

Coquille Herald.

Vol. 23: No. 6.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1905.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.

Entered as second-class matter May 8, 1905, at the postoffice at Coquille, Oregon, under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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Str. FAVORITE
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Bandon 1 P.M. Coquille 4:45 P.M.

Str. ECHO
H. Jans, Master.
Leaves Myrtle Point 7 A.M. Arrives Coquille City 9:30 A.M.
Coquille City 1 P.M. Myrtle Pt. 4:00 P.M.
Daily except Sunday.

Str. WELCOME
W. R. Panter, Master.
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Importance of Regular Attendance.

The following paper, entitled, "How Parents May Co-Operate With Teachers in Securing Regular and Punctual Attendance," was read by J. J. Stanlay at the last meeting of the Coquille Public School Improvement League, October 13, 1905:

Just why this subject was assigned to me to lead in the discussion, I do not know; but the thought at once occurred to me that the committee intended for me to speak from experience as a parent. Two of my own children are now attending their sixth year of school and neither of them has yet been once tardy and have never been absent except on account of sickness. I do not make this statement boastfully, but the facts were forcibly brought to my mind when informed of the subject which had been assigned to me. Furthermore, I do not take credit for this enviable record of punctuality. The faithful, untiring mother who combs the heads, washes the faces, mends the torn frocks, hunts the lost books and papers and does the dozens of little things necessary to be done in starting the children to school, is the one to whom the credit is due. These random observations bring us to the consideration of the subject under discussion.

All teachers recognize the fact that tardiness and irregular attendance are two of the most common vices—I cannot think of a more fitting term that "vices"—as well as the most annoying to the teachers and discouraging to the school, with which they have to deal. A tardy pupil disturbs the whole school by distracting attention from work. Suppose one pupil enters late a room in which there are forty pupils at work. I think one minute is a conservative estimate of the time the tardy pupil will take from those already present. There are forty minutes lost—stolen by the delinquent from the school. Suppose there are ten pupils tardy, each entering the room at different times, as they are very apt to do. Then there are six hours and forty minutes lost or stolen—more than one whole school day. Suppose there are ten pupils late in each of the eight rooms of this building, then nearly nine school days are stolen in one morning. If this should happen at noon as well as in the morning, there would be over seventeen days lost or stolen, or nearly one school month. Is this fair to the teacher and to the rest of the pupils who are punctual? I am not saying that this state of affairs exists in our schools for I am sure it is not nearly so bad as that. But I have used this illustration merely to show the result "chronic" tardiness should it exist; and to call your attention to the fact that it would exist in just such deplorable proportion were it not for the eternal vigilance and precept up on precept from the teachers. And absence is even more demoralizing to the work of the pupil and the school in general tardiness. The pupil who is absent a day or two out of each week, or out of each month only, falls behind his class, becomes discouraged with his own work and is a burden to both his teacher and his classmates. A day's absence from school is like a link taken from a chain—a wall with a stone left out here and there—a story with an occasional chapter omitted.

I have digressed again, but have done so in order to mention briefly an antidote. Like most other vices, there is a cause for these troubles, and if the cause is removed, a cure is thereby effected.

In the consideration of this question there are three persons involved—the teacher, the pupil and the parents.

We know that all teachers will use their utmost influence against evils of tardiness and irregular attendance. The fact that they offer rewards and prizes for punctuality and regular attendance (too frequently paid for out of their own meager salary) is proof of this. Then we see that the teacher is not to blame for these evils, as he is do-

ing all in his power to eradicate it.

The pupil, on starting to school for the first day may not realize the importance of punctuality. But if parents would endeavor to impress upon their minds from the outset the proper ideas of punctuality, the child will soon become an enthusiast in the matter and will never transgress therein of his own volition. If you will allow me, I shall again speak from personal experience. My children, having never been tardy, cannot conceive, in their minds, a worse calamity befalling them than to be tardy at school. If such a thing should happen, they would feel that disgrace and shame had been heaped upon them. They will miss a meal or leave their most cherished toys or games or playmates to be on time at school. They have had measles, mumps and various other ailments that afflict infant humanity and have missed some days of school thereby. But the suffering from racking pain or the distastefulness of confinement during convalescence or inconsequential diseases are as nothing compared with the enforced absence from school. Therefore, I do not think the children are to blame for tardiness and absence.

