

Capital Journal

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Back to Fundamentals

Senator Eddy's bill requiring that certain studies be taught in the high schools of the state, as well as certain optional studies, is a meritorious measure that should pass the house as well as it did the senate, for it will go far to instill a knowledge of fundamentals that is now lacking in most high school students.

Under the present law the course of study for high schools contains two years of required work, instead of four, with the result that the students scatter their energies in various elective courses in educational frills and fables not in any way useful or fundamental, for they have not the mature judgment to select wisely.

Studies provided under the bill as obligatory include:

- 1. United States history; the history and leading principles of American constitutional law, in simple form; American literature; the English language, including grammar, composition, rhetoric, spelling and punctuation; penmanship; bookkeeping; practical operations in arithmetic. In addition to said required work, optional studies may be provided in approved subjects. But no student shall be permitted to elect optional studies to the extent of preventing thorough training in such required studies.

Opposition to the measure can be expected from the teachers and parents organizations, under whose leadership the present demoralization of student life has been fostered, for the existing system makes more jobs for more teachers, higher salaries, more equipment, and more expenditures, but it should be welcomed by the taxpayer.

The high school graduates of 30 years ago before the students ran the schools, was much better grounded in fundamentals essential in future life, and in citizenship, better trained and better disciplined, than the graduate of today and the elective system is to blame. It is high time for reform.

Why the Referendum

When the Oregon legislature first convened, sentiment against ratification of the child labor amendment to the federal constitution was overwhelming. It is now stated that the legislators will probably refer the measure to the people, instead of voicing their honest sentiments.

This is characteristic of the way Oregon legislators evade their duty. A small bloc of welfare workers, profiting by the example of the Anti-Saloon league, has been exerting pressure upon the individual legislators and threatening their future political ambitions—and thus made cowards of them all.

Every legislator secretly wants to be governor, or congressman or senator or some other political honor and so runs along the lines of least resistance. Pattering after Governor Pierce, who is the perfect flower of the Oregon system, the legislators are for anything that has any organized support back of it and might be a stepping stone to preferment. Few have character enough to stand for the right as they see it, mere windmills that veer with popular breezes. Without platform or party responsibility or solidarity, it is an easy matter to keep them turning.

During the last campaign, all the politicians, including the three presidential candidates were for the amendment, because they thought it meant votes. That portion of the press that trims for popularity was also for it. After the election, however, legislators found that the people did not want it. Wherever submitted to a referendum it was overwhelmingly defeated. Farmer organizations joined manufacturers in opposing it.

While the Oregon legislature has been evading the issue and trying to sidestep the amendment has been rejected by nearly all other legislatures. Three states have ratified, Arkansas, Arizona and California. Nineteen states have rejected it, Georgia, Delaware, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, Texas, Utah, Kansas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Ohio, Washington, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Nevada, Connecticut and Indiana. Massachusetts rejected a referendum. In two states it has been ratified by one house, New Mexico and Wisconsin, but faces rejection in the other branch. Thirty-six must ratify it.

If the amendment is submitted to the people of Oregon, it will be overwhelmingly defeated. Why waste the time and money of a referendum, just to save politicians from going on record?

The Very Wise

(From the Baltimore Evening Sun)
The excess of wisdom in the present generation must give the Creator occasion for taking unusual pride in His handiwork. Consider, as an example of how we have progressed, the decision of the New York Federation for Child Study. Having given the matter consideration from the point of view of Freud and other great scientists, the federation has come to the conclusion that the witches, ogres and gnomes which form so great a part of the traditional lore of the nursery must be eradicated from this time forth. There is to be room in the new syllabus of things for the good fairies "after the child has become orientated in his physical environment and has acquired a sense of social values." But the giant, the witch, the ogre, the gnomes—all these desirable creatures are to get the gate. We had thought, we non-scientists, that the bad fairy, the giant, the ogre, were symbols representing in a form readily appreciable to the childish mind the evil forces abroad in the land, and that the tales themselves were highly moral and helpful because, in view of the inevitable triumph of the good fairy and the ensuing marriage with the beautiful princess, they indicated the unvarying reward of the consistent virtues. We were taught that at most they were solar myths, depicting the victory of summer over winter, the inevitable return of brightness and gladness to the earth after the period of storm and gloom. Besides this, we had remembered what a lot of fun such tales were. And we bought them for our own children as they came along.

