

COOS BAY TIMES

AN INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY, AND WEEKLY BY THE COOS BAY TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES. In Advance. DAILY.

One year\$5.00
One year not in advance\$6.00
Six months\$2.50
Less than 6 months, per month50
By carrier, per month50

WEEKLY.

One year\$1.50

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

OFFICIAL PAPER OF COOS COUNTY.

A CURIOUS LEGAL PROBLEM.

A DETROIT MAN HAS appealed to the courts for manumission from a peculiarly burdensome form of slavery. Several months ago, while suffering from the psychic sequelae of sciatica, a trolley accident and overwork he accepted the disingenuous sympathy of a Michigan widow, and on gaining full possession of his faculties discovered that she had lured him to the nuptial altar and married him. He was, indeed, seated in a train and speeding away on his honeymoon journey before he noticed the rice in his hair and realized his predicament. Being a man of copious philosophy, he faced the situation without rebellion, and contented himself with cross-examination his bride regarding her politics, finances and family. She told him, he says, she wore her own hair that she had \$2,800 in the bank, and that she was the mother of three children.

The philosophical Detroitier accepted these statements without demanding corroborative testimony, and proceeded to make the best of his upremeditated pilgrimage. But what was his horror and astonishment, on returning to Detroit to find his fair bride had deceived him with both reckless hyperbole and shameless soft-pedaling. In a word, her "own hair" turned out to be a mass of false frizzes, with a "rat" as her nucleus; her \$2,800 shrank to \$70 cash and 10 shares of Arizona mine stock and her three children, viewed with the naked eye and enumerated with scientific accuracy, swelled, increased and multiplied to nine! For, wherefore and in consequence of which the bridegroom has applied to the courts for an absolute divorce and an annulment of his marriage, on the ground that he was induced to enter into it and to consent to its consummation by fraud and deceit, subterfuge and chicanery.

The outcome of his suit will be of vast interest to all students of American jurisprudence. Our statute law is singularly mute upon the subject and our common law seems to provide no adequate principles. A widow may inveigle a man into matrimony upon the understanding that she has one child or none at all, and then suddenly confront him with the knotty problem of supporting and maintaining, six, eight and nine. She may say she has six, and the six may turn out to be ten. She may confess to ten and have twelve.

It is obvious, of course, that it would be against public policy to make such juggling with the truth, so long as it is not aggravated, a ground for the dissolution of the hymeneal bond. A man who makes love to widows is taking long chances, and if he is sane he knows it. It is not the province of either law or equity to protect any free agent from the legitimate and natural hazards of his enterprise. But it is plain, nevertheless, that there must be a limit. The law must say, so far you may go, but no farther! It must provide workable machinery for carrying out the constitutional prohibition of all unreasonable and excessive penalties and punishments. It must make sure that a man who deserves, perhaps, a fine of \$1 or its equivalent is not put to death instead.

Whether or not the Detroit court will decide that nine children are too many to be fastened on a bridegroom remains to be seen. It is sincerely to be hoped that the learned judges, in their decision, will deal with the question in a broad way and so supply the other courts of the country with adequate precedent and dictate, for the proper adjudication of the present case is of less importance than the laying down of comprehensive rules of law for future reference.

It may seem, at first blush, that the difference between two children and five, or between six and ten, is not substantial; but just suppose a man who married a widow, fancying that she had six children, discovered, on returning from his honeymoon, that she has sixteen! Or to put it more graphically, suppose she had sixty or six hundred. The latter supposition, of course, is purely academic, but all the same it well illustrates the fundamental problem. If it be admitted that the possession of two children is not sufficient ground for setting aside a contract of marriage, and if at the same time it be admitted that the possession of two hundred should and must make all such contracts null and void, it becomes apparent that there is some point between these two extremes at which the opposing forces neutralize each other. There it is that misrepresentation ceases to be merely a pious fraud and takes on the seriousness of a tort.

This is the point that the Detroit court must definitely fix and determine. Personally, we are of the opinion that it lies somewhere between sixteen children and twenty.

A LUMBER FAMINE PREDICTED.

ONE OF THE LEADING lumber dealers in the United States has been touring portions of Europe and at the same time making himself solid with the newspaper men by giving them interviews on matters regarding the lumber industry in his country.

While in Paris the other day he was drawn out regarding the possibility of a future scarcity of lumber, and he expressed himself as believing that in twenty years from now the problem of how and where to obtain a sufficient supply of building material will bother the American people to a considerable extent.

His lumber interests are centered in Winnipeg, Canada, and a tremendous business is done throughout Canada and the United States. His company's mills sawing an average of 200,000,000 feet of lumber a year.

