

What Would You Do With a Million Dollars All Your Own?

Here Are the Answers of More Than Three Score Coos County People to This Interesting Question.

HOW THEY WOULD SPEND IMMENSE FORTUNE IF THEY HAD THE MONEY

Strong Sentiment of Altruism Runs Through All Replies—Help for Community and Help for Others.

HERE is how more than sixty Coos county people would spend more than sixty million dollars—if they had the money. It is a hopeful and helpful sign that the spirit of altruism shines strong and bright in nearly all replies, while nearly all are practical in a determination to set part of it aside for personal use and protection, for pleasure and for travel, all would devote much of it to charitable and philanthropic purposes. It speaks well for the good heart and unselfishness of Coos county people.

The symposium was very successful and developed much interest, not only among the contestants, but also among the Times readers generally. The task of selecting the winners was a difficult one for the judges. They did it cheerfully and efficiently. The Times thanks, and hereby extends its thanks to Superintendent Tiedgen, Superintendent Raub and Rev. Osland for their kindness. The following are the principal letters received during the contest. You will find them worth reading and will enable you to pick the one you would choose for winner if you were judge:

PRIZE WINNERS.
First—Mrs. E. L. Bessey, five dollar gold piece.
Second—Mrs. E. W. Lewis, three dollars.
Third—Alva Stovall, two dollars.
Fourth—Mrs. R. R. Pinkerton, two pound box candy.
Fifth—Mrs. Josephine Frame, one pound box candy.
Sixth—Mrs. Amelia A. Dodge, one pound box candy.

FIRST PRIZE.
If I had a million dollars I would live on my Coos River farm, improve it and make it ideal. I would have a speed boat. I would travel extensively. I would help poor boys and girls to get an education by paying their way through college. I would buy small farms for several of my friends and pay off several small mortgages, buy shoes and coal for poor families, help all my poor relatives and all my special friends. Just west along the million and watch me—Farmer's wife, Mrs. E. L. Bessey.

SECOND PRIZE.
With a million dollars I'd buy a home on Coos Bay. I'd have gardens of vegetables and flowers.
The flowers I raised should bring good cheer
To some one, every day in the year.
The vegetables the hungry feed,
And none denied who are in need.
I'd build the minister a home,
And pay his salary all alone.
I'd have the moving pictures clean,
And none but wholesome things be seen.
I'd make the boulevard and jetty.
—Mrs. E. W. Lewis.

THIRD PRIZE.
I have found that flax grows best in Western Oregon.
I would invest half of this money in establishing a manufactory for products obtainable from this plant—linseed oil, linen fabrics, paper, lawn mowers, etc., using the residue as feed for stock, or as fertilizer.
The rest of the money I would use in managing a flax-farm of my own; employing farmers to grow it; paying for their crops; advertising and managing the manufacturing capacity of the plant as business demand.

FOURTH PRIZE.
I'd like to go back to the Great Giver, and spend my lifelong dream of my life. Not as an organized party, but as a real "fairy godmother" helping others to help themselves. Just when the load seems too heavy or the struggle too unequal, I'd see that the mortgage was paid off, the fuel and other substantial, also fruit on, there I would build a large, neat, roomy house, fireproof, with porches out around from every story, with hammocks, rockers and comfortable seats, furnished throughout for comfort, with long tables well spread. In this house I would give a home to homeless old people. I would help beautify Marshfield by improving streets, setting palms and holly trees and beautiful plants.

FIFTH PRIZE.
I would build a home for children, not necessarily orphans, but bright children in need of care and education. I would have installed into their minds the principles of truth, honesty and industry.
I would employ specialists to make a psychological study of each child, so that their best talents would be cultivated to fit them for their life's occupation.
They should be taught the principles of economy, self government and temperance in all things.
My aim would be to fit them to become strong men and women capable of filling positions of trust, governing the nation and the coming generation.

SIXTH PRIZE.
I am heir to a million dollars and I shall make Marshfield famous as a residence place.
First, I shall build model playgrounds at the schools with an out-of-door kindergarten. Next a public park with musical program each evening, also Greek theater. I should also build four hundred small, artistic homes to rent very reasonably. Charleston Bay would be connected with Marshfield, Coquille, Bandon and Myrtle Point by auto line.
The best in literature and art I would place before the people, as that is all Coos Bay lacks to make it the most desirable place in the U. S. to live.

WOULD BUILD BUNGALOW.
If I had a million dollars I would first buy me some nice clothes, then I would have a nice bungalow built, and I would buy a five-passenger car and take my friends out for a joy ride once in a while.
And I would buy a kodak and outfit so that I could take lots of pictures.
And I would take a trip to San Francisco and see how everything is there and then after a while I would return to Marshfield and work right along, but take it easy once a while.
Hoping this is interesting you.
Miss Lily Gidmark.

