

COOS BAY TIMES
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COOS BAY DAILY TIMES
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Dedicated to the service of the people, that no good cause shall lack a champion, and that evil shall not thrive unopposed.

"I WILL" AS PART OF GOOD TIMES

IN OUR old school grammars we were taught to use WILL in the first person and SHALL in the second and third when we wished to imply determination. We considered it a simple rule of English, but as we grow older in the battle of life we find that it is also a simple rule in business, for if we will in the first person, the second and third persons either agree with us, help us, combat us, or in the end make it easy for our will to have its way.

As individuals we are largely what our determination makes us, a strong will—big achievements, and a weak will—driftwood.

The history of one will is the history of a man. The history of many wills united, is the history of a community such as ours. The history of many more wills is the history of a nation.

A combination of wills pulling for the same thing in the same direction makes first an organization, and then, if they keep pulling makes it successful.

That's what makes big cities and prosperous communities—organized communal effort.

If one weakens and says: "I shall rest a bit," another will must work for two. If many wills unite and say, "we shall cease from determining for a while," the community slows up.

The Coos Bay spirit has not learned how to slow up.

To the "I will spirit" there is neither inflation nor depression, hard times, nor poor times. It has but one watchword—"Forward" and it sees in but one direction—"ahead."

The actual conditions of the world of business as we face them at the present time, are promising and hopeful.

The economic status in general seems to be fundamentally firm. Banks have not overloaned, there is no expansion of credit, and all the country needs if it needs anything is for the united wills of all the people to leave the spirit of doubt for one of determination and confidence.

Arno Merce, general superintendent of the C. A. Smith mill declared in The Times the other day after his return from San Francisco that Coos Bay was in the best position and condition commercially and financially of any similar section of the United States. That is a big broad statement but is one borne out by facts. All our industries are in operation; work on the new railroad is being rushed rapidly and in every way the prospects for Coos Bay were never brighter.

By all the people of this community determining as a unit, working as a unit and pulling as a unit we can make 1914 one of the most important and successful in the annals of Coos Bay.

MAKING A CITY BEAUTIFUL

THE TIMES has frequently suggested that there is no greater or more important work in the development of the city—that is to be on Coos Bay than conserving its natural beauty and developing it along natural lines. There is much that might be done here without expenditure other than a little effort. The planting of roses, shrubs, flowers, decorative trees and foliage that flourishes so luxuriantly could be made to transform Coos Bay into a veritable bower of beauty.

The Times has suggested this as a splendid work for some of the women's clubs—or an amalgamation of all the women's clubs of Coos Bay. A practical plan for this work has been developed in Oakland, California which might profitably be adopted on Coos Bay. The plan is contained in a letter received from there is as follows:

"Forty-seven miles of flowers and acres of bloom along the main thoroughfares and masses of color throughout the city streets will greet visitors to Oakland next year, when the plans accepted by the general committee of the Garden City Soldier movement are fully worked out. Oakland has been divided into forty-three districts with school houses as the unit and improvement and women's clubs of the various localities as the supervisors. Twenty thousand school children are organized into companies of garden soldiers. This army with their parents and teachers, members of fifty-five improvement clubs, thirty-two women's organizations, nineteen civic clubs, the real estate association, school board, play ground commission, park directors and public department form the working force that make Oakland the garden spot of California.

Each district will be given a list of common hardy flowers requiring little water, to be planted between sidewalk and curb, with the suggestion that a definite scheme be carried out. Each child will be asked to contribute plants or seeds from its own garden for the city beautification. The school house will be the clearing house. It is particularly desired that present growths are not disturbed. The summer will be devoted to cleaning up and making the soil ready for the early fall planting.

The first work along the general clean-up line was begun when formal notice was sent to the custodians of the various school grounds by the board of education, calling attention to the rules for clearing weeds and accumulations of rubbish.

JACOB RIIS' NOTED CAREER

Penniless Immigrant Gained Fame As Reporter, Author and Friend of Poor.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

NEW YORK, May 27.—Jacob August Riis, who died yesterday at his home in Aster, Long Island, of heart disease, became, through his work in behalf of the poorer people in New York, "the most useful citizen," of the metropolis, according to a tribute once paid him by Theodore Roosevelt, his intimate friend.

As an almost penniless immigrant he obtained knowledge of the slums at first hand and found conditions there so repellent that he consecrated his whole life to warfare against wretchedness.

Riis was the thirteenth child of a Latin teacher in Ribe, Jutland, Denmark. He was born in 1849. Protesting at the literary career which his father had cut out for him, young Riis decided to work with his hands and became a carpenter's apprentice. The vocation he had chosen did not prevent him, however, from falling in love with Elizabeth Nielson, daughter of one of the richest men in his native town. But she refused him, and when Riis was twenty-one years old, having learned his trade, he embarked for New York with only \$40 in his pocket. He spent half the sum for a heavy navy pistol as soon as he landed "to fight Indians and desperados."

