

## COOS BAY TIMES

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF MARSHFIELD.

Official Paper of Coos County.

BASKET BALL A COMING GAME.

**B**ASKET BALL is rapidly becoming one of the greatest school and college sports, as well as a popular game for athletic clubs, for which the game was originally designed. The Times is pleased to note its popularity in Coos county.

No college in the country but has its regular team and its class teams; and a similar condition prevails in the high schools, even the smallest being able to put out a team representing the school. It is not only for the young; business men, well past the active age of life, find it an intensely interesting and healthful game. Women and girls play it as enthusiastically as men and boys. If statistics were available, it might surprise the devotees of baseball and football to learn that more people are playing basket ball in America today than any other one sport. This is claimed by some critics.

The simplicity of the rules, the readiness with which any person of either sex or any age can learn to play it; the combination of physical action and exercise with the comparatively small danger of injury; the fact that it takes only five on a side, or 10 players all told, to play it; the fact that it may be played on a small floor space with very simple apparatus and uniforms, make it an admirable sport.

## GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP IN CANADA

**T**HE government of Manitoba, in Canada, has formulated a plan for government ownership of grain elevators for storage and shipment and will appeal to the people upon the issue. The new province of Alberta, further west, is establishing packing plants under government control. In both cases action was taken by request of farmers' associations claiming trust operations in the activities entered. Both provinces have now government telephone systems and government creameries. The outcome of these movements will be watched with great interest by all in touch with the questions involved. They are radical measures, applied under peculiar and restricted conditions, but their outcome may be worthy of note in the inevitable discussion of economic conditions.

## OREGON'S WONDERFUL RESOURCES

**C**OMMERCIALLY, the biggest things in Oregon, the things which built up its wealth, are salmon, fruit and lumber. Formerly it was wheat, in place of fruit, but wheat growing shows a decrease, as it does in California, and for the same reason: the wheat land, given up to fruit or hops will yield 20 times as much money. In salmon there has been a retrogression of late, but steadily because the foolish Columbia river fishermen killed the fish which laid the golden eggs. As soon as the law is enforced the salmon will again be as plentiful in the Columbia as they were last summer. In the neighboring state of Washington, where all records were broken, thousands of tons escaping the cann-

because the fishermen, working 24 hours a day, could not trap or net them. In a good year like that, the salmon catch is worth seven million dollars to Washington.

What their trees are worth to these two states is almost incredible; the figures give one a dizzy feeling. To Oregon alone its timber interests are worth sixty million dollars a year. There are now standing in this state three hundred billion feet of merchantable timber which, at the present rate of cutting, would last 120 years. According to the state board of forestry, the commercial value of Oregon's standing timber is three billion six hundred million dollars, a sum in excess of the total amount of money in currency in the United States at present. Great progress has been made in recent years in eliminating wasteful methods of lumbering and in fighting forest fires; in 1908 there were 180 fire wardens in the state, and there was a noticeable decrease in the number of great fires.

The inhabitants of the Emerald state are at last beginning to realize the value of their trees. This implies a great change—an aspect of Oregon psychology on which it would be interesting to dwell. To the early settlers in this state trees were hated obstacles. These pioneers needed clearings to plant their vegetables and the wheat, and the trees had to be exterminated laboriously. —February Scribner.

## VALUE OF LIBRARY.

An ability to glean information quickly and accurately from books and periodicals, to catch a fact when it is needed and useful, is an indispensable factor in that self-education which all citizens should add to the education obtained in the schools. The schools cannot give a wide range of knowledge, but they can give the desire for knowledge, and the library can give the opportunity to gain it.

Nearly every branch taught in the schools may be lightened and made more interesting by supplementary information gained from a good library. The pupil who is studying the life of Washington should find many interesting facts concerning him, and his times and associates, not given in any of the formal biographies. He will find an article on Washington in the "Young folk's encyclopedia of persons and places," but if he knows how to use the index, he can find fourteen other articles in the same volume in which Washington is mentioned. A large encyclopedia will give scores of facts wanted, under various articles treating of important events in the later colonial and earlier national history of our country; in articles on places, customs, epochs, battles, and the soldiers and statesmen who were Washington's contemporaries.

A teacher cannot train a large number of young people to habits of thorough investigation in a brief time, but she can easily train a few, one or two at a time, and they will help to train others.—F. A. Hutchins.

## TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

## Good Times.

Good times they are comin',  
Don't stand in their way;  
Git onto the curbstone,  
An' give 'em full sway.  
Don't block up the traffic,  
Don't hinder their pace;  
Good times they are comin',  
Make way for the race!

Good times they are comin',  
Push, push on behind;  
Don't scowl at the pageant,  
Be cheerful an' kind.  
Encourage the drummin',  
With smiles on your face;  
Good times they are comin',  
Make way for the race!

The chronic kicker not only has, but generally is, a bad liver.

The men of Coos Bay believe in conservation and the women in conversation. Thus do the sexes get nearer together day by day on the general plan of cooperative mental contiguity—or something or other like that.

