Can't say that winter's backbone is
broken on Coos Bay, for it never has
any to break.

There is a girl on Coos Bay so
modest that she will not wear un-
dressed kids.

No Coos Bay gentleman will kiss a
girl against her will—her lips are
much sweeter.

"Where is heaven?" asks the Em-
poria Gazette of Kansas. All roads
are heading for Coos Bay.

"Everybody loves our baby," sings
a poet laureate. What liars the
neighbors are sometimes.

"The wise virgin will throw away
her lamp and use gas" is the revised
version, according to Otho Hopson.

Seymour Bell says that at his elec-
tric light plant they do not sell cur-
rents by the bushel, but by the shock.
C. J. Mahoney says the greatest shock
is when you get the bill.

If a man loves his wife, says a
Coos Bay philosopher, he will quit
smoking at her request; but if a
woman loves her husband, she will
not ask it.

There was a young girl from The
Hague
Who suffered from Bubonic plague,
The cause we declare
Was the rat in her hair;
But don't ignore fashion, we beg,
—BERT DIMMICK.

An eastern magazine asked young
women to send a description of what
their ideal man would be like—one
they would be willing to accept as a
life partner. One girl, probably with-
out much experience, but knowing
what she wanted, said "he" must
have the form and feature of an
Apollo Belvidere, the grace and pol-
iteness of the old Grecian, the virtue
of Joseph, the financial ability of a
Homer, the manners of a Chesterfield
and the patience of a Job." There
are several men on Coos Bay who
feel that this girl certainly had them
in mind when she wrote that.

A dog of the lumber yard breed
Had a face always open for feed;
He is fond of a lark
If the cook boiled it dark,
And young children he loved—fric-
seed.
—R. K. BOOTH.

A Weather Mystery.
We pine for a climatic change,
It comes and still our grief we
nurture.

For with perversity most strange,
It always turns from bad to worse.
—A. D. McARTHUR.

Mother Goose is in Newport.
Little Miss Muffet
Sat on a tuftet
Playing bridge whilst all night;
But a society shark
Found she was a mark—
And won all her cash ere 'twas
light.
—Otto Schetter.

MYRTLE POINT MENTION.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. P. Peterson, at their home near Norway, on Wednesday, the 19th.

Frank Spreckerman, of North Bend, has rented the J. C. Haynes ranch just south of the city.

A daughter was welcomed to the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Clinton, of Norway, on Sunday, the 16th.

Leonard Hartley is taking up his residence at Rural, where he will be more convenient to the reserve and better able to attend to his duties as deputy forest ranger.

Messrs. Fisher and Fisher, late of Halifax, Nova Scotia, arrived on the train Tuesday from Marshfield, where they have been spending the greater part of the winter, and on Wednesday moved with their families onto the S. W. Warner dairy farm.

Miss Stella Weekly, well and favorably known throughout this section of Coos county, has rented the room at the corner of Second and Spruce streets and opened therein a restaurant and short order house.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Carl arrived in Myrtle Point Saturday from Twin Falls, Idaho, and expect to make this their home again. They have been living in Portland for a number of years, where Mr. Carl has been engaged in contract building work.

O. Dodge has received a copy of the late report regarding the improvements to navigation desired on the Coquille river, with maps of the river and the proposed betterments. The report contemplates and recommends the removal of rocks and shoals, and it is said that the work can be accomplished for \$27,840, giving vessels a good channel to Coquille.

S. S. Reed has sold to his father, O. Reed, the ten acres of land that he has been farming for a number of years, just south of the city. The consideration was \$2,000, or \$200 an acre. He did not sell for the purpose of quitting the farm, but to enlarge his opportunities, and has bought the Aaron Crutchfield ranch of 152 acres on the South Fork, for a consideration of \$4,400. Mr. Crutchfield expects to move farther east to a strictly stock country.

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Residence, two blocks north of
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