

# SCHOOL HOUSE NOT FOR SCHOOL ALONE, DOCTRINE OF WEIR

### Playground Expert Wants It Social Center, Clean Diversion Supplanting Wrongdoing, He Points Out.

The schoolhouse must become the community center as well as the educational center if it is to hold its place in the life of the people, and the church must appeal to the physical man as well as the moral being if it retains its hold upon the religious instincts of man, according to the tenets of the Playgrounds association of America. L. H. Weir, secretary of the great welfare movement, spoke last night at the Lincoln high school to an intensely interested audience upon the work of an association and the reforms needed to make American life what it should be. He very forcefully brought out the delinquencies of the school and the church, demanding that the exclusiveness of each be cast to the winds and that the work be done with men and women, and that the reforms needed to make American life what it should be.

Secretary Weir dwelt at length on the old idea that the schoolhouse was intended as a place where children were gathered for the purpose of forcing learning down their throats. He showed that the social feature of education, the commingling of children, is one of the most valuable branches of education, and that by opening the school building to night schools, to clubs, to gymnastic exercises, to swimming and other forms of amusement properly supervised, double or treble the good can be obtained from the public money expended in educational work.

### Playgrounds and Good Conduct.

Mr. Weir showed the tremendous growth of the playground movement during the last five years, and many instances of the good accomplished. In Cincinnati the juvenile courts have been given short shifts since the children were given opportunity to play and congregate in places of amusement with clean atmospheres. While the number of cases was more than 1800 in a year it was shown that last year but 500 cases were taken care of, and many of them were from other cities. In New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, and other cities similar results were attained.

"Where the schoolhouses are open seven days and seven evenings each week, where simple apparatus is provided, where an effort is made to get children together in play, there is but little need of officers and juvenile courts," said Mr. Weir. "Where the church managed with an idea of keeping the boys and the girls in Sunday school and church after they have grown to youth, the community has nothing to fear in the way of crime and court expenses. The church and the school do the work that is needed in the organization of society, outside the home, and to them we must look for the generations of able and honest men and women, or on the other hand for the reign of crime and social disaster which must follow misdirected energy in the days of development."

### Energy Must Get Out.

"Juvenile court officers tell me that invariably the greater part of the cases coming before them are the result of misdirected play-spirit. Boys and girls must do something, or they will dwindle and die. Herd them in dingy schoolhouses for seven or eight hours, five days a week, without adequate playgrounds and without organized play, and you leave them in just the right mood to commit delinquency. Allow them to go back to the schoolhouse in night classes if they choose, give them amusements, let them play, let them play for all their life in it, and they will love their lessons and their teachers in a new way."

"The spirit which comes from the college demanding athletes who become expert in one thing and who bar the general run of the students from doing anything but yelling on the sidelines is wrong in principle and must be corrected in the schools. Games and amusements must be provided that will allow the whole school or more than one big school to take part. It is not enough for a lively boy to say that our school won, dead as they must feel that he had part in the victory, even though he knows that his part was small."

### Get Grounds When Cheap.

Portland should avoid the mistakes of the other cities of the east. It is costing millions of money to get playgrounds now, whereas they could have done the work if it had been done at the right time. While land is cheap while the best locations can be had while the spirit moves, get playgrounds all over the city. The investment will pay better than any other investment that can be made, not only in money but in manhood and womanhood as well."

Dr. J. W. Wetherbee of the park board presided at the meeting. The several organizations of women in the city were well represented as was the city administration. At the close of Mr. Weir's address a number of questions were asked about the results obtained in cities where public playgrounds are being managed in connection with the schools or in connection with the city parks. Mr. Weir will speak Friday night at Washington high school on the east side, and the lecture will be illustrated with a number of pictures of playgrounds in America and in Europe.

### MEMORIAL DAY TO BE OBSERVED BY SCHOOLS

(Salem Bureau of The Journal.)  
Salem, Or., March 21.—Believing that memorial day should be appropriately observed by the schools of the state, State Superintendent Alderman has prepared circulars which he is mailing out to the schools suggesting programs. Where there are Grand Army posts the exercises will be under the auspices of the Grand Army, but in many communities there are no posts of the Grand Army, and in those communities the schools will hold exercises May 30, independently, in memory both of the soldier dead in unknown graves, as well as the soldier dead.

### Maiden Trip of New Lher.

Baltimore, Md., March 21.—With a large party of guests representing the commercial organizations of several southern cities, the new steamer Suislaw of the Merchants and Miners Transportation company sailed from Baltimore today on her maiden voyage to Savannah and Jacksonville.

## THIS CLASS OF MARCH WEATHER BRINGS GRIN TO IMMIGRATION MAN

Oregon's old residents declare that they never in all their lives before experienced such splendid March weather, while the railroad immigration agents calmly assert it is for the benefit of the colonists, who might misunderstand the philanthropic intentions of Oregon mist.