The gentleman believes that the great fault of the present, and which will cause distress in the future, is the failure to protect timber areas. It is the rule for contracting companies to cut away heavy timber and

leave the undergrowth exposed to dangers of fire, or the undergrowth is destroyed to make either waste or farm land. The young growth perish and nothing remains to replace them, this situation constituting a positive danger to the welfare of the country. The great lumber states of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, have already been swept clean of their grant timber, and most of that which remains in the northern portion of the United States is to be found in Oregon and Washington, and the supply in these states will last only a certain number of years.

Even now the Canadian timber supply is being drawn heavily on by the United States and the demand will increase from year to year at an unprecedented rate.

ENERGIZE!

Energize! That's a mighty forceful word, one of the most forceful in the whole unabridged dictionary. If you energize you will make things hum, and by making things hum you will do the things you want to do. This applies to individuals as well as to towns or communities collectively.

With the Toast and Tea

GOOD EVENING.

You cannot dream yourself into a character; you must hammer and forge yourself one.
CARLYLE.

The Unknown Dead.

There are graves that lie in the forest deep,
There are graves on the plain alone,
Where the fallen soldiers calmly sleep
Neath the plain board marked "Unknown."
There are graves where no prayer was ever heard
No sound of the muffled drum,
But their dirge is sung by the forest bird,
While the wild bees drowsily hum.

Heed not if the falling drops greet our ears
As we deck each lowly bed.
God's clouds are weeping sorrowful tears
O'er the graves of the unknown dead
—Selected.

Let a Coos Bay man go hunting or fishing a few times, and get nothing, and he will quit.

The man who has been defeated should be as careful in his weeping as the victor is in his celebrating.

Along about this time of the year a man's winter shirt consists of a hole with two sleeves attached to it.

After a girl child passes seven her requests to her father for favors sound as if she had been coached by her mother.

Tom Hall vigorously denies that his inflamed eye is a result of trying hard to see a way out of the city council tangle.

Don't play another man's game, Politics is another man's game. Buying of an agent is also playing another man's game.

That Texas thief who stole the electric fans from a church was doubtless bribed to do the deed by somebody who can't sleep in a draft.

The only reason some Coos Bay men are no longer tied to their wives' apron strings is that women no longer wear the aprons with strings to them.

There are two points on which curiosity is never gratified: Does a man wear his wooden leg to bed? Do a woman's burial clothes include a corset?

The woman who falls in love with a man because he is a most graceful dancer, should always remember that, barring vaudeville, there isn't much money in dancing.

TRUMPS.

The diamond just naturally warms the heart of its owner. It encourages him to forget the club, take up the spade and dig for business.

While eating pancakes a New York lawyer was robbed of a \$22 overcoat with \$12,000 worth of notes. And yet the pancakes had nothing to do with the robbery. Had he been breakfasting on old fashioned ham and eggs or one of the more modern breakfast foods the result would have been food the same. The

pancake must not be brought into dispute.

THE PRIMER CLASS ON FLIES.

An Imaginary School Room Scene After Education Wins.
Scene—Primer class of any school in 1915.

Teacher—Now, children, what is a fly?
Little Willie—It's something that walks all over what it shouldn't walk on and makes money for the doctors.

Teacher—But what is the fly's connection?
Jimmy Bluff—Aw, he chases around to all th' hospitals and alleys, pickin' up germs. Then he pikes into th' dinin' room an' does a Marathon on th' strawberries an' cream.

Teacher—What should we do?
Algernon Bostonese Thimball—By all means, we should exterminate the pestiferous insects, and should use the most rigid preventives to keep them out of the house.

Teacher—Is that right children?
—Children—It certainly is!
Teacher—Then we will sing No. 2323 from the Music reader:

See the fly on the window pane,
Tell me, will he buzz again?
Not if I can soak him one—
When I do, some good is done.
Ta-da-di-dum-m-m-m-m-m-m-m-m-m-m.
Ensemble, strong on the altos and sopranos)
Recess.

THE TELEPHONE GIRL.

The telephone girl sits in her chair and listens to voices from everywhere. She hears all the gossip, she hears all the news, she knows who is happy and who has the blues, she knows all our sorrows, she knows all our joys, she knows every girl who chases the boys; she knows who owes money and who pay their bills. She knows all our cares and she knows all our ills. She knows of our troubles, she knows of our strife, she knows every man who is mean to his wife. She knows who is truthful, she knows who tells lies, she knows who is married and when the stork flies. She knows every time we go out with the boys, she knows the excuse every fellow employs. She knows every woman who has a dark past, she knows ev-

ery man who's inclined to be fast; in fact there's a secret neath each saucy curl of that quiet demure looking telephone girl. If the telephone girl would tell all that she knows, it would turn half our friends into bitterest foes; she would sow a small wind that would soon be a gale, engulf us in trouble and land us in jail; she would let go a story (which gaining in force), would cause half our wives to sue for divorce; she could get all the churches mixed up in a fight and turn all our days into sorrowing nights; in fact she could keep the whole town in a stew if she told the tenth part of the things that she knew. Now doesn't it make your head whirl when you think what you owe the telephone girl.