The doctrine of "fewer but better children," the fewer the better, is exceedingly popular with a class of housewives who believe in "having a good time while going through life," and with a class of wives who are fond of talking about their "goodly" and the duty they owe to themselves to cultivate "intelligence." These ladies live in beautifully with many selfish and indulgent natures. It looks good to them.

## With the Toast and Tea

## GOOD EVENING.

Few things hurt a good cause more than the excesses of its nominal friends.—Roosevelt.

## A Lowly Petition.

I crave not gold in yellow heaps, that cankers with the rust,  
I ask not millions in the banks, for banks, you know, might bust.  
I only ask for simple gifts—mere baubles, you might say—  
To bring a little happiness and smooth the thorny way.  
A sixty-horsepower auto—nay, I do not pray for more—  
Might sort of help to keep the wolf from prowling round the door.  
A humble little brownstone front, with butler, maids and such,  
Would help me lead the simple life—would aid me very much.

I do not wish a vast estate, to live upon in ease.  
Give me a ranch on Coos River, set out to apple trees.  
No gold for me—just greenbacks of the germie toadskin kind,  
To purchase bread and airships.  
Thus I want my pockets lined.

I prithee, fair Dame Fortune, hear my simple little plea.  
Dig up these few simoleons, and you're the stuff for me!  
The rich may have their clinking coin, which oft they fly earn;  
But not for me—I only ask for what I want to burn.

Go take your gems, your sirlolin steaks, that smack of gold, I wot.  
For me a humble buzz cart and a little brownstone cot;  
A thousand-acre ranch or two (you see my wants are small),  
A pickle tank with bank stock filled, at 10 per cent—that's all!

You can't know too much, but it is easy to say too much.

People get too old to dance, but they never get too old to sing.

When a man whistles he seldom whistles a tune; he just makes a noise.

This for the weather woman: "Nice way for you to use a feller, ain't it?"

The greatest thing in the world: good habits, and good habits are as hard to break as bad habits.

Uncle Dudley says: "Bein' either totally good or bad all th' hull time must be an awful dull job."

A Marshfield mother refuses to let her little girl call it "devil'd" ham; the child must call it "bad man's ham" or go without.

It is an insult for a young person to say to a cold, shivery, old person on a cold day: "Isn't this weather glorious?" To the old it is not.

What has become of the old-fashioned man who told his wife when she asked for a piano that he would get her a washboard to play on?

Matches are said to be made in heaven, but most of them turn out as if made at a bargain sale without the privilege of taking the goods to the light.

If a man invites you to put on the gloves with him don't hope that he will tap you lightly because you tap him lightly. As a matter of fact, the more gently you hit him the harder he will hit you. The same rule holds good in other things. If a man insists on being disagreeable, don't tap; slug, and be done with it as soon as possible.

One Philosopher's Side of Life.  
Did it ever occur to you that a man's life is full of crosses and temptations? He comes into the world without his consent and goes out of it against his will—and the trip between is exceedingly rocky. The rule of contraries is one of the features of this trip.

When he is little, the big girls kiss him; when he is big, the little girls kiss him. If he is poor, he is a bad man; if he is rich, he is dishonest. If he needs credit, he can't get it; if he is prosperous, everyone wants to do him a favor.

If he is in politics, it is for graft; if he is out of politics, he is no good

to his country. If he doesn't give to charity, he is a stingy cuss; if he does, it's for show. If he is actively religious, he is a hypocrite; if he takes no interest in religion, he is a hardened sinner.

If he gives affection, he is a soft specimen; if he cares for no one, he is cold-blooded. If he dies young, there was a great future for him; if he lives to an old age, he has missed his calling.

If you save money, you're a grouch;  
If you spend it, you're a loafer;  
If you get it, you're a grafter;  
If you don't get it, you're a bum.

After the reader has digested the above, he may rest assured there is at least one consolation left for us all. And that is. None of us look alike, think alike, nor act alike; nor are we born free and equal. And the only way to escape criticism, while we pursue our even tenor on this planet, is—to say nothing; do nothing, and be nothing.

My further advice to those who say the world is wrong is—to get busy and reform themselves—as charity begins at home always.

One can bear grief—but it takes two to be glad.

Work your grief into ART and it is gone.

There is nothing like WORK, sunshine and rain, to drive the foolishness out of you.

A Grouch gets nobody anything but a cold in the head.

REMORSE is failure which made a grab at nothing.

BE. don't merely seem.

LAUGH and forget it!

T. L.

A Seattle woman killed herself the other day by lacing too tight, the fatal draw-in breaking her heart. She stayed so long she couldn't stay any longer.

## A Modern Simple Version.

Simple Simon met a pleman,  
Going to the fair.

Said Simple Simon to the pleman,  
"Let me taste your ware."

Said the pleman to Simple Simon:  
"Young man, my ancestors were the hardy spirits who first blazed a trail through the pathless forest and founded the pioneer settlement in the region which is now Missouri. I myself hail from that glorious commonwealth, and before I can be induced to part with one of the succulent gobs of pastry which I am vending, I must be shown your penny."

Said Simple Simon to the pleman,  
"Indeed, I haven't any!"

—Lippincott's Magazine.

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