Capital Journal

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Publisher

School Dances

Dr. Clarence True Wilson, national censor for the Methodists, has launched a crusade in Portland to abolish dancing in public schools, alleging that its influence is pernicious, starting young girls on the way to perdition. Sensational charges are made of girls "parking their corsets" at dances and of refuge homes being full of young girls started hellward by the public school dances.

The school board is somewhat skeptical of the truth of these wild accusations, inasmuch as the dances are held under supervision of the Parents-Teachers circles, and demands proof to substantiate them, declaring Dr. Wilson's failure to cite specific instances, cowardly. The assertions are indignantly denied by both parents, teachers and pupils. So far no proof has been offered but it is promised by the Portland preachers.

The idea of the public school dance is that harmless and enjoyable recreation should not be forbidden, that youth will not be denied and that if dances are banned, they will be held clandestinely and without proper supervision and that greater harm will result than if dances are public and properly regulated.

The issue is the old one of purifying other people and its merit depends upon the viewpoint. Those who hold all dancing wicked and a device of the devil, see only evil in the public school dance or any other dance, no matter how conducted. They consequently over-emphasize its effects.

On the other hand, many of those who look upon the dance as proper recreation can see no necessity or justification of its introduction in the public schools, where it gives offense to many good people. It must be admitted, whatever its merits as a pastime, that dancing is not a proper part of the curriculum, and that it opens the way to abuse. It diverts attention from study, breeds snobbery and puts an emphasis on pleasure-seeking.

In the old fashioned days it was not deemed necessary to furnish social recreation evenings as part of the school course, and while it is questionable whether the evil alleged has resulted from the dance, in spite of its barbaric jazz music and its vulgar suggestiveness, in this or any other generation, the time could probably be more advantageously spent and the school-house put to better uses. The school dance is neither necessary nor essential in any scheme of education.

Newspaper Ethics

A code of ethics was adopted at the conference of Oregon editors held at Eugene last week to control the conduct of newspapers. No fault can be found with the idealism expressed, for the principles have long governed the profession as far as practical. As the Eugene Guard remarks:

Printing the news as it is, or as nearly correct as the facts may be obtained in the limited time necessarily devoted to investigation is the first and most important thing to do. No news report should be colored to match the sympathies of the editor or publisher. Expressions of opinion should be confined to the editorial page. Frankly, the best that newspaper publishers can do is to be as clean and decent as they can—and live.

A few years ago, newspapers were personal or political organs devoted to propaganda in behalf of persons, parties or special interests. Even today a great deal of propaganda, especially in politics, is slipped over on the unsuspecting reader, but each year sees a real improvement in the newspaper, in its methods and its conduct, in its presentation of news, in its business methods and in its treatment of public issues.

The day of personal journalism has gone and the day of the party organ, in its old sense, is nearing an end. The newspaper of today is the product of many minds and many hands and to secure and retain public support must be ethical to a degree.

Japs In Hawaii Pledge Loyalty To Foster Land

Honolulu, T. H., Jan. 21.—Declaring "undivided and wholehearted allegiance to the United States of America and her government," and publicly renouncing "any allegiance to Japan," members of Honolulu Forum No. 1, American Citizens of Japanese Ancestry, a society composed of Japanese young men and women born in Hawaii, have reiterated their loyalty to this country.

The action, taken by the society at the instance of the American Legion, and in refutation of accusations of non-assimilability made by V. S. Mccllatchey, editor of the Sacramento Bee and head of the Japanese Exclusion league of California, was in the form of individual pledges signed by each member of the society. The pledge reads:

"I, ——, realizing my obilgation to America, the land of my birth, and appreciating the privileges of American citizenship, and desiring to publicly declare my undivided and whole-hearted allegiance to the United States of America and her government and to publicly renounce any allegiance to Japan, do now solemnly swear that I will uphold the constitution of the United States of America and respect her flag, will in all cases prefer America to Japan, will continue no dual citizenship, and will do all in my power to make the American citizens of Japanese ancestry 100 per cent American."

