

COOS BAY TIMES

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

Official Paper of Coos County.

A TRAGEDY WITH A LESSON.

THE SAD DEATH by drowning in Coos River last Saturday of pretty little Mary Abel suggests the necessity of some public provision to teach the children of Coos Bay how to swim. The natural conditions that exist around Coos Bay are unusual. All roads whether of pleasure or profit, lead directly to the water. All pleasure resorts and picnic grounds border on some of the pretty streams, inlets or bays that make up the water girt ways that entirely surround this section. There is not a season that one or more victims are not claimed by the water. These tragedies are not the result of carelessness or indifference to danger but in most instances, like Saturday's sad happening are wholly accidental. The children and young people should not and cannot be denied the pleasures and sports that the waters offer whether of bathing, boating, wading, swimming or playing in the purring ripples that lave the shores. These sports and pleasures should be safe-guarded and encouraged. The best safeguard that can be thrown about the children is to teach them to swim. This will be of more advantage than the most careful of chaperons. If all the children and young people were able to care for themselves in the water, the danger from this source of pleasure would be greatly minimized. A Marshfield gentleman who is familiar with the facts states that before Portland inaugurated its system of public baths there were from half a dozen to a score of deaths every season offered as a sacrifice to the Moloch of the waters, but since the institution of public provisions where young people may learn to swim in safety, there has been scarcely a single fatality.

The Times is not a faddist, but on the contrary is opposed to fads and particularly in the public schools, but it believes that it should be part of the curriculum of the schools on Coos Bay to teach children to swim as well as to give instructions in rescuing drowning persons and aid and relief for those who have been rescued. This is a matter of vital public concern and one that the unusual conditions in this section warrant being handled with the safety and sanity which the situation demands. The fact that the young life that went out Saturday without warning was that of a young girl enjoying a public school picnic with her classmates and accompanied by teachers, accentuates the responsibilities that devolve upon the schools in this matter. The problem is one that is worthy the careful consideration alike of the school board and the parents and patrons of the schools.

NETWORK OF LINES.

Myrtle Point Editor Has Vision of Railways.

The Myrtle Point Enterprise says: "In talking up electric railway development, George H. Guerin insists that the fact should not be lost sight of that Myrtle Point is logically situated to become the junction of many lines—one up the South Fork, one up the Middle Ford, one up the North Fork, one down the Coquille to Bandon, and another over the divide to Coos Bay. Such a network of lines would make of Coos county a hive of industry, tap all the principal products of the county and place them in connection with the outer world."

"CASTLEWOOD" at the P. K.

WITH THE TOAST AND TEA

GOOD EVENING.

You can no more filter your mind into purity than can you compress it into calmness; you must keep it pure if you would have it pure, and throw no stones into it if you would have it quiet. RUSKIN.

By the Side of the Road.
(He was a friend to man, and lived in a house by the side of the road.—Homer).
There are hermit souls that live withdrawn
In the peace of their self-content;
There are souls, like stars, that dwell apart,
In a fellowless firmament;
There are pioneer souls that blaze their paths
Where the highways never ran;
But let me live by the side of the road
And be a friend to man.

Let me live in a house by the side of the road,
Where the race of men go by—
The men who are good and the men who are bad,
As good and as bad as I.
I would not sit in the scorner's seat,
Or hurl the cynic's ban;
Let me live in a house by the side of the road
And be a friend to man.

I see from my house by the side of the road
By the side of the highway of life.
The men who press with the ardor of hope,
The men who are faint with strife,
But I turn not away from their smiles nor their tears—
Both are parts of an infinite plan;
Let me live in a house by the side of the road
And be a friend to man!

I know there are brook-gladdened meadows ahead,
And mountains of wearisome height
That the road passes on through the long afternoon.
And stretches away to night.
But still I rejoice when the travelers rejoice,
And weep with the strangers that moan,
Nor live in my house by the side of the road
Like a man who dwells alone.

Let me live in my house by the side of the road,
Where the race of men go by—
They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong,
Wise, foolish—so am I.
Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat,
Or hurl the cynic's ban?
Let me live in a house by the side of the road
And be a friend to man.
SAM WALTER FOSS.

The correspondents in Africa are neglecting to keep us posted as to the number and success of Kermit's snap shots.

Carrie Nation has purchased a farm in Arkansas and will doubtless turn from raising Cain to raising corn or cotton.

George Bailey of the Houston Post, says "a kiss that isn't hot enough to burn a hole through a veil isn't worth while." Wonder if George has been ruining many veils lately.

That French astronomer who predicts the appearance of two new comets in 1912 ought to hurry them up a bit. In 1912 we are going to be too busy with politics to bother about comets.

BREAKFAST.

Coffee cup and toast in hand
And fifty seconds late
Father breakfasts on the run
To reach the office at 7:08

Nibbling at a soft boiled egg
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