When a pair of robins began to build the foundations of their summer home the other day, the weather wise said it was the first sure sign of spring's coming, and when they saw a man with a brand new straw hat on Union avenue yesterday their conviction was increased.

Meanwhile father has to mow the lawn one evening, and plant radishes the next, while the rest of the family are so seriously ill with spring fever that they can't help him; the early colonists are refreshing the breaths of the populace, and work on the new steel bridge is being rushed to get the last pier finished before the first high water, which the warm weather will bring from the mountains.

## MT. ANGEL STUDENTS HOLD ANNUAL DEBATE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Mt. Angel, Or., March 21.—"Resolved, that the United States should fortify the Panama canal" was the resolution adopted by the Students' congress in the annual debate held in the college auditorium Sunday night. The debate was a very close one, and there was a doubt as to who would be the victor until the decision of the judges was announced.

The affirmative contended that treaties of neutrality were not worth the paper they were written on when some strong power could gain an advantage by breaking them, in substantiation of which they cited the record of England in many instances. They pointed out that it was absurd to expect a nation to leave a work unprotected which she had made her own by such an enormous sacrifice of money, labor and life, as the United States has done in constructing the canal.

The principal contention of the negative was that the canal, fortified, would become a legitimate prize of war, and they showed how the gigantic undertaking could easily be lost to the United States by such a course. They showed that conditions were such at the canal that fortification would be weak against the onslaughts of some man-of-war which, by destroying even one lock, could easily put the canal out of commission.

Those who upheld the winning side were Patrick Walsh, of Nova Scotia and Joseph Heysacker of Forest Grove. Opposing them were John Davis, of Missouri, and John Castello, of Nebraska. The judges were Father Buck, of Forest Grove, and Fathers Benedict and Paul, of St. Benedict's abbey, all alumni of the college.

## MRS. WALKER, 83, TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Forest Grove, Or., March 21.—Mrs. Minerva Walker, one of the best known pioneer women of Washington county, will celebrate her eighty-third birthday tomorrow on the farm where she has lived continuously for the past 54 years.

Mrs. Walker's maiden name was In-Knighten. She was born in Jefferson county, Mo., March 22, 1828, and crossed the plains with her parents in 1847. The party made the slow and toilsome journey by ox team and suffered many hardships and privations enroute. March 2, 1848, Miss In-Knighten was married in this county to Robert Walker, a pioneer of 1844. Mr. and Mrs. Walker located on 640 acres of land, donated by the government, the year of their marriage, their farm being located near the town of Roy, about four miles northeast of this city.

Mrs. Walker is strong and vigorous despite her great age, and her intellectual powers are undiminished. Her mind is a veritable storehouse of incidents of the early days, and she tells most interesting stories of the adventures and vicissitudes which were the common lot of the hardy pioneers of the great Oregon country.

Two railroads now cross Mrs. Walker's farm, one steam and one electric, and the change from the bridge path and pack horse to the railroad, which has taken place since she was a girl, epitomizes the changes which have transformed the west from the abode of wild beasts and savages to an empire of civilization. Mr. Walker died in 1898. Of the children born to this pioneer couple, six are now living, as follows: Mrs. E. J. Lyle, Stinson, Idaho; Robert Walker, West Fall; Will G. Walker, Roy; James Walker, Hood River; Samuel Walker and Mrs. Melissa Armentrout, Forest Grove.

## Valuable Team Drowned.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
South Bend, Wash., March 21.—What was probably the most valuable team of carriage horses in southwest Washington was accidently drowned while being driven to this city. The horses became frightened and jumped from a bridge into a slough, the driver barely escaping by jumping from the carriage as it left the bridge. The team was the property of Mrs. J. W. Masterson, wife of the proprietor of the big Masterson dairy ranch near this place, and was purchased by her in Portland about two years ago.

Of the 15 members of the board of aldermen of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., eight are union men.

## LOGGED OFF LAND BUBBLE IS BROKEN, PROMOTER IS GONE

### Offices in Failing Building Are Empty; Not Even All Those \$2 Bills Paid to President Can Be Found.

The spacious offices of the Logged Off Land Development company, on the fourth floor of the Falling building, have been vacated, the landlord has scraped the names off the doors and the furniture man has got the two desks that comprised the furnishings.

Leonard P. Spear, president of the company, chief stockholder and general man of all work, has left the city. Before he left, however, he told District Attorney Cameron that all persons wanting their \$2 bills back could get them from John Hughes, attorney, Falling building. When a reporter asked Mr. Hughes about it, he said it was the first he had heard of it.

Leonard Spear, who promoted the Union Coal & Development company in Seattle, some time ago, told the district attorney he was unable to get as much logged off land as he thought he could. Money back to the dissatisfied, he said, but the trouble is that the dissatisfied do not know where to get their money.

