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Giles L. French Editor
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LOYALTY

Anyone can be an individual if he wants to be—and has the disposition for it. There is nothing to keep him, or her, from being so much of an individual that he comes to be entirely alone in the world.

A balance is required. If one finds that his beliefs and ideas are all different than those held by those with whom he associates he can either withdraw from his society or review his theories. He may find on reappraisal that the majority is often right.

The same is true of governments, not only national, but local governments and communities. An individual must be a part of something bigger than himself; a government must as certainly do the same.

Loyalty to community, county and nation are necessary lest society, either of persons or governments, becomes too broken up into weak and impotent segments. Sherman county is composed of a large number of individuals who, because of an accident of economics, have found it possible to be as different and individual as they may desire. That is a fine exercise for the spirit. It can be overcome.

There has always been a justifiable pride in Sherman county in the hearts of those who live here or who ever lived here. The qualities of the county that have made it so well liked have not changed. It is still a geographical unit worthy of the loyalty of all citizens.

The higher loyalty is not expressed in boastful statements about its productivity, the size of its wheat fields or the excellence of its farmers as difficult as it is to boast of these. The better loyalty comes from aiding the county to be as successful as a social unit as it is as an economic unit—and as unified in those aims.

If the 2300 individuals who are Sherman county work together as a social unit with the aid of their economic muscles there is almost no endeavor beyond their abilities. If they divide into units, the units will be so small as to obtain little consideration elsewhere.

WHOSE FAULT IS IT

A reading of history, if it performs no other service, causes the reader to look upon the public scene with a longer view. Ordinarily a person has to judge progress, politics and the results of human frailty from the impressions of one short life. History permits the extension of that time.

It is possible to come closer to finding out why things are like they are when a hundred years are used as a basis for judgment than the fifty years that is the usual lifetime of adult observation.

One example: Lake county was a county before Klamath and the latter was a part of the original Lake. Now Klamath is four times as large.

Another example: The Dalles was the undisputed center of business and shipping and social and military affairs in early times and it has been outdistanced by many towns upland of when The Dalles was in its heyday.

It is likely that Portland is falling to make full use of its geographical advantages but a little more time may be needed to tell about that.

What we are presently interested in is why?

The case of The Dalles is freshest in mind. In the 1860s the gold of the Idaho and John Day mines rolled in to The Dalles on upper river steamboats and stagecoaches. A mint was started; outfitting for the mines was a business so tremendous that The Dalles claimed the largest outside of San Francisco.

Promoters of The Dalles agreed to build a road up the John Day to Boise and obtained federal and state approval of the venture. They also obtained acceptance by the governor (himself a member of the group) of the road without actual construction of it.

The promoters sold out and all the protests of John Day valley residents, all the lawsuits of settlers availed nothing against the

acceptance by the governor of a non-existent road.

The gold of the John Day went to Umatilla landing or to help build up Pendleton as a rival of The Dalles or else it went over an almost impossible road over Dooley mountain into Baker. It didn't come to The Dalles. Neither did the cattle or the grain or the people unless on their way to the outside.

The Dalles lost its opportunity to become or to remain metropolis of the country naturally tributary to it. It has not regained it, nor will it.

A center, or a town, that is trying to retain the business of a supporting territory must be well acquainted with the hopes and aims of the people in that territory as well as with its economic needs. It must not be patronizing or superior but cooperative and understanding. If it looks upon the citizens of the area as customers only it loses them; they insist on being people, not economic units.

It is very interesting, this speculation on cause and effect. It is possible to fail to tell one from the other. The above may be wrong. However, were we a part of a town endeavoring to win acceptance we would consider it correct until definitely disproven.

THIS TOO SHALL PASS AWAY

A few years ago, sixty to be exact, this county was in serious trouble. It had started to rain in the summer and it didn't quit until winter or anyway not long enough to dry anything out. The wheat that was piled up in stacks got wet clear to the ground and when it was threshed as well as it could be it moulded in the sacks. Some never was cut.

Farmers put a stovepipe full of rotten wheat in the center of their sacks and some better wheat outside until warehousemen wised up to the ruse. Wheat was worth about \$1.50 a sack in Portland, but not the kind of wheat the farmers had to sell.

The government finally allowed more time to purchasers of railroad grant land. The mortgage companies kept right on foreclosing on homesteaders despite threat of a state law to waive collection of debt. Grover Cleveland was unpopular and his government was blamed, especially by the Populists who were numerous. There was too much wheat; so the speculators were blamed for monopoly.

The county was assessed at a little over a million dollars and land was worth \$4.06 on the assessment rolls. Cattle sold for three cents a pound, hogs at six. Flour was \$3.50 a barrel.

The Sherman County Music association had frequent concerts, dances were held often, every community gathered for meetings and citizens debated the serious or frivolous questions of the day. Politicians wrote long letters to the papers about the single tax, the protective tariff. The new, big, distillery and flour mill was almost ready to start at Grant.

Odd, these old times. They are pleasant memories to the old and protestations of impossibility from the young who can't imagine anything so quaint. How odd that grandpa couldn't pay for a \$35 plow, that grandma took in washing. Yet, all those things passed away and are gone into a memory no longer green. As our poverty is lost to memory so may our prosperity be within another sixty years.

