The Independence Enterprise

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HOFER TALKS AT LEBANON FAIR

Interesting Facts Related Before a Large Crowd at City in Linn.

A GREAT SPEACH BY COL. E. HOFFER OF SALEM

He complimented the bands from Shedd and Lebanon on their fine appearance and told a humorous story that put the audience in fine spirits. Senator Miller introduced the speaker to represent the state government in the unavoidable absence of Governor West, Secretary Olcott and Treasurer Kay. He said so much dignity, ability and salary had never been represented by one man before in Oregon.

Col. Hoffer eulogized Governor West's prison policy of giving all the convicts employment. For the first time in the history of the state every prisoner was engaged on some useful labor for the state and many of them were earning money for the state and a little for themselves. Industry and humanity were being substituted for the Winchester, the bull ring and the Oregon boot. Good honest labor meant more for the moral reform of any man or woman than all the preaching and theorizing that had ever been invented. He also complimented Secretary Olcott on supporting the proposition to take basketball teams out of the state normal school and prevent future public exhibitions of a game that produced displays of hoodlumism in harem skirts that were not a part of the education of a young lady.

High School Reform.

Col. Hoffer spoke of the necessity of reforms in the course of study in the high schools. If 19 out of 20 children who attended public schools never got to an university, what sense was there in a course of study predicated upon an university degree? Algebra, geometry, calculus, trigonometry, and all the rest of the -ometries and -ologies would not help a boy or girl to put bread on the table or clothes on their backs unless they wanted to follow one of the professions. Should public education be prostituted to the advantage of the one-tenth who were to become the non-producing and professional class at the expense of the producers? He spoke of the Salem schools introducing drawing, wood work, needle work and domestic science as the harbinger of a better day for the growing generations, and the extension of that system would produce more efficient citizenns and make for stronger homes. Brass-band morality professions of conversion to religious belief were not substitutes for habits of homely, honest industry and respect for labor.

Attacks Higher Education.

Col. Hoffer made a strong plea for extension of industrial education among the higher institutions. This work had started 50 years ago in the agricultural colleges but even they were drifting into commercialism and professionalism. The people were distrustful of appropriating nearly a million dollars for salaries for professors and fine buildings for education mostly for the benefit of the one-tenth professional class who already had advantages and there was very little doing for the nine-tenths who must always live by labor in connection with the soil. The people should not be taxed to produce the high class bookkeeper, accountants, engineers, bankers, pharmacists, lawyers, doctors and newspaper men. These professional elements would get their equipment and would live off the earnings of the toilers. Public education must be for the masses of the commoners, "the toilers, the bronzed and the knighted, who were the backbone and sinews of the community."

Col. Hoffer has a Dream.

There were sevral professors of the agricultural college present and Col. Hoffer asked them some questions that entertained the crowd. He said he had a dream and rode up the valley and saw the farmers' college, and hundreds of acres were laid off like a checkerboard, and every young man there was tilling and planting a quarter of an acre, and some had produced as high as a thousand dollars an acre in vegetables and small fruits. They supplied all the college used of cabbage, strawberries, lettuce, asparagus, onions, potatoes and shipped and sold a lot besides and the college had become self sustaining, and all the young fellows made a little money for themselves by becoming skilled cultivators of the soil. Instead of shipping in nearly all this stuff as had been done in the past from California, the station was shipping tons of stuff to Portland. "But I awoke and it was only a dream. But it is a dream that must be realized some day. Agriculture, horticulture, dairying, cattle growing and domestic science are plenty to occupy that institution. It will be said the act of congress requires that it be conducted as a scientific school and the professors say instead of planting and cultivating we are doing research work. There is no research work so searching for an educational system as actually doing things. The fact is, it is so much easier to do textbook work than to do actual work, that the average professor would be lost in the shuffle if industrial education ever took the place of the class room theorizing.

Asks Some Hard Questions

The college people ask me, do you want us to do the work of secondary education? That work should be done at the high school. We want to educate experts who shall become leaders in the community. Our young men go out and get high salaried positions as managers of orchards, creameries, and other industries." That is exactly the objection to the system that turns out a professional class that must have high salaries. Do you turn out actual producers? Do you take a large class of young men and teach them to become potato growers to produce a crop of early potatoes, and a crop of fall potatoes, and sack them and grade them and put them on the market? Do you take a class of young men and teach them to raise early and late cabbage and cauliflower and broccoli, that we ship carloads of from California? Do you take a class and teach them to become practical celery growers and put it up ready for the market?

Some Research Questions.

