

INDEPENDENCE ENTERPRISE

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Entered at Independence, Ore., post office as second-class matter.
Subscription, \$1.50 Per Year

WHERE IS THE WRONG?

The writer was considerably interested in an editorial which appeared not long since in the Evening Telegram relative to the immoral effect of the so-called moving picture show upon the young minds of this country. The article contained considerable truth and was commendable in some respects, but we were reminded of the old adage, "People who live in glass houses should not throw stones." When one takes into consideration the apparent bad effect the painted picture sections of the Telegram and other city papers have upon the young and old, the article would seem a little misplaced. If there are essential qualities in the funny papers there are also essential qualities in the moving picture shows. There are moral lessons taught in the moving pictures, often times, but who can say they ever saw a moral in the "Newlywed" and "Katzensjammer" literature?

The city papers are read more today and with greater interest than in the early history of newspapers, but the interest does not seem to be attended with the right kind of spirit to promote the moral sentiment of the communities in which they are promiscuously distributed. The effect is not alone bad upon the young mind, but it applies to older people as well, and we believe that the average reader of the Telegram and of the Journal reads the funny sheet before he looks for the current topics of the day. We are not offering criticism. The public has a right to read such and the papers have a right to publish them, but to look at the comparison between the moving picture show and the funny sections of daily papers, who cannot say one has as much right to exist as the other?

This world is growing exceedingly full of people, of projects, of needs, of opportunities and of obligations. In the minds of parents whose children are to be educated, of teachers upon whom a large share of the responsibility of this work depends, of all who, whether speaking from the pulpit, on the platform or through the press, are nevertheless interested in the advancement of the present generation. But under our competitive system of government we sometimes let our all-absorbing desire for money retard the success of moral sentiment.

Perhaps the daily paper of today does not retain the funny section with this in mind, but it is a fact that the circulation has been increased since the comic pictures became common, and it seems to be continued for money regardless of its effect.

BONDS WHICH CANNOT SEVER

The people of this universe are knit together by bonds which we cannot sever. For weal or for woe our fates are inextricably intermingled. All of us in our present civilization are dependent upon one another to a degree never known in the history of mankind, and in our pursuits for happiness and business we are going up or down together. Then why not in our efforts endeavor to further the cause of brotherhood in the human family? Certainly, we hear you say! Each man must work for himself, and unless he does no outside help can avail him; but each man should remember that he is his brother's keeper.

This is not an object lesson expressly for the people of this city and vicinity. It is presumed that such is not necessary, but in our civilization we are comparatively all alike and possibly the conditions are little, if any, different from one town to another. The campaign of 1910 has possibly left some sore spots which may seem difficult to heal, but if we expect to make our conditions better we must work as a body and go up or down together.

The worth of any sermon lies in the manner in which it can be and is put in practice.

If a man will submit to being carried physically, morally or financially, that is evidence that he is not worth carrying very far.

A remedy that is intended to cure both asthma and a broken leg is not good for either.

SHOULD RESPECT THEM

If all the existing instrumentalities of wealth in the Northwest should be abolished, the greatest suffering would come to those of us who are the poorest at present. And yet what a cry goes out frequently about the robbery on the part of corporations. It does not do any of us any good, and it will do most of us harm, to take steps which will check the progress of any corporation. We should keep constantly in mind the fact that besides the tangible property in each corporation there lies behind it the spirit which brings it success.

The wage-worker is well off only when the rest of the country is well off; and he can best contribute to this general well-being by showing sanity and a firm purpose to do justice to others.

The captains of industry, who have driven the railroads across this continent, who have built up our commerce, who have developed our manufactures, have done great good to our people and the laborer should respect them for it.

SOMETHING TO EAT

One of the important subjects of discussion at the present time is something to eat. This is the case in all sections. Everybody complains that food stuffs are exorbitantly high and when the grocery bill and the meat bill is presented each month we are fain to believe the current statements about the conditions. This has been so every year and there seems to be no apparent relief. When the suffering public consents to arise in arms against the growing trust evil we may expect some good results, and probably not until.

Recently a jurymen in Illinois admitted that he could not dispense justice with fairness to contestants at law because his personal interests must necessarily be neglected by him while serving as a juror. It is to be wondered if the judge in Portland, in whose court several murder cases have been disposed of during the past few weeks, ever becomes similarly disqualified, and if so, if he is as ready to admit the fact. From the manner in which the apparent guilty goes unpunished it would seem that something is wrong in that locality.

It doesn't add to a man's intelligence, integrity or learning to elect him to Congress, or to any other office for that matter, and if able, honest and capable men are wanted in office in the future the voter should see to it that the candidate possesses these requisites. If he doesn't the office will not. In some respects the conditions have not been improved by the recent election.

If we are to have the proper standard of public life it is absolutely essential that promise shall be square with performance.

Good citizenship consists in doing the many small duties, private and public, which in the aggregate make it up.

When it is made evident that all men great and small have to obey the law, the safeguard is placed around all men.

I. O. O. F. Notice

There will be work Thursday evening, December 15, in the initiatory degree, also other business. All Odd Fellows are requested to be present.
SAMUEL H. McELMURRY, N. G.

No need to take the statement of someone living far away as evidence. Here's a case right in this locality.

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