11 Hurt in Accident.

Chicago, Jan. 21.—Eleven persons were injured, two probably fatally, early today when an automobile, said by the police to be travelling at a rapid rate of speed, crashed into a street car here.

Houseboaters Can't Escape $25 Tax Levied

Rochester, Pa., Jan. 21.—If it isn't one thing it's another, to take the joy out of life, declare owners of houseboats along the Ohio river. Hitched to trees and other things are hundreds of houseboats. Owners bought the craft or built them to avoid the high cost of living and gouging landlords.

Houseboats don't cost a whole lot, at least not as much as a house or bungalow, and they are just as comfortabel. Once you own one there is no high rent to pay.

Rochester borough needs the money. So, having taxed everything else in sight, a novel idea to raise more money by tax was hit upon. Why not tax the houseboats? Great idea. No quicker said than done. So the borough council thought $25 per year per houseboat would be all right. The boats are not taxed for property value. Better scheme than that. The tax will be for "rental of approximate space." That's a brand new one in tax terms, but it goes, say the Rochester councilmen. Notice was served on the boat owners, but so far they have failed to pay up. The last seen of a few of them they were floating down toward the Gulf of Mexico. The others, who are still anchored at the village wharf, are yet to be heard from. They, too, may "float" along before they pay that $25 tax.

Rail Sale Confirmed.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 21.—Federal Judge Sanford has confirmed the sale of Tennessee Central railroad to C. M. Hovey, manager of the Nashville Industrial bureau, representing B. F. Morse, Charles M. Boettcher and W. R. Freeman of Denver, Colo., for $1,500,000.

A Great Director

I had been so interested in the verbal battle between the girls in the dressing room that I was one of the last out of the door.

To my astonishment when I reached the stage I found a fashion show going on. Each girl was walking and twisting and turning with arms outstretched, before a faintly smiling, bald-headed man.

"So this is De Vore," I thought with awe.

I caught my breath as it came my turn to be inspected and sighed with relief as I finally left the presence. Evidently there was nothing wrong with my costume or my figure.

When I turned my eyes to the set, I realized the master-mind. It was exquisitely beautiful, if exotic and unreal. Imagination, poetical temperment, daring vision had all been brought to bear to produce something that the average person could not possibly live in without going stark, staring mad.

There was a faint bustle at the other end of the stage and I looked up to see two gloriously beautiful women coming in, each attended by a maid carrying a mirror and make-up box.

Both had gorgeous fur capes thrown about them. And when one of the maids slipped the soft gray caracul from her mistress' shoulders the woman stood revealed in a draping velvet which clung to her sinuous form and revealed every line of her beauty.

On her black hair was a wondrous head-gear made of carved and jeweled jade. It stood up from her forhead at least six inches and added the touch which made her as exotic as the room in which she was to act.

Beside her in contrast, was another girl who, when divested of her cape of sables, showed only a plain little shirt-waist and skirt suit. Her hair was very smoothly coifed, and I could not help but think that the maid looked better and trimmer than the mistress.

I knew, of course, that she was a star for she contrived, even in her cheap, ready-made costume, to impress everyone with her importance.

"Strange," said Jane, close to me, "how these movie queens soon learn to 'ritz it' after they acquire a maid and see their name hung up in front of a theatre."

"Don't be jealous, Jane," whispered Peggy, who was looking at both stars with great admiration. "You would be the first one to 'put on dog' if you got a chance."

"Come on, Virgie. Let's linger near and find out how to act when we get there. Jane here doesn't need to learn." Peggy linked her arm in mine and I turned and said:

"How did you learn my name?"

"Saw you with Jack Thompson. I was on the set with you the other day. You're a friend of Ria Summers. That makes you a friend of mine. That girl is straight goods. Don't know just what she is up to now. I know one thing though, and that is if she is in it, it is all right. Of course, I'm no fool and so I don't believe that bunk about her mother being ill.

"By the way, has anyone seen Kitty Dalton lately?"

The harmless tone of the question made me intuitively understand that the gossip of the studios had linked up Gloria's absence with some story about Kitty Dalton. I determined to telephone Gloria that the only thing she could do was to come out in the open with the whole story.

