

SEMI-WEEKLY BANDON RECORDER

Published Every Tuesday and Friday by the Recorder Publishing Company.

Entered at the Postoffice at Bandon, Oregon, as Mail Matter of the Second Class

C. E. KOPF, Managing Editor.

Subscription \$1.50 per Year in Advance. Advertising rates made known on application.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF BANDON

The Port Commission.

The RECORDER is not an expert on harbors. We claim no superior information on harbors. We know, however, that many men of experience and presumably good judgment have declared, after careful examination, that the possibilities for a first class harbor at Bandon are unsurpassed on the Pacific coast. The bar is exceedingly short with deep water almost to the very ends of the jetties. A reasonable extension of the jetties with necessary dredging for anchorage would deepen the water to accommodate large vessels. The shipping interests of this port are steadily growing and their will soon be a demand for Government aid which can not be ignored. With proper dredging the Coquille River will furnish abundant room for safe fresh water anchorage for any number of vessels of the largest size. Our citizens should continue to push the Port of Bandon movement and sustain and encourage the committee now

working on this project. Let us hold up their hands and let them feel that Bandon is boosting and that we are enthusiastically supporting our committee in every lawful and just measure to make the Port of Bandon better serve the great and growing interests of South West Oregon! Bandon can, and will in course of time have a better harbor than Portland and with the expenditure of far less money. Coos Bay will be a great harbor but it will not surpass Bandon, and once the harbor is made here it will require no expense, as it will at Coos Bay, to keep the channel open to the sea. Time will demand the widening of the jetties. But what is needed now is the organization of the port that the Coquille interests may show the spirit of enterprise which is characteristic of Coos County and which can not be ignored by the Government at Washington. God helps those who help themselves and Uncle Sam is governed by the same rule.

Recorder Philosophy

Friendship cuts no ice between dollars.

A mortgage never goes on a strike.

The great desire to lord it over others renders some otherwise decent men literally inhuman.

Our admiration for the Portland Journal is waning. They are not quoting from the Bandon RECORDER quite often enough in "Notes from the Oregon Country," to suit our vanity.

Love is blind but is bound to get its eyes open.

A quarrel is never completely ended.

A great deal of time is consumed criticizing the "position" of your opponent which he never dreamed of occupying.

The superstition that judges are infallible seems to be waning.

It may be that an honest man will be damned for not believing something but we'll be damned if we believe it.

Brandt, the poor valet, is sent to prison for 30 years for trying to make love to his rich employer's wife. That is what we call ingratitude of a woman.

A legal tender bill passed at the legislature may be bad.

If the Mexicans are determined to shoot we propose to let them shoot each other.

Sometimes a vigorous kick does more good than a prayer.

Those who want nothing will get it.

Pull for the Port of Bandon.

Mr. West's Boy Scout Logic.

Editor Bandon RECORDER:

Mr. Hans West recently expressed himself in your paper as being puzzled because the Socialists do not approve of the Boy Scout movement. He asserts that "as a rule, the ministers of the various churches approve the Boy Scout organization." He further asserts that the rule governing this worthy movement clearly indicate that physical, mental and moral that is, religious development are sought to be the ends of it, and he finds it difficult to see "how any sane or reasonable man" can place himself against it.

All of which goes to show that all those who oppose the Boy Scout movement must be candidates for the "Bug House," or at least unworthy to class with Mr. West in intelligence.

Mr. West's logic is, first, that because as a rule the ministers of the various churches approve the Boy Scout movement, therefore this movement is a worthy one and is all that it pretends to be. Second, that if you oppose the Boy Scout movement you therefore cannot be a sane, reasonable man.

Mr. West also declares that General Baden-Powell, who founded the Boy Scout movement, believes in the physical and moral development of the Anglo Saxon race. Therefore, men, women and children, ad just yourselves to General Baden

Powell's idea of the Boy Scout organization or consider yourselves candidates for the wood gow and the physical, mental and moral, that is, religious inferiors of Baden Powell, the Boy Scouts and Mr. Hans West.

