

The Independence Enterprise

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OUR SCHOOLS

So much has been said about the influence of the public school and the high school of today that there can be no longer any doubt as to the relation of these institutions to our nation's welfare. The question that is occupying the attention of educators today is: How can we secure better schools? It is for the conference of these questions that our teachers' conventions are being held, and that is why men like Prof. Livingston, who spoke here a couple of weeks ago, are spending their time lecturing from place to place in the interest of the educational institutions of the state. It is regretted that a larger number of Independence people did not hear the address delivered here by the noted instructor.

While the schools of Oregon are good and a credit to the state, all educators know that there is a chance for improvement in every district and in every city. This is not only true in Oregon, but the same conditions exist in all states in the Union. Germany has long been noted for the excellency of her schools, and our system has frequently been criticised by European authorities.

If it is true that our school system has serious defects it remains for those interested to devise means of bettering conditions. This is not a question that interests teachers alone, but the responsibility rests with the school patrons as well. We believe that much could be accomplished if the custom of holding school-board conventions could be adopted; and to publish school-board journals.

A step was taken in the right direction in some parts of the state a few years ago when the parents' meeting was started. Independence may not have grasped the importance of this effort, but in many places parents' meetings have been a great help in promoting the cause of education. It is the opinion of many educators that greater achievements can be realized from this method than from perhaps any other, for there are certain conditions in the school room today, more particularly in the public school, that parents only can remedy.

Home life and the school life are inseparable. The influence of the one must act upon the other, but the home influence is the stronger and has a greater effect in moulding character. For the best results it is absolutely necessary that the parent and the teacher should work hand in hand.

There are two ways in which this can be done. First, by forming co-operative associations which all parents and teachers in one ward should be urged to join. These local meetings could occasionally give place to a general meeting. In the second place parents should visit the schools, not in a critical spirit, but to learn what the teacher is doing and to aid in the work.

The possible future of our schools is great, but there is work for us all to do. Never until hostility, jealousy and strife is eliminated from the school room can the ideal state be reached. These things are a hindrance, not a help to progress.

As a rule it is the children who are under the most strict discipline at home that give the least trouble in the school room. Children who have no respect for parental authority are apt to have little respect for the teacher's authority.

The Independent American spirit is an excellent thing in many places, but like all other good things it can be carried too far.

VIRTUES VS. VIRTUES

Do not make the virtues enemies to each other. Poor human nature, ever a house divided against itself sometimes seems as if seeking to regain its lost harmony by introducing its own discord into the circle of those graces which God has joined together. How often you will hear it said concerning this person or that: "He is sulken and revengeful, but you can absolutely trust his honesty; or his life is impure, but he always stands to his word of honor; or again, he is an unfilial son, but he is so generous and openhearted."

From the way in which men talk of the virtues, it would often seem as if these were deadly foes who would not live harmoniously together in the same house; and the apparent implication is that if a man be honest, you cannot expect him to be generous; and if he be truthful it is too much to ask him to be chaste.

All such talk as this reveals a terrible disunion in human character. There is no reason outside of human sin, why the soul should not be girt with the harmonious company of all the virtues. They certainly will not quarrel with each other, though man may quarrel with one or with all of them. In fact, there is no more reason why a man should consider that because he has one particular virtue in his makeup, he is excused for his lack of another, than that he should think because he has very servicable eyes he can dispense altogether with his ears.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS

W. E. Craven was in Portland on business a few days this week.

Mrs. Dr. Dunsmore is visiting in Portland.

Newt Prather of Buena Vista, was in town Thursday.

FOR SALE.—Spitz pups. Inquire of C. Truitt. p38-0

L. F. Finseth of Dallas, was in the city Tuesday.

Wm. Campbell made a trip to Portland yesterday.

Mrs. Frank Whiteaker returned to her home in Albany Thursday, accompanied by Mrs. G. W. Whiteaker.

GIRL WANTED—to assist in light house work. Inquire at this office. p38-

Ames Holman, a former resident of Independence, but now of Dallas, who recently returned from Los Angeles, was in town Thursday.

R. M. Wade & Co. received a new automobile by boat last evening. They expect to handle them this season.

C. A. Bolds met with a bad run-away accident Tuesday near Buena Vista. He was thrown from the vehicle and sustained fracture of two ribs. Dr. Butler reduced the fracture and he is recovering as well as could be expected.

Dr. Dunsmore, pastor of the Presbyterian church, went to Falls City last evening to act as one of the judges in the debating contest be-

tween the Falls City and Lebanon High Schools.

Mrs. Silbaugh, national lecturer of the W. C. T. U., is in the city. She will speak in the Presbyterian church next Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Shenefeld attended the Elks reception at Albany Tuesday night.

Miss Laura E. Miller, who has been south for some time taking a special course in the art of painting, returned the latter part of last week and will probably spend the summer at her home in this city. Many of her friends are trying to prevail upon her to start a class in Independence.

Mrs. Mary V. Berry died at her home near Montmouth Tuesday evening. She was born December 16, 1842, in Ohio, and was married to James L. Berry in Page county, Iowa, in 1862. Two years later they crossed the plains by ox team and settled in Polk county. She is survived by five children.

The PASSING

OF TIME

DURING THE YEAR 1910 WE INCREASED OUR LIST OF SATISFIED CUSTOMERS BY FURNISHING THE BEST IN THE LINE OF GROCERIES THAT MONEY AND CAREFUL SELECTIONS COULD AFFORD.

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The Progressive Grocer.

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We buy the Best Drugs

at lowest cash prices and guarantee best results. Prescriptions filled on short notice

Kirkland's Drug Store
The Store of Quality

P L U M B I N G

IN THE SPRING

YOU WILL WANT YOUR PLUMBING FINISHED EARLY. IT IS TIME TO BEGIN THINKING ABOUT IT NOW, BEFORE THE RUSH IS ON. WE ARE BETTER PREPARED TO DO YOUR WORK THAN WE HAVE EVER BEEN BEFORE, AND HAVE IN STOCK A LARGE LINE OF PLUMBING GOODS. AT NO PREVIOUS SEASON HAS THERE BEEN A GREATER DEMAND FOR FULLY UP-TO-DATE PLUMBING ARTICLES, AND AT NO TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THIS ESTABLISHMENT HAVE WE BEEN ABLE TO SHOW AS COMPLETE A LINE AS NOW.

If you contemplate putting in a bath or hot water, see

Hanna Bros.