

HALSEY ENTERPRISE

Published Thursday at Halsey, Oregon
H. F. and A. A. LAKE
Publishers

Entered at the postoffice at Halsey, Oregon, as second class matter.

\$1 a year in advance. Arrearages 12 1/2% a month. Stops when time expires unless continuance is ordered.

Advertising 25c an inch; no discount for time or space; no charge for composition or changes. Announcements of entertainments, food sales, etc., whose object is to raise money, charged at regular advertising rates.

Announcements of religious meetings, not exceeding four inches, free if copy is received before Tuesday.

Among the many schemes which have been projected in the past few years by politicians and others in real or pretended efforts to aid the farmers of the country, very few have been of any practical benefit. In fact some of them have been productive of more harm than good. But there is one species of government aid, at least, which has on the whole been really helpful. It is the agricultural extension service, whereby farm and home demonstration agents, trained for their important duties, have gone among the farmers, their wives and daughters, and taught them how to help themselves.

The various field and home projects and demonstrations carried on by these faithful workers, often under the most discouraging circumstances, have materially raised the efficiency of farming and rural homemaking.

Especially effective work has been done with the boys' and girls' clubs work which will exert a tremendous influence upon the rural life of the future. This training of farm boys and girls for community leadership is perhaps the most important activity for the betterment of agriculture today.

The editor of a Texas paper accused Col. Lindbergh of having a severe case of swellhead. He was asked to recant and refused. That truly, was a case of the malady.

Now that the farm relief bill has been vitally wounded, its backers are almost as scarce as the proverbial 'hen's teeth.'

The spread of the divorce evil is alarming. Particularly to old maids, bachelors and persons happily married.

It is said more people go crazy in June. Anyway, more get married in June.

A successful leader is one who can guess which way the crowd wants to go.

The last winter's fuel bill has just been paid and here it is vacation time.

The Baumes Law

New York State leads the way in taking definite action to reduce crime. Instead of passing new laws and regulations to encroach upon the rights and privileges of law-abiding citizens, it passed the Baumes law in 1926, which automatically sentences a man convicted for the fourth time of com-

mitting a felony, to life imprisonment. Naturally, there have been objections to this law because it has 'teeth', in it, but if crime is to be reduced the number of criminals and potential criminals must also be reduced. There is no excuse for a man committing four crimes of a character to involve a penitentiary sentence. Why should the public be subjected to the danger of meeting habitual criminals.

Growth of West Aim of S. P. Road

Planning constructive aid in the development of agriculture throughout territories served by its Pacific lines, Southern Pacific today completed the organization of a new department which is to be known as the department of development and colonization.

R. E. Kelly of San Francisco has been appointed manager of the department, with Edward H. Sharpe and F. Q. Treadway as assistant managers, George W. Barr as agricultural agent and Erich F. Stuewe as agricultural editor.

"It is the plan of the department of development and colonization, Kelly said, "to work with, and through existing agencies such as the national, state and county farm bureaus, the grange, farmers' union, agricultural colleges and civic organizations, to promote the welfare of agriculture generally in the states covered by the Pacific lines."

"We will work with such agencies and others to meet the marketing problems of the farmers, standardization of their products, and the irrigation districts in getting a sound policy for development, and constantly preach the gospel of honest representation to new comers of the kinds of lands and their possibilities on which they will settle.

"We will also aid in the advancement of such projects along our lines as we have confidence in through editorial and photographic cooperation in the preparation of pamphlets and folders."

Boys and Girls

Charles P. Cole of Burston, Me., who for four years has walked 12 miles a day to and from school, has just graduated from high school at the head of his class.

John Lefker, 12 year old school boy of Chicago who recently built an airplane that stayed in the air five minutes and 37 seconds, established a new world's junior duration record for outdoor medal flight.

Mary Lee of St. Louis, aged 15, recently won a harmonica-playing contest against 250 competitors, before a great crowd in the city hall.

Peoria News

(By Special Correspondent)

Mrs. Jessie McLaren helped Mrs. Dorsey can strawberries Monday.

Several from here attended the Pine Grove community meeting Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Lamar of Corvallis visited with his parents Saturday night.

Mary Gibbs of Albany attended the supper at the school house Saturday night.

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ON READING BOOKS
By Thomas ARKLE CLARK, Dean of Men, University Illinois

IT WAS under a cartoon that I saw the query. "How's that?" the owner of the library said to his friend in a boastful and self-satisfied tone, as he showed him his collection of books. "Every one of them a priceless first edition."

"What's this one alone over here?" the friend inquired as his eye catches a lonesome thin volume standing by itself upon an otherwise empty shelf. "Oh!" the owner explains, "That's the one I've read."

It is one thing to have books; it is quite another thing to have read them. A good many people who have shelves full of books in their libraries might as well have only the false covers without the contents, such as we see in the stage setting of theaters or in furniture stores where they sell book cases. My friend Chesley is a collector of books—rare books, beautiful books, unusual books, books which are difficult to obtain, and yet he could hardly be called a regular reader of books. In fact he reads only moderately. If you would take his precious books from the shelves to give them a more careful examination, you would be likely to see how clean and white the pages are, as if they had never had close contact with working hands. You would no doubt discover, as I did, that the pages of many of them had never been cut, and so the book has yet to have its first reading. Chesley would have no sense of duty neglected if you would call his attention to these facts. He doesn't

find much pleasure in the reading of books, and he says so quite naively. His pleasure is in having something unusual, something that his friends cannot afford, cannot get their hands on. His is only the pleasure of a collector. Lincoln, for instance, had read few books comparatively, for books were not common when and where he was a boy, but he had read these few carefully, thoroughly, and had absorbed the contents and been influenced by the style. The books which he had about him meant much to him—each one of them.

Public and educational libraries must contain many books which are seldom, if ever read, and many more which are only skimmed through for stray facts, isolated information, or for the point of view of a recognized authority. Scholars engaged in research might go quickly through a hundred books in order to get one fact, and these books may not be used again for a decade. Not so with the libraries which you and I have in our houses. Our books we should be familiar with; they should be like old friends. As we stand in front of the shelves and look them over, each should recall old memories, old pleasures, forgotten experiences. The books that we have we should have read, they should have been a part of our lives, they should have had their part in the development of our characters. How many of the books that you own have you read?

Alpine visited with his aunt, Mrs. M. M. Fruit Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Porter of Shedd visited at her mother's Mrs. Alice Dunn Monday evening.

Mrs. J. W. Lamar and daughter, Helen, attended graduating exercises at Corvallis high school Monday night.

Mrs. Henry Abraham and her daughters, Iris and Bernice, of Potter station, were visiting friends in Peoria Monday evening.

The Martin Cummings, Thomas Ardy and Clarence Williams families and others from Lake Creek attended the supper Saturday night.

Lawrence Frady of Eugene visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Frady a while Sunday. He says his daughter, Sylvea, is no better and little hopes is entertained for her recovery.

The supper given by the missionary society at the school house Saturday night was a success. A good attendance and excellent program rendered brought in a neat sum which will be used on the pledge and the piano.

Rev. and Mrs. Metcalf and children spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reagan at Corvallis Tuesday. Mr. Reagan had just received his degree the day before from O. S. C. and is leaving for Washington to take a position. The Reagans and Metcalfs are old schoolmates.

Miss Mary Miller, 78 years old of Iowa City, Iowa, masqueraded for 60 years as a man and has worked as farm hand, circus trapeze performer, and at various other occupations.

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