NO! NO!

An important politician, and all are until November, is reported to have said that the elections this fall will depend on television manners or something like that; meaning, we presume, that the people will vote for the candidate with the appearance most like a successful actor.

We hope it isn't true. Some of the best politicians we ever had would have looked like a husband in a dress shop before a television camera. And their ability to talk was not apparent when the crowd numbered more than

ten.

What they did have was common sense and will enough to stay with it, and their word was good. None of these characteristics would be apparent to a television viewer.

Before the gadget era we elected our officers because of what they had been, what they had done and maybe on what they promised to do. The latter proved to be an error, although better than picking a man because he looks good to a camera or because he acts like a gentleman.

Is the successful politician of the future going to be an actor? Must he be made up like a Charles McCarthy to demonstrate his charms? Shall he be judged by his ability to portray a chosen character?

What became of the men in this country, anyway? And what is to become of the country without them? We mean those sturdy souls who gave a public problem the best thinking they were able and made their case and pushed it through by strength of character. They are the only kind of public men worth following, worth having, and we wouldn't trade one of them for a dozen beautiful fables on a television set.

Cal Butler and his outfit are here fertilizing for the ranchers again this year.

Work on the Fulton Canyon road has begun and we hope the new gym and shop at the school house will be finished by the time spring vacation is over.

Hogson construction company crew has finished tinning the ele-

ten.

Mr. and Mrs. George Harris and Mrs. Sadie McKean.

The Wasco Womens club met at the home of Mrs. Delmar Smith recently. Alec Marshall of The Dalles gave a talk and showed souvenirs of their trip to Scotland and Germany. He emphasized the Marshall plan and the good it has done in those countries. Mrs. Marshall was also a guest of the club that afternoon.

Co-hostesses were Mrs. Lloyd Royse and Mrs. Norman Goch-nauer.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Tuggle left last Thursday for Seattle, Wash., where they visited her aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. G. Erickson, her mother and brother, Mrs. Astrid Lahmann and Pete Lahmann, and sisters, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scribner and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lohner and families at Olympia. From there they visited her brother's family Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lahmann at Centralia, Wn, before returning Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Harper left Mardi Gras in New Orleans early this week and are on their way home from a several weeks vacation trip in various parts of the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Watkins spent a week recently in Portland visiting friends and relatives.

Fred Hennagin is attending business in Wasco. A former resident, the Hennagins now reside

in Portland.

Carl Everett made a business trip here last Wednesday from his ranch at Olex.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Allen have spent the past two months at the ranch on the John Day. They are at home now in town.

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rothery were Gene Rothery of Dufur and a friend Richard Oacles of The Dalles.

Saturday Feb. 27 Mrs. Trace Fields and Mrs. Leo Watkins drove to Arlington for the board meeting of district four of the Oregon Federation of Womens' clubs.

The Rebekah lodge met March 10 for its annual waffle feed for members and families.

WASCO METHODIST CHURCH

Next Sunday, March 14 will be Family Night 6:30 p. m. potluck dinner. 7 p. m. program and movie Rev. H. Gravenor

LEGAL NOTICES

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THE JOLLY STITCHERS

By Darlene Miller

The Jolly Stitchers had their meeting March 8. The first year group is finishing head scarfs. The second year group is making pot holders.

The refreshments were brought by Margaret Brown and Sandy Zachary. The next meeting will be March 22.

KENT 4-H NEWS

By Karen Wilson

The Kent "Buttons and Bows" sewing club met Saturday at the home of their leader, Mrs. Thelma Sather.

Those present were the leaders, Mrs. Thelma Sather and Mrs. Margaret Mobley and members Benny Tatum, Judy and Beverly Helyer, Helen Koepke, Mary Ann McKay, Mary Mobley, Nadine Griggs, Shirley and Helene Sather Nancy and Karen Wilson.

During the meeting the members worked on projects and were instructed on new projects. Plans were made for the next meeting which will be held at the home of Mary Ann McKay. Mary Ann McKay and Nancy Wilson were appointed as refreshment committee and Karen Wilson and Mary Mobley were appointed as game committee for the next meeting.

Refreshments of sandwiches, potato salad and lemonade were served by Helen Sather and Helen Koepke after the meeting.

"The Feathered Friends", 4-H pheasant club, met at Gary Thompson's home March 8. There were 14 present and 5 absent. The main order of business was to elect officers. Tommy Higley was elected president; Sharon Belshie, vice president; Connie Axtell, secretary. Roll call was the introduction of the new members to the County Agent T. W. Thompson. (Each stood and gave his name).

We decided to have a member act as an appreciation committee to represent the club. The reason for this is to thank the hostess of the meeting place for the refreshments. Jimmy Coons was chosen to perform this duty at this meeting and he did it very nicely. The president will appoint one at each meeting.

The group is invited to meet at Jimmy Coons' home for the March 29 meeting (after school).

FINANCE

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LAND BANK

4% FARM LOAN

You can get a Land Bank Loan to finance needed farm improvements. For details, see—

THE DALLES NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASS'N

308 E. Fourth Street
 The Dalles, Oregon

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