Riis led a varied career during the following six years. He built miners' huts in a Pennsylvania construction camp, mined coal, made bricks, drove a team and peddled flat irons and books. At twenty-seven he spent his last cent in reaching New York, hoping to enlist through the French consul in the Franco-Prussian war, but his services were refused, and Riis was forced to accept a beginner's place as a reporter for a New York news bureau. At the very first he made his most conspicuous success in the study of conditions on the East Side of New York.

With only \$75 capital and notes for \$575, he succeeded in buying the "South Brooklyn News," which was on the verge of bankruptcy and made such a success with the property that he was able to sell it at a considerable profit a few years later. He returned to Denmark and married the girl who had refused him when he was a carpenter's apprentice. This first wife died in 1895 and two years later Riis married Mary Phillip of St. Louis.

As a reporter for the New York Tribune and later on the New York Sun, Riis took up his real work in slum fighting. While attending to routine duty as a police reporter, he worked day and night to arouse the people to the need of improved living conditions. One of the first of his campaigns was against the impurity of the city water, and it was his fight which finally led to the purchase of the Croton watershed to assure safe drinking water for New York.

He brought sunlight to the tenement districts by forcing the destruction of rear tenements. He entirely cleared Mulberry Bend, one of the worst tenement sections in the city, and replaced the squalid homes by shady parks.

Theodore Roosevelt was police commissioner of New York City when Riis attacked the evils of police station lodging houses. He won his point and incidentally a strong ally in Mr. Roosevelt. Riis drove bake-shops out of tenement basements; he fought for laws abolishing child labor; and was largely instrumental in getting the passage of "the briefest, wisest and best statute on the books of New York, laying down the principle that hereafter no school shall be built without an adequate playground."

After twenty-seven years as a reporter, Riis resigned to continue his fight by writing and lecturing. Among the products of his pen are "How the Other Half Lives," "The Children of the Poor," "The Making of an American," (his autobiography), "The Battle with the Slum," "Children of the Tenements," "The Old Town," "Theodore Roosevelt, the Citizen," and "Hero Tales from the Far North."

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AT THE HOTELS

The Chandler Hotel.
Herbert Armstrong, North Bend; W. A. Bean, Riverton; W. Cullin, Coquille; T. H. French, Portland; Mrs. F. R. Steward, Prosper; J. L. Shetterly, Portland; W. E. Arnold, Portland; J. J. Clinkenbeard and wife, Coos River; N. J. Cornwall, Gardiner; Ben Mitchell, Portland; H. B. Hall, Portland; E. J. Hinchey, Portland; A. Breyman, Portland; Felix M. Wolff, San Francisco.

The Lloyd Hotel.
M. H. Stanton, Salem; E. Kenyon, Portland; Walter Johnson, City; Jay Clinkenbeard, Coos River; Geo. E. Johnson, Gardiner; Harold K. Hodge, Coquille.

The Blanco Hotel.
W. H. Smith, City; Jennie Whetstone, Glendale; Peter Scott, City; S. B. Cullip and son, Coos River; A. E. Taylor, Myrtle Point; Tom Wasson, Sunset Bay; Paul Stratton, Benton, Ky.

The St. Lawrence Hotel.
F. Garge, Camas Valley; Mr. and Mrs. J. Coleman, Roseburg; E. Deiner, Medford; Mrs. Frank Grant, South Slough; Miss Violet Means, Coaledo; B. G. Coolidge, Bandon; L. D. Smith, Coos River.

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NOTICE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION.

State of Oregon, County of Coos, School District No. 9, as.

Notice is hereby given that at the School District Bond Election hereby called to be held at the Central School Building, in and for School District No. 9, of Coos County, Oregon, the 6th day of June, A. D., 1914, between the hours of two o'clock P. M., and seven o'clock P. M., there will be submitted to the legal voters thereof the question of contracting a bonded indebtedness in the sum of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS for the purpose of erecting and equipping a gymnasium for school purposes in and for said school district.

The vote to be by ballot upon which shall be the words: "Bonds, Yes" and "Bonds, No," and the voter shall place a cross (X) between the word "Bonds" and the word "Yes" or between the word "Bonds" and the word "No" which indicates his choice.

The polls for the reception of the ballots cast for or against the contraction of said indebtedness will, on said day and date and at the place aforesaid, be opened at the hour of two o'clock P. M., and remain open until the hour of seven o'clock P. M. of the same day when the same shall be closed.

By order of the District School Board of School District No. 9, of Coos County, Oregon, made this 13th day of May, A. D., 1914.

JNO. C. MERCHANT,
Chairman, District School Board,
Attest: John F. Hall, District Clerk.

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