

# Coquille Herald.

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"For twenty years I suffered from a bad case of granulated sore eyes, says Martin Boyd of Henrietta, Ky. "In February, 1903, a gentleman asked me to try Chamberlain's Salve. I bought one box and used about two-thirds of it and my eyes have not given me any trouble since." This salve is for sale by R. S. Knowlton.

## School Play Grounds.

EDITOR HERALD:—Occasionally we find a man who opposes any playground for the school children, and gives as a reason, that they do not need a playground and should not have one. We believe that any person who takes this position is mistaken, and we have the entire force of the social workers and the educational world back of our belief. If there is any one thing above another that is strenuously urged by the social workers and the educators of our land for the betterment of the conditions under which the children are being brought up, it is this thing of having ample playground for them. And this is something we have not, and cannot have on the present location; and particularly so if we have any increase in the population of our town.

Some argue for an addition to the old building on the plea of economy. This is the most absurd argument of any advanced and we are surprised that any one would consider it for a moment. In the first place, you never knew of a man remodeling an old building that it did not cost more than it would have cost him to have built new. And it is a proverbial saying that he had better torn down the old one and built new. And after he has it done he never has what he wants and it is never satisfactory. The old part is always in constant need of repair, and finally is rotted down while the new part is still in good condition. Then as a "thing of beauty," it always looks like the ragged end of bad luck and worse management. It is neither Doric nor Corinthian, though it is a thing of wonder.

In the second place, it is not economy in construction, since it will cost just as much to build there as to build elsewhere. Note the fact that it cost \$4000.00 to build the two rooms that have been added; and the further fact that it would seriously impair the usefulness of some of the rooms already there.

In the third place, it is not economy in fuel, since it will take additional furnaces and fuel to heat the new part there, just the same as if the new building stood in any other place.

Fourth, it is not economy in janitor service, since it takes a man and a boy now, and with an equal addition, it would take another man and boy. And it would not take any more if the building stood in some other place.

Fifth, it cannot be done without injury to the present building. As I heard a little boy say the other day, "they would build on one room and spoil two." You cannot build on to the present building without destroying the light in at least two rooms, if not four. And the architect who says you can is either an ignoramus or a knave. He is an ignoramus if he does not know better, and he is a knave if he is trying to work the people for a job. The whole theory of it is absurd and impractical.

Sixth, it is not economy in School Supervision, and to argue that it is, is simply arguing nonsense, for ever since we have had School Superintendants, they have successfully and efficiently handled and managed the schools of their district, whether the schools were situated a half mile, or from five to ten miles from their office in the Central High School building. And at least once a month the whole body of teachers meet in regular session with the Superintendent. And this should be done in all cases.

Seventh, there is no room for any more building on the old location. There is not sufficient playground for the children who attend there now. And it would be a disgrace to the City, and a crime against the children to force any greater number of children to attend school there. The School Journal published at Portland, in its last issue, gives us a splendid article on this question of the absolute necessity of large and commodious playgrounds for the school children. It says—"Every child playing on the streets is living

cry for a playground." Older towns and cities at first neglected this. "But western towns and cities that are now building should take warning and plot their playgrounds in the beginning." Yet when I say these things, a few of the people of Coquille say I am a fool or a knave.

Eighth, some say build to the old building and keep the school all and always together. This is the most absurd and foolish argument of all. It is only true to a certain limited extent, after which such a method becomes not only foolish and absurd, but it is actually criminal to the children thus cramped and huddled together. And our Scientific and School Journals all over this country and in Europe are giving this very thing the most severe criticism, not only as false economy, but as an actual crime against the children, the future hope of the State.

The consolidation of territory and of school districts, is the cry every where in order to strengthen the districts, to secure a better grade of teachers, and to lighten the burden of taxation. But on the other hand, the gathering of a multitude of children into one building, is just as strenuously opposed for the most excellent reasons that it increases the danger of loss of life from fire, the spread of contagious diseases, and the danger from un-sanitary conditions that naturally arise where any great number of persons are gathered together for any length of time. And worse than these things even, it has been shown beyond dispute that it actually impairs the physical and mental growth and development of the children, and increase crime. In fact this crowding together is the most damnable kind of economy. I am surprised that any one who reads the Scientific and Educational Journals of today will attempt to champion such an exploded idea. The above named School Journal of Portland, makes a strong argument against the very idea of gathering a large number of children into one building upon a small piece of ground, where they cannot have good light, a plenty of room, an abundance of physical exercise, and a large playground. And goes on to say that all cities and towns should look after these things among the very first things they do. But when I mention these things, a few persons in Coquille with a good deal of self-unctious scorn,—O, Barrow is a fool, or a crank, or else they say he has a scheme up, "an ax to grind." And if this were spoken in the true spirit of just consideration, it is true, for I have "an ax to grind" in the sense, first, last and all the time, of doing all I can for the truest, highest and best education, training, and development, socially, morally, and intellectually of the children of my home town, and also of the country at large.

