

East Oregonian

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"How natural in all decisive circumstances is Symbolic Representation of all kinds of men! Nay, what is man's whole terrestrial life but Symbolic Representation and a making visible of the invisible force that is in him? By act and word he strives to do it; with sincerity if possible, but falling in that, then by divine dissembling! No nation nor man will deliberately throw by its work and go forth to make a scene in history's drama without meaning something thereby!"—Thomas Carlyle.

SERMON BY SWEARENGEN.

Council Swearingen is no Henry Ward Beecher nor Charles Sumner, but he preached a sermon to a little crowd after the council meeting last night which is worth repeating.

In discussing the location of the gas plant on the electric light plant site, in opposition to the wishes of the residents of that portion of the city, he said:

"When I see these property owners here protesting against the location of the gas plant near their homes, I just put myself in their places and try to imagine how I would feel under similar circumstances."

There are only 40 words in this sermon, but it contains the whole code of justice and right between man and man.

When someone comes along with a complaint or a protest, don't brand him as a kicker and a chronic agitator.

Just put yourself in his place. That is a rule for arriving at a right conclusion that cannot fail.

If your neighbor says your actions or your policy is unjust or oppressive, don't brand his statement as false or meaningless until you have put yourself in his place and tried his case by that rule.

Before you condemn his conclusions just look at the situation from his side of the fence.

Before you disregard his protests or his complaints don't fail to stand for an instant in his shoes, in your imagination.

A calm survey of the situation from his place, may enlighten you and broaden your view. The consideration of others' rights will give you a clearer view of your own.

Councilman Swearingen owns a home and takes a pride in it. Before he consents to saddle an objectionable institution on any portion of Pendleton he wisely and justly imagines his own home as being affected by this institution and then judges the rights of these protestants by his own state of mind were he in their position.

It is a rule that is practiced too little in every community. It is a moral doctrine that is too often forgotten in the dealings of men.

Just put yourself in his place. Be unselfish for a moment and see the world through the eyes of your opponent.

It's a simple rule, a short, plain, homely doctrine, but it need not be uttered nor practiced alone by rabbis, priests nor sages to make it seem sublime.

It fits everywhere.

The government engineers would not hesitate to consult with and advise with the legislative delegation of Umatilla and Morrow counties, if composed of William Blakeley, W. D. Chamberlain and Dr. W. G. Cole, in relation to the needs of this state in irrigation laws. These men are not personally interested in the promotion of large irrigation projects, which come in direct opposition to the plans of the government. The government

could not consult with nor interest itself in these counties if Mr. Holbrook, who is the chief promoter of a private irrigation project were a member of the legislature, because of his promotion of a large private irrigation concern. It is not a matter of politics, it is simply a question of placing this county in shape to receive the most favorable consideration from the government, for without government irrigation, the county will remain in its present unreclaimed condition. With government irrigation, there is no limit to its growth and development. Umatilla county can choose between these conditions.

The county court will meet in special session on Wednesday, June 8, the city council will meet on that evening in regular session, and the regular meeting of the Pendleton Commercial Association is on Tuesday, June 7. The East Oregonian suggests that the Commercial Association call a special meeting of the association for Wednesday evening, June 8, following the meeting of the city council, and to this meeting invite the members of the county court, and the members of the city council to consider the matter of constructing a quarter of a mile of model crushed rock country road, in the east end of this city near the hospital, on the main road leading to the reservation. These three bodies of business men should get together and agree upon the joint construction of such a piece of road. It is not a matter of helping any man or any portion of the county, but it is a question of demonstrating the feasibility of such road, and for the purpose of advertising to the world that this progressive city and county have such a model piece of road to show to visitors. The cost would not be prohibitive, as the rock lies at the very door of the city.

There is no doubt about the sentiment of the Inland Empire on the portage road question. Without a second's hesitation, the delegation from the Columbia river counties in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, at the Dalles open river meeting yesterday, pledged their counties to raise, by popular subscription any deficiency in the state appropriation for the construction of the portage road. The people are willing to be taxed by the legislature in a state appropriation and they are more than willing to raise popular subscriptions for the completion of the road. When this kind of sentiment is given expression there is something underneath it. When people say they will put up money for public improvements of this kind, when they unhesitatingly proffer private funds for such beneficent purposes, there is something underneath that spirit that is irresistible. The portage commission cannot hold back the tide of popular sentiment in favor of the construction of the portage at the earliest date. The people have spoken. The open river association is public sentiment crystallized and nothing will prevent the construction of that road. Join the association. It is the Inland Empire brigade and has come to stay.

Pendleton has arranged a farmers' institute for this city on May 26, that the addresses of the able experts who will speak on that occasion may be of benefit to the farming community. It is to be a strictly educational meeting. The addresses will be on practical farm subjects, Dairying, creameries, diversified crops, soil preservation



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and other kindred subjects will be discussed by speakers who have spent a lifetime in studying these matters. The state of Oregon furnishes free information to its farmers through the agricultural colleges. The people are entitled to this information. Eastern Oregon receives too little of such information. The people should take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy the educational addresses from state teachers. This is one of the best counties in the state and yet it sees less of the agricultural college than many less important counties, because of the location of these institutions in the Willamette valley. It is the aim of the state to distribute knowledge free to every locality. This is one of the occasions for such distribution of knowledge and the people of Umatilla county should avail themselves of it.

THE VIOLETS' AFFRIGHT.

Quoth the robin in the graveyard:
 "Spring is here, for I'll be bound
 There are violets a-blooming
 On that newly-fashioned mound."
 Then he perched upon the tombstone
 To inquisitively scan
 The obituary record
 Of the late lamented man.
 "William Jones," he read, then noted
 To his very great surprise,
 That the violets were staring,
 Too, with horror in their eyes.
 Every prim and modest flower
 Was just routed where she stood,
 And an agitated shiver
 Shook each pretty purple hood.
 Cried the robin: "Goodness, ladies,
 What's the matter with you, pray?
 Is there anything about me
 To alarm you in that way?"
 But the violets still shivered,
 And in frightened accents said,
 Staring ever at the tombstone:
 "There's a man beneath our bed!"
 —T. A. D., in Catholic Standard and Times.

We would like to know if it is true that our fathers did as much before breakfast as we do all day.

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