Mr. West's argument reduced to logical order amounts to this: Not to believe in the Boy Scout movement is to be insane or unreasonable. Therefore, all those who do not believe in the Boy Scout movement are insane or unreasonable. The fact that there might be two sides to the case, obviously never entered Mr. West's sane and reasonable brain. The Boy Scout brain is so organized that it will not permit of questioning. Its attitude is one of abject servility. The Boy Scout calls it "respect for authority." It is, and then some. But it respects no authority outside of military tactics. Let us see wherein it meets the approval of the ministers of the gospel that as a rule endorse it.

Mr. Hans West does not deny that it was organized by General Baden-Powell, an English militarist. He does not deny that its ultimate end and aim is to teach militarism. He merely says, "What of it? Is it not a noble thing to defend one's country? Is patriotism a crime?"

There you have it my reader. The venerable cant is off. Mr. West is an honest man even if he is one of the elect sane and reasonable Boy Scout proponents. Some have tried to deny that the Boy Scout organ-

ization teaches militarism. Mr. West, being a sane and reasonable man, does not deny it. He says, "what of it?"

That's a good question, and deserves as good an answer as a poor, socialist, who is a mental outcast from the Hans West standard of mentality and morality, may be able to give.

Mr. West seriously regards patriotism as one of the brightest of virtues in the citizen, and he states near the end of his article on the subject, that he does not fear "the military significance of the Boy Scout movement," and he argues that it ought to be organized in every city, town and hamlet in the nation because of its drill, its discipline and its teachings against disorganization, and anarchy.

If you follow up the argument of every advocate of the Boy Scout organization you will observe that the argument put forth invariably includes discipline and patriotism as two of the essential principles it rests upon. Very good; but what is patriotism? For the most part, patriotism is the one-stringed instrument upon which the professional politician thrills our ears for political purposes. In the ordinary sense, patriotism means love of country. But to truly love anything one's country, for instance, one must entertain a mental ideal of it, and it must measure up to, or come approximately near, to this ideal. There can be no love without respect and there cannot be respect without mutual exchange of benefits, either directly or indirectly.

Socialism is a movement based upon the fact of existing social inequality. In other words, society is dominated by a cruel, relentless, sordid capitalist class. This class has seized 90 per cent of the resources of America, thus depriving the working class, which constitutes the major portion of society, of the means of life and subjecting it to the almost absolute domination of the capitalist class, which constitutes but a small percentage of society.

According to the argument of Mr. West, the despoiled and victimized proletariat should enthrone every time his country's name is mentioned and should uncover every time he sees the stars and stripes. Fine! But what for? Because, in his condition of penury, want or starvation he is boiling over with patriotic fervor in the thought that his country is the richest and most enlightened and most productive one atop of the globe? Fine again. But how are you going to fuse him with the necessary enthusiasm while the wolf of poverty is prowling near his kitchen door? You can't instill patriotism or even indifferent respect in a mind that belongs to a hungry stomach. If you think you can, try it yourself. Patriotism is a noble sentiment, if it include all the race. The trouble with Mr. West is that he mistakes sectionalism for patriotism. The ordinary idea of patriotism is that because Mr. West was born in America, or Oregon, or Bandon or Whiskey Run, therefore, Mr. West should yell himself red in the face every time he thinks of that transcendent event, and furthermore, he should hold himself in readiness to grab a gun and ram his face into the mouth of a cannon, or make himself a target for the bullets of some supposed foe of his Uncle Samuel's and thus get himself gloriously killed or come through the spouting missiles of war unscathed or mutilated and be looked upon ever afterward with envy by the Boy Scouts in general and Mr. West in particular.

But to return to the ministers, whom Mr. West is tickled to think they approve of the Boy Scout organization. Out of all the ministers in Bandon, for instance, only five or six have endorsed the Boy Scout movement in this city. I do not question the sincerity of the ministers who have put themselves on record as favoring the military program of the Boy Scouts. Even armies find use for chaplains, and the chaplains of opposing armies go into the fight calling upon the Most High to crown their arms with victory. Never mind the slaughter. Call again Mr. West.—Dr. B. K. Leach, Bandon, Oregon, Feb. 15th, 1913.

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