Child Study are almost plying to their contempt for such naive theories. It is harmful to the child, it is pointed out, to accustom him, even in literature, to tales in which horror, pain, cruelty, trickery or brutality are emphasized. He should rather orientate himself to his environment, where, as everybody knows, there is no such thing as horror, pain, cruelty, trickery or brutality, where every man and woman is amiable and charitable, where all things are what they seem and goodness is the unvarying rule.

Well, perhaps it is a good thing for children to grow up in ignorance of the things they will have to meet when they go out into the world. Perhaps the bathos flow down plan. Perhaps if we close our eyes to horror, pain, cruelty, trickery and brutality these things will cease to exist.

Perhaps. But we doubt it.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES CONTINUE TO INCREASE

Washington, Feb. 9.—Continued increase in retail food prices during the month ended January 15 was shown in 29 out of 22 cities for which figures were announced today by the bureau of statistics of the department of labor.

The maximum increase of 4 per cent was reported at Cincinnati, Kansas City and Savannah. A 3 per cent increase was shown at Butte, Mont., Little Rock, Ark., Louisville, Omaha and Peoria, Ill., and 2 per cent at Atlanta, Baltimore, Buffalo, Detroit, Indianapolis, Norfolk, Portland, Maine, and Springfield, Ill.

TODAY'S CROSS WORD PUZZLE

HORIZONTAL

- 2. Imaginary being
- 5. New York (ab.)
- 6. An oil
- 7. Editor (ab.)
- 8. Sort of joy
- 11. Order of merit (ab.)
- 12. Clutch
- 15. Definite article
- 17. Female deer
- 18. Domestic
- 20. Greek letter
- 21. Sword
- 23. Rear Admiral (ab.)
- 25. Old English (ab.)
- 26. Either
- 27. Pertaining to a duke

HOW TO SOLVE THE CROSS WORD PUZZLE

The way to solve the Cross Word Puzzle is to fill in the white squares of the diagram with the words which agree with the accompanying definitions. The definitions are numbered to correspond with the numbers on the diagram.

Any word defined in the text under "HORIZONTAL" will begin at its number, shown on the diagram, and will extend all the way across to the first black square in the right of that number. That is, the word must begin in the square that contains its identifying number, and extend as far as the white squares continue uninterruptedly.

Any word defined under "VERTICAL" will also begin, in the white space that contains its number, but will extend downward as far as the white squares remain uninterruptedly.

VERTICAL

- 1. Beside
- 2. Froth
- 3. Beer
- 4. You
- 5. Opposite to South
- 6. Verses
- 9. Indefinite article
- 10. Lowest possible point
- 13. Maiden loved by Jupiter
- 14. One afflicted with leprosy
- 16. Exclamation
- 19. Each (ab.)
- 20. Remove outer skin
- 22. Large snake
- 24. Anno Domini (ab.)
- 26. Preposition

SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

A	L	E	S	A	P	S	R	O	C
T	O	H	O	N	O	U	R	A	
T	F	E	A	T	U	R	E	S	G
I	C	E	P	I	N	E	U	S	E
C	O	T	S	C	D	B	L	E	D
S	T	U	D	S	E	P	T		
E	R	E	R	A	H				
H	I	R	E	U	R	R	I	L	E
A	T	E	O	N	E	S	D	O	N
D	O	M	I	C	I	L	E	D	
E	M	F	E	T	T	L	E	H	E
S	A	D	N	O	B	I	A		

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A Modern Marriage

An Absorbing Novel
By IDAH McGLONE GIBSON

LOOKING BACKWARD

"I could stand it no longer, Kathie," she said. "I could not bear to see Dulee so unhappy and I told her she had better get a divorce."