By this time the seven cameras were in place with seven camera men and seven assistants to the camera men and seven assistants to the seven assistants to the camera men—or so it seemed to me—were on hand.

Mr. De Vore and his corps of assistant directors stood each at the camp chair marked with his name. The numerous assistants to the assistant directors were ranged alongside at strategic points.

A regiment of electricians were busy with the kliegs and arc and sunarcs and baby arcs.

The property man and his two assistants were running to and fro consulting with the assistants to the assistant directors.

Grips and stage carpenters, under the command of the art director through his assistant, were hastily changing the tone quality of a scroll at the entrance of the staircase because De Vore had intimated that perhaps it might photograph too strong.

The author of the continuity, followed by her two assistants, stepped up to speak to DeVore, who still was standing in a slouchy position with his hands thrust deep in the peculiar, almost horizontal front pockets of his trousers.

Even when answering the author of the continuity DeVore did not lose his blase, half bored smile.

Curiously enough, he reminded me of grandfather when he was trying to put Aunt Virginia and me in our places. It was the pose of "the master of all he surveyed."

(Monday—An Unexpected Ride.)

Ride.

Farmer Abducted and Shot.

Belfast, Jan. 21.—Three armed men took a farmer named Kelly last night from his home near Newtonards and shot him in the spine. His condition is serious.

JOURNAL WANT ADS PAY

"QUEEN OF SHEBA" Will Be Shown at Advanced Prices

RUMANIAN PRINCESS TO MARRY SERBIAN KING

According to dispatches from Europe the latest members of royalty to be pierced by Dan Cupid's arrow are Princess Marie daughter of King Ferdinand and Queen Marie of Rumania, and King Alexander of Serbia. The reports state that their engagement will be soon announced formally.

Samuel Owen Dead.

Independence, Or., Jan. 21.—The funeral of Samuel Edgar Owen, who died Tuesday, January 17, was held at the Presbyterian church at 2:30 p. m. Thursday, Rev. W. H. Long officiating. He was buried in the I. O. O. F. cemetery.

Flag Raising at Elkins School Is Banner Event

Oregon Normal School, Monmouth, Jan. 21.—The raising of a new flag at the Elkins rural center was celebrated with a day of interesting exercises Wednesday. At 11 a. m. a reception was held at the school by the parent-teacher association and short addresses were made by President J. S. Landers and Professor Beattie, head of the rural school department. Following this a luncheon was served the parents and visitors. In the afternoon a patriotic program was rendered, culminating in the raising of the flag under the direction of Lieutenant Ivan Loughary while the orchestra played the "Star Spangled Banner."

Schooner Wrecked Off San Pedro, Cal.

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—The wreck of a schooner about 50 feet long was sighted Friday 4 miles from Point San Pedro, California, by Captain Wolsund of the steamer Montebello, he reported by radio to the marine department of the Merchants Exchange.

Charles Advised To Behave Or Be Really Exiled

Berne, Jan. 21.—Former Emperor Charles of Austria and his wife, Zita, will be deported to an island much more remote from Europe than Maderia, to which they are now exiled, if there is any further attempt at restoration of their throne in the states forming the former empire.

Zita, who came here to be at the bedside of her son, Robert, has so been informed by the Swiss government, which transmitted to her a statement made by the British, French and Italian ambassadors here.

Shantung Matter For Orientals to Settle Is Claimed

Washington, aJn. 21.—(By Associated Press.)—The Shantung question must and probably will be settled between China and Japan and cannot be taken up by the arms conference, Senator Underwood of Alabama, one of the American delegates, declared in the senate Friday during a discussion of the controversy.

JOURNAL WANT ADS PAY

This is "Pay Your Bills Promptly Day" of National Thrift Week

Every man covets a good name in the business world.

Prompt payment of your obligations keeps you in good standing and helps the man who trusted you.

Every one despises the man who runs bills knowing he cannot pay.

Play the game fair with the man who is willing to trust you.

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