Having eliminated the teacher and the pupil, there remain but the parents upon whom to fix the blame. As a parent, I feel privileged to speak to parents with more plainness than, perhaps, a teacher would do. Then I will say that I really believe the fault lies wholly with the parents. Just why parents should be so careless on this point, I cannot say. That is one point upon which I am glad to state that I cannot speak from experience. But it seems to me that parents who so indifferent in regard to the punctuality and regular attendance of their children are either lacking in a proper interest which they should have in the education of their children or else they do not understand the importance of punctuality and regular attendance. I am glad to know that the first cause is being cured very rapidly as is evidenced by the number of organizations similar, to our own which are springing up all over the land, in many instances promoted and enthused by the parents. So, then, it seems to me that the matter is simmered down to the second cause parents do not realize the importance and the necessity of sending their children to school on time and sending them every day. It was with this idea in mind that I mentioned briefly with illustrations in the first part of this paper, the inconvenience wrought, the time wasted and the annoyance to teachers caused by tardiness; and the disheartening effect upon pupil, teacher and classmates of irregular attendance.

I repeat that I believe parents are wholly to blame for these two evils, and if they will make the necessary efforts these evils may be so nearly eradicated that the results will be very gratifying. I know there is a great temptation to keep Johnnie from school to help pick the apples, or to butcher the winter's meat; and to keep Sally home in the forenoon on wash day, and again to keep her until ten o'clock to help with the ironing—especially when the parents cannot afford to hire the necessary help to do all these things without the assistance of the children. But this is wrong. It is an injustice to the child, to the teacher and to the other pupils.

And again, parents who do not teach their children the importance of punctuality in ALL things make a great mistake. This is an important lesson which all children should be taught; and if they are not taught it at home, in their youth, they will be compelled to learn it later in life, and perhaps from bitter experience, probably many great disappointments. You have all heard of great battles being lost because some one was behind time. No doubt the destinies of nations have been determined by those battles lost. As a matter of common business courtesy it is considered very bad form to be behind time. Business men consider punctuality

in keeping their business appointments a sacred obligation which they owe their fellow men and would deem tardiness a reflection on their business integrity. So I would urge upon parents the necessity and importance of these two lessons to their children, and that you are doing a great wrong to your children if you fail to teach it to them from infancy.

I do not know that I have presented this subject in the manner intended by the committee when it was assigned to me, but I have presented it in the light in which I see it. If the parents can be made to see, and seeing, to act in this matter, I think the question will be solved and I am sure that the teachers will always stand ready and willing to do their part and more than their part of any co-operation necessary from them to better the present conditions on these two points as well as all others beneficial to our educational system.

I have not presented the subject in a very logical manner, but I have endeavored to give a general view of it. I know there are many points upon which I have not touched, but will leave them to be brought out in the general discussion which I understand is to follow.

County Court Proceedings.

Edw Riggs, juror 1 00
C D Magary, juror 1 00
E K Sheldon, juror 1 00
Chas McCulloch, juror 1 00
Chas Nordstrom, witness... 1 50
E E Straw, witness 1 50
W Watson, witness 1 50
E Mingus, coroner's fees... 14 15
E E Straw, examining physician 10 00

In re inquest held upon the body of Ira Stevenson.