"When my little mother told me Dick," Kathie Evans continued, "that the marriage she had planned for her daughter had come to grief I was more than ever determined that I would never marry. I did not tell her so. Instead I put my arms around her as she asked pathetically if she could stay with me, telling me that her son-in-law had put her out of his house because he thought she had made trouble between him and his wife."

"Of course you can live with me mother," I said as I took her into my studio apartment, but the moment I caught her look of surprise and disapproval as she glanced around the room, I knew she did not belong. I knew that no one belonged in that apartment but myself.

"During the next few days that fact was impressed more and more upon me. Mother was horrified by my free untrammelled ways, and she could not understand that my work was paramount. She had never known a woman who had done anything except to keep house for either a husband or a father and she could not understand why meals in my studio apartment were movable feasts."

"I remember the very first night she came. I had told Rod I would go out to dinner with him. When he arrived, she was again horrified by the fact that I had dressed for the party behind a screen. "Dick, it didn't seem possible to me that two people could be so far apart as my mother and I, and I knew that we could not live together. I was beginning to suspect that I could not live with anyone."

I was thoroughly unhappy, because I saw that I was going to have to fight against all her protests just as I had fought against them as a girl.

"Honestly, Dick, I began to have a little sympathy for George Ackers, my brother-in-law, if my sister Lucile, was anything like my mother."

"The moment that Rod entered the house he seemed to understand my position and I can not tell you how wonderful he was during the few days when I was trying to solve the problem of making my mother happy without giving up my entire freedom."

"That very night at The Lafayette Rod suggested that mother go on a tour around the world. Mother though she would need a chaperone and he told her that his father was going on the same boat. It seemed an ideal plan and I felt that the twenty-five hundred dollars I would have to pay was very small in comparison to my freedom."

"Before Rod left that night the trip had been decided upon, and mother was like a child in her joy. I could not help smiling a little when I found that much of that joy was hers because of the surprise and consternation in my brother-in-law's family."

"The next three or four days were full of work, but in that time it was impossible to make mother understand it was just as respectable for the working woman to live alone as it was for her brother to keep a bachelor apartment."

"She was almost ready at times to give up her trip, for she thought I had changed for the worse. "Before I came Kathie," she said, "I wonder why the Lord had allowed me to be lured out of the house of one of my daughters in

my old age. I know now. He understood that my other daughter needed me and he took that drastic way of getting me out of my selfish rut. I should stay here and take care of you."

"For a moment my heart stopped beating, but finally I persuaded her to think that there would be time enough to take care of me when she came back."

"At last we got her off, Dick, Rod and I, with Rod's father shouldering some of the responsibility of looking after mother. I could not help but notice how mother primped when she knew that for a while at least, she would be cared for by a man."

"I came back from the boat utterly tired—and I told Rod that I did not realize how happy I had been in my little apartment alone until my dear little mother, who had been set out in the cold by that unspeakable beast of a brother-in-law of mine, crept in here."

"I know now Rod that I could not marry any man for it would mean a still more intimate companionship, a much more constant surveillance of my actions and the disposal of my time," I said to him.

"Don't you love me Kathie?" Rod asked as he put his arms about me—

There was a commotion in the hall. The doctor made his appearance. Right behind him appeared Skelton and Ziegler and two or three other men from the Central office.

"Dick, Dick, what does this mean?" asked Kathie.

"It means, Miss, that we have come to take your finger prints," said one of the officers gruffly. "If you're well enough to write letters and well enough to talk with this man, you're well enough to put your fingers on this little ink pad."

"Darse Rodney for letting them get hold of that letter," Dick Starbuck said to himself, as he leaned over to take the manuscript from Kathie's shaking finger.

(Continued Tomorrow)
By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER



KRAZY KAT



KRAZY KAT



MUTT AND JEFF

