

COOS BAY TIMES

An Independent Republican newspaper published every evening except Sunday, and Weekly by The Coos Bay Times Publishing Co.

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

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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

Address all communications to COOS BAY DAILY TIMES, Marshfield, Oregon

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.

THE LAW.

MAY AN INDIVIDUAL strive to outdo his fellows in virtue and well doing with the ultimate end in view of reward in heaven? The question is neither frivolous nor facetious. A recent interpretation of the law is to the effect that there may not be reward in contest without infraction of anti-gambling laws. For example, contestants at billiards may not leave settlement of the costs of the game to the loser without implicating the proprietor of the game in a violation of law.

If it is a good law, and no one presumes to detract from the majesty of the law, why not extend its operation to cover all athletic, musical, literary and mental contests, wherein prizes or rewards are offered for skill and accomplishment? It is axiomatic that the loser loses. Inevitably, whether the contest be that of brains or brawn, he pays tribute of value, or loss of prestige. Plainly the safety of government and the perpetuation of morality demand the discontinuance of all contests of whatsoever nature that dangle before the eyes of the avaricious contestants hope of reward or preferment. Manifestly then, that individual who seeks to outstrip his brother in the race for eternal reward should be checked in his mad and unreasoning course and be compelled to conform his steps to that of his fellow contestant.

This is the era of law. For every human impulse, for every instinct, for every course of conduct, method of procedure is now devised legal enactment. As rapidly as a trait or desire of humanity is discovered which has not hitherto been covered by law one is enacted to fit it. The subject drink is just now receiving the attention of the lawmakers all over the country, after which they are expected to give earnest consideration to the subject of what may be eaten and when. Thereafter undivided attention will be given to enactment of legislation looking to the regulation of wearing apparel. Much disapproval having been expressed in many quarters of the custom of wearing tan shoes and ecru cravats, both may be expected to pass into the limbo of forbidden things. Feminine apparel will be considered from the standpoint of its effect upon race perpetuation, which bodes ill for the things that are now considered modish.

In the great plan for the amelioration and elevation of the human race it is thoroughly agreed and understood that there shall be no invasion of personal right. The idea is, rather, to define once and for all the methods, styles, manners and customs which will make for the highest and greatest good for all, after which everybody is expected to conform willingly and gladly. Everybody is not supposed to know just what is best for him, so the law will determine everything and lift a great load of responsibility and care. It is fortunate that all children are brought up to have great respect for the majesty of the law, thereby rendering easy the task of regulating the universe by this comprehensive system of legislation.

- ◆ The best way to build up your own town is to do your trading at home. Patronize your home merchants. If they succeed, the chances are you will succeed. When you send a dollar to a mail order house you have the goods and they have the money. Trade at home and we keep both the goods and the money.

DEVOTION TO DUTY.

YESTERDAY'S TERRIBLE tragedy in which little Inez McDaniel lost her life was one for which it seems no one may be held to strict accountability. It was one of those dreadful and shocking accidents that now and then obtrude into our daily lives without apparent cause. It does seem a trifle strenuous that the telephone company was compelled to employ a little sixteen years old girl to remain entirely alone in an office from 9 o'clock at night until 6 o'clock the next morning. She was not only alone in the telephone office but was the only one in the building, otherwise the tragedy might have been averted. If there was another girl present to give the alarm or lend assistance a life might have been spared. Another unfortunate feature was the fact that the place became so cool as to necessitate using an oil lamp. Danger always lurks around oil and gasoline in any form and requires great care in handling.

Poor little Inez McDaniel! She was brave and thoughtful beyond her years. A mere school girl it required more than the average girl's courage to remain alone in a large building all night long. Then yesterday morning, with death only a few moments away and suffering excruciating tortures from her burns, she still thought of her work at the office and her duty there. When Josephine Cordes hurried out to help her and found her on the bed at her mother's, Inez first greeting was: "Josephine, you must go to the office; they will need you there."

Has devotion to duty ever received greater exemplification. The thought of the dying girl was not for herself or her comfort but of her duty and the neglected switch board. Poor little Inez McDaniel! Such unselfishness and thoughtfulness deserved a kinder fate.

SHUN THIS HABIT.