WOULD HELP THE S. P.
I would invest in bonds. Marriage bonds draw minus ten per cent. They are not very secure in Reno.
I would buy a bottle of hair tonic, going on the theory that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.
I would donate several bottles of cream to the S. P. to be used as a substitute for low spirits, in North Bend.

WOULD HELP SOCIALISM.
If I had a million dollars my very first investment should be a year's subscription to the Appeal to Reason for every householder or worker in our country. Then I would establish such a propaganda of moving picture lecture courses and intercollegiate socialist societies that this country would find out what is the matter with it before the passing of the next decade.
Sincerely yours for the revolution.
Flora I. Foreman.
Denmark, Oregon.

HOT TAMALES-ICE CREAM.
If I should suddenly fall heir to a million dollars, that is if it were a hot day, I would make a dive for the ice cream parlor, and if it were a cold day, I think that I'd make a dive for the hot tamale man.
Next thing on the program would be to migrate to Germany and take up a homestead. Upon it I would install an incubator and hatch a railroad for Coos Bay.
The remainder of my life would be spent in an aeroplane constructing castles in the air.
Shirley Peterson.

LIBRARIES AND HOSPITALS.
If I should fall heir to a million dollars I should invest about one-half of it in Coos county. First I should have built a \$50,000 library in the towns of Marshfield and North Bend. Then I should have erected a \$100,000 hospital in Marshfield. As Coos Bay has no home for orphans, I would then invest about \$50,000 in one of these.
One-tenth of it, I should invest in the noted Coos Bay coal mines. Lastly, I would buy a block of stock in the railroad, now being built to Coos Bay.
Constance Clark, North Bend.

WOULD HELP ORPHANS.
I would buy a nice home near some big city and build a home for orphan children and a hospital for the poor and old who are sick and in need of care. I would give my parents a nice home and care for them also.
I would care for all of these and see that they were not in need of anything. I would educate the little orphans and care for them also. I would have a nice car to drive them about.
Mrs. Harry Hampton.
Coalado Camp No. 2.

TRIP AROUND THE WORLD.
First, I would like to take a trip around the world, and then try to find the most beautiful place. There I would live. I would build a house on an islet near a large city, in midst of delightful gardens, and surrounded by water. When I looked toward the sea, as far as I could see, I would see many steamers passing by. As I looked toward the land from my windows I would see a beautiful view of the city.
Then I would take a trip to America again, sailing around the Panama Canal and then to the Panama Exposition in San Francisco.
Frank Gee.

WOULD USE SYSTEM.
If I were to become possessed of a million dollars, I should divide it into fifths. To my brother and sister who are both engaged in business, I would give one-fifth each.
Two-fifths I would set aside for my little brother and myself in later years.
The last fifth I would use to provide for my parents' old age and would make my home with them during their life.
I would bestow charities where they were needed and welcome, and I would build a Catholic church in my home town.
My life work would be to rear my baby brother and set his standards of life. He should have the best of education and a profession, for his life and mine would not be idle. Together we would travel and study the old masterpieces of art, music and statuary. My own life in later years I would leave in the hands of "Our Father Who art in Heaven."
Anna Truman.

AN ALTRUISTIC VIEW.
One million dollars would bring me happiness, in that I could through its use bring happiness to many others. One-tenth that sum could be used to secure me an income to provide while using the other nine-tenths in relieving the wants and needs of others. Sickness, aqualor, ignorance and crime thrive where poverty pinches hardest, and money, some people's God, worshipped for its power, and held in excess of their actual needs, could be distributed among those who have none, bringing happiness to them and to the givers, as well if they could be cured of the diseased mind that makes them look at money as they now do.
—F. E. Chase.

WOULD TRAVEL.
If I had a million dollars I'd surely travel around the world. I'd have my parents with me, and about a dozen of my friends.
We would tour thru California in comfortable automobiles, and visit the mission ruins in the evening when the moon shone brightly over all and everything was still and solemn.
After visiting in London and Paris, we'd spend the spring in Switzerland, when the hillsides were covered with flowers of every description, above which rose the snow covered peaks of the mountains.
Japan could not be missed. Then I should get homeseck and take the fastest boat for dear old Coos Bay, where I'd live, contented that it was the best place to live, in all the world.
—Margaret Stambaek.

WOULD HAVE APPENDIX CUT OUT.
Forth would I go to Coos Bay. I'm sure I could there spend my money. There I would buy automobiles. I'd even invest in some lots.
I would buy stock and bonds in their railroad, and even have my old appendix cut out by Drs. Mings and Houseworth. There I would buy all the drygoods of the old Golden Rule up on Broadway. But I surely must have a whole million to live on old Coos Bay forever.
—Mrs. R. F. Bush.
Marshfield, Ore.

A GOOD IDEA.
I would use the amount necessary to buy out all the "knockers" and "hold backers" on Coos Bay. And the remainder I would give them as a bonus to leave the state forever. And I'll bet you that \$5 prize (if I win it) that I would double my investments in five years.
Yours for luck,
HOWARD F. SMITH.
North Bend, Oregon.