We quote the following from the School and Home, published in Portland. "Joseph Lee, the father of the American Playground, says, play is nature's law of growth and is vital to a child. He builds himself by it. Nature puts the purpose within and hammers him into shape against it. Play is her method of making him a man. Her method for the same reason that the grass grows or flowers spring up; for the same reason that he is here at all.

Froebel was the first to use the force generated during play to help the child to a higher state of knowledge; but before his time Plato said, The plays of children have the mightiest influence on the maintenance or non-maintenance of laws.

Largely who cannot play cannot study or work without overdrawn their resources of vitality. I believe that the necessity of play is axiomatic and needs no proof. It is more than an essential part of the law of his growth, of the process by which he becomes a man at all. Children are young because they play—men stop playing and grow old.

Do we, as teachers, believe that health is subject to command? We have too long regarded the brain apart from the body. Foul air

brings on catarrh, tuberculosis and headache. Sedentary life reduces the lower limbs, causes indigestion and nervous diseases. Play prevents all these, for action is the law of growth for muscles, heart, lungs—all organs, even the bones. In a class one child expresses himself at one time, but in play all of the children express themselves all the time. Twelve hundred children examined in Chicago, one hundred had it. They were put outside the city in a park where they played themselves into health. Stuttering and stammering are helped by play. Nervousness and chorea are improved, and catarrh, headache, and foul-air diseases are prevented and cured by play. The old proverb that "Man is whole only when he plays" is true, and children hunger for bodily fatigue. Observe them at play and see how action attracts them. It organizes instincts and regulates irritability. All the problems of childhood if solved get the result—good health a clear brain.

A clear the age of twelve the child has a new birth, for human traits are born. His height, weight, and strength double; Nature is arming him for the contest of life. The adult male is forty-three per cent muscle. Does he need play to keep these growing and healthy? Team games, ball, gymnastics of all kinds are desirable at this period; and girls are as much in need of exercise as boys, if not more so.

Modern ways of obtaining play for health merit all the attention they are receiving. Children were left out in the forefathers of our cities, for our forefathers did not realize that "the boy without a playground will become the father without a job," and that the way to prevent crime, degeneracy and disease is to have people born and reared with sound bodies. Science nor states yet control birth, but the rearing of children is our problem. Every child playing on the street is living a cry for a playground and we are awakening to that cry. The first public playground in America was opened twenty years ago in Boston. But Chicago has shown the real possibilities of the playground is an American city. It has spent a great deal of money on twelve playgrounds in South Park within the last four years. Already disease and crime are lessened by, twenty-eight per cent in that district. The actual cost was comparatively small.

A farmer allows one acre for one hundred and fifty chickens, a city exercising less judgment, allows only one acre for fifteen hundred children, but Andover, Mass., has sixteen acres for only six hundred and seventy children. Other cities are doing much. New York has the most expensive playgrounds in the world—eleven of them cost fifteen hundred dollars. But western cities that are now building should take warning and plot their playgrounds in the beginning. Seattle has authorized bonds to be issued to the amount of one million dollars provided one fourth be used for playgrounds.

Portland is now trying to buy a park on the East Side for five hundred thousand or more dollars. San Francisco, even while rebuilding after her great disaster, ordered a bond issue of seven hundred and forty one thousand dollars, and appointed a playground commission of seven members as a part of its municipal government. Hartford, Conn., is amending her charter and appointing a commission of six members—made up of Mayor, Superintendent of Schools, Judge of Court, etc.—to look after the playgrounds, Cincinnati and Dayton, Ohio, have large playgrounds, and both say that their playgrounds have cost less than two cents per day for each child. Let school yards be equipped and open after hours and all the year round. Boston common has long served as a ball ground for boys, and now the city is going to make it a regular public playground.

Three years ago there was formed the "Playground Association of America." It did not have its

## FAIR NOTES

Things That May Be Seen at the Seattle Exposition.