OF ALL UNDESIRABLE citizens about the worst is the man who buys everything he can through mail order houses rather than from his home merchants. In every town there are some such people. They exist regardless of how extensive may be the stocks of the local merchants and regardless of the prices charged by the latter. Coos Bay unfortunately has a few "mail order" cranks.

There are people in this section who foolishly send to Portland, San Francisco and even to Chicago, and elsewhere for articles which they buy, without seeing them, at prices fully as high when freight is considered, as they would be charged in this city. This is not good business on their part. It would be far better for them to patronize their home stores. They would then know exactly what they were getting; they would have the merchants guarantee back of the goods and in case of dissatisfaction the trouble could be readily adjusted. No such consideration is ever received from mail order houses. The man who buys from a mail order house takes a chance at getting something he wants. If he gets what he wants alright; otherwise he is a loser.

But aside from the fact that you can get better service from your home merchants there are other reasons why you should give them the benefit of your trade. The success of your town depends more upon the amount of business done by your merchants than upon anything else. When the merchants do well the town has a progressive air and there is advancement in every line. The merchants pay taxes that support local institutions; they contribute to all worthy causes; they assist new industries and are always working for the advancement of the city. In order to do this they must be patronized. By every consideration of justice and also as a matter of common business policy they are entitled to your patronage. Down with the mail order habit.

OFFERS TO SETTLE.

Lee-Bowlder Company to Adjust Curry County Troubles.

BANDON, Ore., June 8. — Mr. Lee of the Lee-Bowlder Company, sales agents for the Port Orford Orchard Tracts Company, held a conference with the creditors of the company here. Mr. Lee made a proposition to settle the claims on a deferred payment plan and said that if the creditors would accept it, the Port Orford Orchard Tracts Company would be reorganized and the business put on a good basis. He said that the present trouble was due to a member of the company exceeding his authority. His proposition was taken under consideration.

WITH THE TOAST AND TEA

GOOD EVENING.

"The weakest thing in the world, you must let me remind you, is self-pity." —Selected.

After All.

The short-weight loaf of bread,
The short-weight ton of coal,
The short-weight chunk of ice—
The long way to the goal.

The few delightful hours,
The many gloomy days;
The great amount of blame,
The little bit of praise.

The many, many tasks,
So much of no avail,
So many who attempt,
So few that do not fail.

The short-weight of good cheer,
The overplus of wrong;
But, after all, somehow
The old world gets along.

If Mars is going dry no wonder she wants to talk to us.

In order to avoid the rush, June brides should be chosen early.

Admiration for the style of hats the women wear this summer will have to be acquired, like a taste for civics.

A worthless man is always a missionary for worthlessness, and spreads his doctrine as widely as possible.

We know a man who was mad all the time because people eat lettuce. He hates it himself, and believes others should.

It is said that no one on earth can save money as fast as an old maid after she has become convinced that men are no worth having.

When one says, "This is the most terrible town in the world for gossip," put it down that that person has been up to something to excite gossip.

"As a road builder," says the Atlanta Journal, "the automobile has the rock crusher beat to a frazzle." What Coos county needs, then, is automobiles and lots of them.

A writer in the Richmond Times-Dispatch yearns to read just once of a prize fighter named Bertie or Clarence or Eustace. Wouldn't Leander or Reginald do just as well?

People in big towns are so selfish. We would rather live in a little town where the people sympathize with you when in trouble, and where, if you have no trouble, they will look up some for you.

The New York Telegram is authority for the statement that there are 240,000 different species of insects on the earth. But folks will go penknicking in the woods up Coos River as usual this summer.

From New Jersey comes the story of a wind storm that blew the shoes from a man's feet. And it probably made him angry, if his neighbors noticed that there were holes in his socks.

Even the fifty per cent duty on soap will not save the small boy from the job of washing his feet before going to bed every night during the summer.

When a man is left with a lot of motherless children on his hands he usually scatters them among his relatives. If it is the woman who is left with fatherless little ones she keeps them together and earns a living besides. Women develop great energy when left without a man. In fact, all the widows we know are getting along a great deal better than the married women.

Is This the Truth?

We really wouldn't care if They pruned the blasted tariff.

We'd have more clothes to wear if It wasn't for the tariff.

The trusts would get a scare if We monkeyed with the tariff.

To slash the thing we'd dare if It wasn't for the sheriff.

Who'd sweep us clean and bare if We didn't have a tariff?

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