Do you have the young men go out and make lists of the varieties of grapes that do well in western Oregon, note the soil and locations where they do best, learn how to propogate cuttings so they will not pay some tree peddler 50 cents to two dollars a plant, learn to set them out, learn to prune them, and train them and turn off a good table grape for which there is an unlimited demand? Do you do all of these things thoroughly and everlastingly and successfully and with enthusiasm at the Agricultural college? If you do the people are not hearing much about it. You do the so-called research work, and write bulletins and print pamphlets but do you carry on industrial education on a large scale? Is not mere textbook learning the accumulation of undigested and unassimilated information? Industrial education means more of actually doing things and less of merely talking about it to other people.

What the Reform Means.

Industrial education means equipment for the masses, development for the democracy, and an end of appropriating public money for the further advancement of the already favored class, the big land holders, the timber land owners or any special class of interests. It stands to reason that educators who have no equipment for anything but classroom work are not going to favor a reform that requires men to go out and show what they know by actually doing it before critical and inquiring young men and women whose minds expand with each day's work, instead of being mystified with textbook science that is not made practical and available, but leave the mind confused with rules and glittering generalities to write still more confused examinations about. Here is the great, growing, producing world at our feet, ready to produce millions of wealth, and we have been assaulting the problem with pen and ink and paper distributes instead of going at it with hoe and plow and manure spreader. Trades, artisans, producers, creators and young women who can build homes and equip them for the coming generations are the need of the day and not more professionals.

WHAT PLACE DO AGENTS HOLD

An Unbiased Article on the Relation of Land Agents to Welfare of Community.

The Realestate Dealer and the price of Land

In these days, when everybody is trying to sell land, and the buyer is trying, by all imaginable methods, to locate the places that are for sale, without going to the agents who have without going to the agents who have offices and pay rent, it may not be out of place to inquire into the place the land agent holds in the community.

Does the buyer get better bargains when he deals directly with the seller than he does when he buys through the agent? The writer knows that in nine cases out of ten the land purchaser can do better when he goes right to a good agent and let him know what he wants. The agent has been here for years studying land and knows what the land will produce and its drawbacks and, if he is honest will not deceive to make a sale. He has a fixed price and holds to that on his books, in advertising, etc., and sells for the agreed price. On the other hand the owner sees a buyer, is eager to sell and puts the price up and sells to the man because he is eager to buy.

The buyer thinks that he is getting a better bargain because he is avoiding the commission which is paid to the agent. But does he? A man came into a realestate office in a town near here and asked about city property. He was told that he could get what he wanted through that office. The place he wanted was listed for $1300 but he did not know it. He went directly to the owner who made him think he was saving for him the commission. He sold him the place for $1600 saving him—over the left—$300

Another man came to town to look after a farm. He had some free riding at the expense of the agents. He bought a farm from the owner for $125 per acre, a large farm which had been offered time and again for $90 per acre. Another man was driven by all kinds of agents to one good buy after another but turned them down. He then went to the owner and bought for $150 per acre, land which the agent could have sold him for $65 per acre. When he found out how badly he was duped, he wept like a child, but his tears were too late. He is still weeping.

It is unfars to the agents, who pay rent, for all kinds of business men to dabble in realestate. Stand by your agents and encourage them and they will do as much as any set of men to build up a prosperous community.

How would you like for the realestate agent to sell from catalogues, hardware, furniture, drygoods or groceries and thus knock you, Mr. Merchant? As they say down South, "Let us tote fare."

Real Estate
A Wonderful snap in

100 acres only three miles from town, on a splendid road. The soil is very fine. 85 acres in crop and looking fine. With the place goes one horse and some other personal property. If taken soon the crop goes in at the price of only $65.00 per acre. We know of no better bargain anywhere. The owner is a boiler maker and does not like farming. Hence he has put it down to bed rock price. Splendid terms can be had on this. The Polk County Real Estate Company

DARRING HOLDUP

Three masked men held up the California Express in Cow Creek canyon on the night of June 27th. The passengers were not molested but the mail car was robbed and everything of value was taken.

Robberies are abundant lately and the way of the rail roads is hard.

Lots of Marriages

Marion County boasts of issuing fifty-nine marriage licenses for the month of June. It will take quite a while for the lawyers and judges to untie these nuptial bands; but they are fully prepared to do it and will begin the process soon if not sooner.

AN OLD COPY OF SOUTHERN NEWSPAPER

From Daily Capitol Journal of Salem.

Mr. George C. Gardener, of Fair Grounds, Ore., brought a copy of the Richmond Enquirer into the Journal office yesterday, that is somewhat of a curiosity. It was published March 30, 1863, and is a real yellow journal, and is yellow with age. It has no display advertisements, such as one sees in the papers these days, in fact contains no advertising matter at all, except such as is put up in reading notice style, or letters about as large as the smallest head letter used in the Journal. Most even of this matter was advertisements for the sale of negroes, and rewards for runaway slaves. It seems strange to have it thus recalled that less than 50 years ago this great country was still selling human beings as chattels. It contains some pretty red hot reading matter, and not flattering to Northern people.