Seattle, August 10.—For the first time in athletic history, western track and field men will meet the East on a western field in the A. A. U. games at the stadium of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Friday and Saturday, August 13 and 14. The critics freely admit that the western men have an excellent chance to win the championship of the country.

These athletic events will be a climax of one of the most eventful weeks at the fair.

On Monday large delegations will come from Los Angeles, Pasadena, and Santa Monica in California to celebrate the days of those cities. Whittier, Ocean Park, and Venice will also have Monday as their official day.

Vancouver Day on Tuesday will be the occasion for a large excursion from British Columbia. The commercial club of that city has chartered several of the largest steamers on the sound to bring the crowds.

Dixie Day on Tuesday will bring a large number of Southerners together at the fair. The people from the Northwest who have come from Southern states are taking a lively interest in this celebration and many are planning to take advantage of this time to see the Exposition.

Newsboy's Day will also be on Tuesday. The Seattle newsboys are planning a fitting reception for their brethren from other cities. Arthur P. Prague will speak at the exercises on "The Rise of the American Newsboy."

Iowa Day on Thursday will be observed with an excellent program. The 56th Regiment Band of Ft. Dodge has been brought from Iowa to furnish the music for the occasion.

Roseland, B. C., Day will be on Wednesday. A special excursion will arrive in Seattle on Tuesday from the Canadian mining center, bringing a number of representative citizens.

The Worcester, Mass., Board of Trade and the Worcester Glee Club will celebrate on Wednesday. A series of concerts will be given by the Glee Club, which is one of the best in the United States, at the auditorium.

Hoquiam, Wash., is planning on one of the most pretentious city days at the fair on Thursday. The Chehalis county building will be turned over for the reception of the official delegation from that city.

Seattle, August 10.—"Travel to

initial impetus by physical training, as might be supposed, but from social workers and educators. In two and a half years it has increased the playgrounds by one hundred per cent. It is a movement that will be restrained by no barriers. We have lived on the energy stored up by our forefathers, but the problem of the health of future generations must be, in great part, solved by the American Playground." A few years ago Kansas City expended seven hundred thousand dollars for playgrounds and recreation parks, in which they have swimming pools for both sexes, and they have set apart several days each week exclusively for the children. Chicago and other cities and towns have done the same. The above gives a short synopsis of what is being done in many places for the school children of this country. It has long been known that brain power depends largely upon good health and physical development, and these in turn are the result of physical action. And all of these are more readily superinduced and more efficiently developed upon the "American Playground." And in so far as I am concerned, my efforts and my work shall be given to advance the children of my town and country to the highest and best citizenship, by aiding them to develop to the highest possible standard, their physical, social, moral and intellectual facilities.

the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition hasn't really begun yet. Europeans are yet to come, and the farmers of the West and all those whose business depends directly or indirectly, upon the crops; have not started. Here in Seattle this is not realized, but railroad men are working over time in planning for the care of the thousands who are yet to come. And let me say that when they do come Seattle will realize what splendid work has been done by the railroads and the Exposition's Division of Exploitation. Every Western state, and I mean all west of the Mississippi, will have to concede that they are greatly benefited by the travel to and from the Exposition."

G. A. Mitchell, assistant general passenger agent of the Northern Pacific, made this statement just prior to his departure from Seattle with a party of tourists bound for Yellowstone Park. From the very beginning the Publicity Department of the Exposition has cooperated with the passenger departments of all western lines in exploiting the Exposition and the Northwest in general and the results are just as the representative of the Northern Pacific has stated. Much of the material in the

handsome booklets issued by the rail lines has been written by representatives of the Exposition publicity department and photographs showing the beauties of the fair have been taken especially for use in railroad publications.

"The Exposition marks an epoch in the development of the west," said Mr. Mitchell. Watch the Eastern men go home, pack up, and come out West. I am not saying this to boost either the fair or the Northern Pacific. It is the consensus of opinion of those who have heard the comments of the Eastern visitor who has made his first trip to the West. He is impressed with its vastness, richness, and hustle."

**Bryan Will Move to Texas.**  
William Jennings Bryan is to move to Texas. He is reported to have said recently in the course of an interview preceding his delivery of a lecture in an Ohio town. He declared he intended to move to Texas following a South American tour, on which he will start this Fall. "I shall not seek the election to the Senate from Nebraska," said Mr. Bryan. "I am not going to be a Nebraskan, for I am going to move to Texas. I expect to continue in politics in Texas."

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