C C Taggart, autopsy 25 00
E Mingus, coroner's fees... 7 80
Circuit court, September, 1905, term:

Jurors Regular Venire.
J C Whittington, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 6 80
Ed Johnson, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 4 30
David Musson, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 9 20
A H Harkensee, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 5 80
A F Cook, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 5 80
Lee Neely, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 5 20
R C Amstein, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 5 80
J C Fisher, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 7 20
Dan Giles, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage... 3 80
W R Mavity, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 5 80
S S Reed, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage... 5 80
George Ferrey, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 7 80
Louis Dufault, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 7 80
Carl Albrecht, juror, regular venire, 1 day and mileage 5 80
T W Robinson, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 9 20
Ed Wyant, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage... 9 20
A E Simpson, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 4 40
J W Mast, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage... 4 80
A E Morton, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 6 40
E P Briles, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 7 60
W F Piper, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 8 60
Harry Hunt, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 9 20
W S Spoor, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 6 40
Chas Rodine, juror regular venire, 2 days and mileage 11 40
A G Erickson, juror regular venire, 1 day and mileage 7 20
Witnesses before district attorney.
A D Morse, 1 day and mileage 7 20
O C Sanford, 2 day and mileage 6 00
Lee Goodman, 3 days and mileage 6 00
Joe Palmer, 3 days and mileage 11 60

David Smalley, 2 days and mileage 4 60
Lloyd Glenn, 2 days and mileage 8 60
Wm Arnold, 2 days and mileage 4 60
Sam Giles, 1 day and mileage 3 80
James Brown 1 day and mileage 3 80
I. A Roberts, 1 day and mileage 3 80
L W Traver, 1 day and mileage 3 80
Gussie Hamilton, 1 day and mileage 3 80
R O Kirkpatrick, 1 day and mileage 2 00
C W Wright, 1 day and mileage 5 80
Matilda Willard, 1 day and mileage 2 20
Will Willard, 1 day and mileage 2 40
Herbert Stevens, 3 days and mileage 11 80
Ed Thomas, 3 days and mileage 11 80
Al Willard 1 day and mileage 2 40
A E Seaman, 1 day and mileage 2 00
T H Chapman, 1 day and mileage 7 20
J H Cecil 3 days and mileage 6 00
C K Shaw, 1 day and mileage 6 40
Wm Turpin, 3 days and mileage 11 60
Frank Carey, 2 days and mileage 4 60
E M Blackerby, 1 day and mileage 7 20
Wm Sugg, 2 days 4 00
J W Carter, 3 days and mileage 9 80
John Richards, 1 day and mileage 5 80
George Rackleff, 1 day and mileage 3 80
Mrs Laura Hamilton, 1 day and mileage 2 80
J H James, 1 day 2 00
M H Hersy, 2 days 4 00
Mrs Lou Gillispie, 1 day... 2 00
Ahee Wagner, 1 day 2 00
John Thomas, 3 days and mileage 11 80
Otto Stevens, 3 days and mileage 11 80
John Youkam, 2 days and mileage 5 00
Edna Thomas, 1 day and mileage 6 80
P E Drane, 1 day 2 00
State of Oregon vs John Negithon.
Ed Straug, witness, 3 days and mileage 10 40
In re Examination and Commitment of Wm Panter:
Wm Kay, witness 1 day and mileage 3 80
Alice M Tuttle, for 13 meals, jurors and baliff 3 25
E L C Farrin, for type-writing circuit court information 6 60
Stationery, printing, postage, etc 8 50
T J Thrift, stamps, dating stamp, etc 29 60
L Harlocker, stamped envelopes, freight etc 1 29
Stephen Gallier, stamps... 45 00
James Watson, stamps, freight, expressage, etc... 16 81
Glass & Prudhomme Co, hunters' license and postage 92 81
Baneroff-Whitney & Co, Montague Digest Ore, Rep 1 Vol 6 20
Howe, Davis & Kilham, stationery, etc 2 25
Herbert Lockhart, seals... 4 15
Patrick & Co, rubber stamps, pads, ink 11 25
The Sun, writs of attachments jury and civil sub 9 00
The Enterprise, 1 M envelopes for sheriff, letter heads 57 50
Coquille Herald, printing Co court proceedings... 4 60
Coquille Herald, printing notice to taxpayers 21 75
Clarence O Dryden, job print North Bend Citizen, printing Co court proceedings... 23 50
The Recall, job print... 1 15
Coos Bay Pub Co, notices of teachers exam 45 00
Coos Bay News, print assess. schedule for assr 10 86
J B Dulley, stamped envelopes 11 60
Continuer next week.

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