A HELPFUL IDEA.
I'd take \$400,000 to buy 40,000 acres of land, making homes for 1000 happy people. For the \$500,000 I'd give each one a check for \$550 to start with. The remaining 100,000 would be plenty for me, and in fact, any one to live on comfortably.
The payment to be made on the homes: Ten years to pay in. First two years, no interest, after that five per cent.
Could an honest poor man wish for a home on better conditions, or could all the million be used to better advantage?
G. ROZZE.
Empire, Ore.

WOULD HELP PARENTS.
First, I would put my mother and father in best of circumstances, then I would put my children in best of schools. I would erect a modern home and have a home for the old and young and see that no one needed. I would go among the poor families and find out their wants and give a helping hand to every one. I would like to devote my time among the sick and poor afflicted. I would like to visit some large cities. I would like to dress just modern and put some money in real estate and some in banks on interest.
MRS. MAMIE O'TOOLE.
Coalado, Oregon.

WOULD BUY WATERWORKS.
I would do like Maud Muller. "Feed the hungry and clothe the poor, so all would bless me who left my door." I would buy awake of rights to do this properly; and would like to buy the waterworks and make Marshfield a present of them, but that would cut too big a hole in my million. So I would just be satisfied with smaller philanthropies. I might build a hotel for country people to enjoy a old-fashioned meal in.

WOULD HELP MARSHFIELD.
I would donate to Marshfield \$100,000 for a salt water system for fire and sewage purposes; \$200,000 for water privileges from South Coos River; \$200,000 for dock and warehouse, entire length of water front; \$100,000 for electric and power plant; \$50,000 for parks; \$25,000 for free market; \$50,000 for hospital; \$50,000 for Rotunda; \$25,000 for public library; \$100,000 for apartment houses; \$100,000 for the city hall.

ONLY A DREAM.
If I had a million dollars, I would be selfish and provide for myself first. I would invest \$50,000 to provide for my own needs through life. The remaining part I would donate to some charitable institution in our city to be used in a manner deemed necessary by the institution, for relieving suffering among the poor and to provide medical attention for those who were unable to do so themselves. By so doing I would consider that I had done my part toward others and would feel free to enjoy my own in my own way.
"Tis but a dream!
MRS. V. P. SANFORD.

WANTS AN EDUCATION.
I know what I would do if I had a "Million Dollars." I would go to school and get well educated. Then I would go to a "music academy" and study music. I would come back to Marshfield and teach music in the "winter."
In the "spring" I would buy a few acres of land at the "ocean beach." I would build a fine "bungalow." I would buy some nice furniture and a "piano." I would have beautiful roses in my garden and a nice green lawn.
I would buy an "automobile" to go down to my "summer home." I would buy a "motorcycle" for my brother.
—Edith Johnson.
Age 11 years.

IT MAKES HIM DREAM.
A million dollars is a lot of money for any one to give an idea if how to use. A business proposition may be alright, but to be human, I would give to the old, the poor, farms, homes, also those that were in need of education. I would gladly do all I could for them.
A good library for our city.
A good college.
And a few up to date flits. These would be a great credit to our city.
Whew! A million dollars—just think of it!
Let us all take a cigar and dream and dream.
—Wm. Ledward.
City.

WOULD HELP CHILDREN.
Well if I had a million dollars I would go to some large city and pick out about twelve children that were very poor and dress them fit for a long trip. Then I would take them down to the city of Panama, and across the isthmus to Colon. Then across the Atlantic ocean to Eurasia, then through Egypt, and through Palestine. Also over to China and Japan. Then across the Pacific for home. There I would put them in school and each month send them enough to buy their school supplies. After that I would build a children's home.
—Miss Abigail Ledward,
1268 Commercial Ave.

WOULD SAIL IN AIR.
If a million dollars I did own in a hydroplane, I'd like to roam on the water. I would have it run. And if I could fly like Christofferson
I would sail in my ship from morn till night,
And catch all the wild ducks in my flight,
I would have such fun, and oh, what glee,
To see the wild beasts scared of me.
For to the mountain side they would lie,
When they would see a monster like me fly.
Over the mountains and over the mead,
Hastily onward I would then proceed,
I would go to Frisco to see the fair,
It must be so beautiful up in the air.
Then back to Coos Bay again I would roam,
For there is no place like old home, sweet home.
—M. E. H.

FOR PRACTICAL CHARITY.
The first thing would be to see that it was well invested in U. S. bonds and first class stocks.
The next thing I would build a comfortable home for myself, just comfortable. Then there are about a half dozen families that I know to be really deserving that I would help to do the same thing for by putting a sum of money at interest to pay for them. Then I would buy a tract of land near some town, divide it into two or more acre lots with comfortable homes on each lot, and put a reasonable rent on them; the rent to apply on the purchase price if desired.
Then I would sit down and watch that kind of charity work.
—A. D. T.