WILL TRY the COMMISSION FORM OF CITY GOVERNMENT

Salem is tired of everything in the form of the old kind of city government and she now hopes to try the commission plan.

It cannot be much worse than it has been. We shall watch the procedure with interest. Salem citizens are slow to take up with new ideas, however, and those interested in this new departure may not get what they want.

The old Tennessee negroe's proverb might help out the situation in Salem just now when he said in the meeting, "Blessed am him what expecteth nothin' fo' he shall not be dissapointed."

GOOD ROADS

Gov. West is trying to interest the people in building a good road from Portland to Salem. If such an highway could be built without graft and in the proper manner it would be of great value to the whole country as a lesson in road building and would have an immense travel. It would greatly increase the price of land all along the way.

The Enterprise would like to see it succeed.

A GREAT FARM BARGAIN

Think of it! 67 acres nearly all in cultivation. All fine land only two miles from Independence. 60 acre in crop; 4 fine cows, team, wagon and harness and lots of other stuf thrown in for only $7000.00. Splendid terms.—Polk County Real Estate Co. Independence, Oregon.

NEW MANAGERS BEGIN DUTIES

Publishers Expect to Make the Enterprise Meet the Demands of People.

INTRODUCTION BY THE NEW EDITOR

To the subscribers and public generally, Greeting:

After careful consideration and much thought, I find myself in the chair as editor of the Enterprise. I feel the responsibility and yet look forward to the undertaking with no little pleasure. The public, which this paper serves, surely merits a better editor than I can ever be, and yet it is a public which stands by a man who is willing to do his best.

Since obtaining the paper many have asked what it would stand for under our administration. We answer that it will always stand for pushing ahead all the people, and aiding, in every way possible, every enterprise which stands for the development of our great, new country. It may be depended upon as a booster.

Morally it will stand for the clean life and the same standard of morality for men and women. It will stand for purity, honesty and integrity in the home, in business and in political life.

The standard along these lines can never be too high.

Religiously this paper will stand for Bible Christianity in the strongest meaning of that term. Believing that Christianity, as taught by the Bible, is one of the greatest forces for good this world has ever seen.

I believe in Oregon. I believe that she has no superior, if equal, in the Statehood. She will continue to grow and develop—millions are coming here. Her valleys will feed and house them, her hills will shelter and invigorate them and her beauty will charm and hold them. I believe in Oregon.

I believe in Polk County. There is none greater. Her full hands beckon a greater and greater population. Diversified farming will make of this an empire within itself. Wonderful climate, splendid for fruit, unequaled for stock and farming—give her a chance and watch her grow!

I believe in Polk County.

I believe in Independence. Now the hop center of the world, with as earnest a lot of business men as was ever known. She has a future that none can gainsay.

Independence will soon take her place beside the cities of ten thousand and will go on and on.

Her resources are many and will rapidly develop.

I believe in Independence.

I ask the aid of all in making this the very greatest paper possible. Not for gain but to help.

We are here to serve the public that is our real mission. Some may not know that the Enterprise has a complete plant and can do any and all kinds of job work, as neatly as any other place. There is no need of any one going any where else for printing or any kind of stationery while they have a plant right here.

Let each one who takes the paper speak a good word to his neighbor, who does not take it, until all are reached. We want at least two thousand subscribers. We will have them soon if all work together.

The Tent Meeting.

Sunday evening the editor of the Enterprise attended the tent meeting now being held under the auspices of the Baptist Church, in Independence. There was a good crowd. The singing, congregational and the solos, was good indeed.

The sermon, by the evangelist, Rev. A. Blackstone, was on "Hell." He took the orthodox view of his subject and preached a strong sermon. He held that there are but two final places of abode for humanity after death. One is Heaven, a place of eternal happiness, and the other Hell, a place of eternal suffering in a lake of fire.

Note by the Pastor

The meetings in the tent have been of exceptional interest this week. The blind are beginning to see, captives are being set free, and lepers are being cleansed in the precious blood. Brother Jones is compelled to finish his work here on Friday evening so tonight will be your last opportunity to hear him. Come and bring others!

The meetings will continue until Sunday night. All the regular Sunday services of the Babtist Church will be held in the tent.

Monday night the pastor will meet all the converts of the meeting.

On Tuesday night, in the tent, the pastor will give his lecture on "Amusements." If you are a father or mother don't fail to hear this lecture which has come, mostly, out of my own experience. Young people, you, too, will be interested.

Arthur P. Blackstone.