"COME ALONG!"

I suppose you boys all hear this call?
"Come along!"
'Tis the call of cities east
Which have, in place of mud, paved streets
And the shows they have are simply treats.

"Come along!"

"We have mansions you have shacks,
"Come along!"
Don't walk in your neighbors' tracks
"Come along!"
Leave that place of wind and rain
Just let Marshfield go to Cain
And if you've gold, why come again
Come along.

Now here is fathers-good advise,
'Stay where you are!
We may not have things quite so nice
As they have there
But boys—be loyal to your town
On honest labor do not frown
And make the good old name resound.
Hop lively there!"

They all need boys as stanch and true
As we have here.
Why should you do as their boys do,
Leave friends so dear?
All boost at once. Push till you bust!
And in your own town put your trust
Ah! never let your shovels rust!
Now! all in gear?

—N. LETT.

OPTIMISM.

Optimism spells outlook. There is no outlook for the pessimist who sits down and complains because things are not coming his way. What he needs to do is to get up and go out and yank things his way by the scruff of their necks.

AT THE CHURCHES

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH.
Rev. B. F. Bengtson, Pastor.
Sunday school at 9:30. Pentecostal services at 10:30 a. m.; communion service at the Swedish church at North Bend at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.
Christian Science services will be held in the Christian Science hall, 237 Third street, North, Sunday at 11 a. m. Subject: "Ancient and Modern Necromancy; or, Mesmerism and Hypnotism."

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.
Rev. G. S. Clevinger, Pastor.
Morning service 11 a. m., topic: "Patriotism as Exemplified in the Civil War." Evening service, 8 p. m., topic: "No Moral Uplift Without Opposition." Sunday school 10 a. m.; young people's meeting, 7 p. m.

CATHOLIC CHURCH.
Rev. Father J. MORAN.
Mass will be celebrated at St. Monica's Catholic church in Marshfield at 7 o'clock and 8:30 o'clock Sunday morning by the Rev. Father J. Moran. At North Bend, the Rev. Father D. P. Curley will celebrate mass at 6:30 and 8 o'clock.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL
Rev. H. I. Rutledge, Pastor.
Sunday school at 10 a. m.; morning service at 11 a. m.; Junior League at 3 p. m.; Epworth League at 7 p. m.; evening service at 8 o'clock. Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. The Rev. C. H. Cleaves pastor of the Methodist church, South of Coquille, will preach both morning and evening.

PICTURE FRAMING and Photo Supplies at WALKER studio.

If you want to get the want you want to get, you want to get the Times want ad.

Announcement

We celebrate the second anniversary of our business life in Marshfield on June 1, in our elegant new store, for since it has been remodeled this establishment is practically a new, modern hardware store.

We extend a special invitation to every resident of Coos county to come and see us in our new dress, and we especially invite our many friends and patrons who made this improvement possible.

We shall strive to merit a continuation of your patronage by the same square dealing that has won us our present place in the business world.

We are better prepared than ever before with a larger and more complete stock of **HARDWARE, TINWARE, STOVES, RANGES, CARPENTERS' TOOLS, TEXTS, MILKING MACHINES, INCUBATORS, CREAM SEPARATORS**, and in fact everything that can be found in a first-class hardware and all at prices that are always reasonable.

Come in and get acquainted. We will give you the glad hand, a pleasant smile and a square deal and show you one of the finest hardware stores in Coos County.

Yours for business,

Eckblad & Son
WE SELL HARDWARE.

TRY OUR ICE CREAM—SPECIAL FLAVORS FOR SUNDAY

More Demand for Home Baking

IN ORDER TO SUPPLY THE DEMAND FOR HOME COOKED DELICACIES AND ALSO THE INCREASED DEMAND FOR ICE CREAM, ICES, MILK SHAKES, COLD DRINKS, WE HAVE BEEN OBLIGED TO MAKE EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS IN OUR BAKERY AND INSTALL A LARGER STORAGE PLANT.

WE THANK THE PUBLIC FOR THIS PATRONAGE WHICH HAS RESULTED IN THIS INCREASED BUSINESS AND DEMANDED LARGER QUARTERS AND SOLICIT A CONTINUATION OF THE SAME. WE HAVE EMPLOYED MORE HELP SO THAT WE ARE IN A POSITION TO ASSURE YOU BETTER SERVICE.

YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND A VERY APPETIZING SELECTION IN GOOD THINGS TO EAT—COLD MEATS, SALADS, PASTRIES, ICE CREAM, COLD DRINKS AND OTHER DELICACIES SERVED AT TABLES OR TO BE TAKEN HOME.

CORTHELL'S DELICATESSEN

133 SECOND ST.

Cor. Central Avenue and Second Street, Marshfield.

PHONE 169-L.

DON'T FAIL TO SEE US FOR PICNIC LUNCHES

Try Our Lunches

Our Milk Shakes Are Delicious