The first intimation that came of the presence of the Logged Off Land & Development company, which was incorporated by Spear, E. R. Miller and Victoria Spear, the latter two holding three shares, was during advertisements. "Two dollars down and two dollars a month," they read, for logged off land in Chehalis county.

### Says He Found No Title.

Some 30 employees of the O. W. R. & N. interested themselves in the proposition and purposed to buy land. They delegated one of their number to investigate, and sent him to Aberdeen and Hoquiam to go out over the land. He got a description of the property from a salesman named Crawford and journeyed to Aberdeen, where he discovered, to his disgust, that the Logged Off Land Development company had no title to the land described, and that its name did not appear on the county records. A little investigation showed that the Washington Colonization company owned the land.

The correspondent for The Journal at Aberdeen telegraphed that a notation of the records of Chehalis county showed no such company as the Logged Off Land Development company listed. Nothing was known of such a corporation. Abstract companies that had recorded all logged off land in the county had no records showing the name of the company.

Spear has not been in the city much since a few days after his advertisement appeared. His main office in the Falling building was usually open, though, and there were a lot of attractive maps of logged off lands and stories of easy money spread about. One could slip into the main office almost any time and wander about at will. If he wanted to try the doors marked "President" and "Secretary" he would have found both these offices bare, without a piece of furniture. But the doors were usually kept closed.

### Draft for Rent Protested.

Some time last week the furniture man came around to see why his furniture had not been paid for, and took the two desks away. The landlord said last week that he had got a draft for the rent, but that the draft had been protested.

Spear called on District Attorney Cameron without invitation. He said he feared his company might have been complained against, and that he wanted to show that he was "on the square." He said he had had some trouble getting title to the property he had advertised and if anyone wanted his \$2 back he could go to Hughes and get it. Spear said he was going out of town for a few days.

When it first came into existence the Logged Off Land Development company ran half-page and one-third page ads in a lot of papers in the northwest. In the main inquires and bits of money came thick and fast. No one seems to know where Spear is now. Hughes, who said he did some legal business for the company and drew up its incorporation papers, said he did not know. The solicitor of the name of Crawford, he said, had got out of the company.

Judge Cameron wants persons who have invested in the company's land and have not got their money back to communicate with him.

## REDMOND GIVES GLAD HAND TO COLONISTS

Redmond, Or., March 21.—The Redmond Commercial club has a representative stationed at Fallbridge, on the North Bank road, to meet all incoming colonist and passenger trains and look out for people headed for the central part of the state. He is supplied with plenty of literature, and those who are routed over the Oregon Trunk line are accompanied by him across the ferry to the Oregon side, and given all the needed information as to this section of the country. Another representative from Redmond meets the homeseeker and tourist at Madras or Metolius and further aids the newcomer in his search for a location. So far quite a number of newcomers have arrived here and have bought \$40 irrigated land, and others have invested in improved farms and ranches. Ample accommodations have been provided here for all who come, and the Commercial club will see that the glad hand of welcome is extended to the man from the east who wants to see this glorious part of central Oregon.

## WEALTHY AMERICANS ASK LLOYDS TO INSURE BABY AGAINST KIDNAPERS

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
London, March 21.—Announcement was made here today that Lloyds has been asked by wealthy persons living in an American city to insure their child for \$10,000 against kidnapers. The premium is to be 20 shillings per cent. If kidnaped, the proposed premium is to be 10 shillings per cent to cover any ransom up to \$10,000.

According to Lloyds' answer, the child's safety is to be guaranteed only when taking the air in a baby carriage, the upper part of which is enclosed in a steel cage, and guarded by three detectives. If the rates are approved, the insurance becomes effective at once.

While Lloyds refuses to confirm the report it is generally believed that the baby is sought to have insured is John Nicholas Brown, the "million dollar baby" of Narragansett Pier, who is the only American child known to take his airings in a steel cage such as is specified in the proposal to Lloyds.

## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY JUBILEE CELEBRATED

New York, March 21.—Three thousand women, representing nearly all religious denominations, are to take part in the great celebration here of the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of women's organized work for foreign missions in this country. The celebration began today and will continue through the remainder of this month. Carnegie hall will be the scene of a series of rallies that will be addressed by speakers of much prominence. The unique feature of the celebration, however, will be the "Pageant of Missions," to be held at the Metropolitan opera house next Monday afternoon. Three hundred women will take part in the pageant, which will consist of a number of tableaux showing the work of the mission-aria in every land.

The Sailors' union of the Pacific has appropriated \$25,000 for the aid of the striking seamen of the Great Lakes.

## THE TALE OF A PAIL

The big problem of manufacturers of food products has been to devise a package for their products which will insure the housewife getting them sweet, fresh, without deterioration.

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