

THE LANE COUNTY NEWS

W. A. DILL

Editor and Manager

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And Remember to Get a Stop-Over for Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1915.

MY HERO

He's a little old man with a scanty gray beard,
And stoops as he walks with a cane;
His step is quite slow, and forgetful is he,
For backward's the trend of his brain.

But back in those days of the long, long ago,
When Grand sire was then in his prime,
He shouldered his gun and marched off to the war
With heroes of Civil War time.

And Mary, his wife, through tear-dimmed eyes
Beheld him in uniform blue;
With pride in her face and prayer in her heart
That God spare her soldier so true.

Then with her children she spent weary hours
Spinning and weaving for pay,
That without sugar and coffee of wheat
Preserve them from starvation's prey.

From early gray dawn 'till the last candle's light
She toiled 'mid her prayers and her tears;
And only the Lord's Day beheld her at rest,
With sleep to dull sorrows and fears.

From the scenes of the battles came rumors of death,
Then of life, and of prison so grim,
With sick-hearted horror she thought of the squalor
And said, "It will surely kill him."

With leaden shod feet those three weary years
At last dragged away to their end,
With suffering grown older a thin, bearded soldier
Is home, there his last days to spend.

Then God bless my hero and grant that the rest
Of his life full of peacefulness be,
And give him a home in the mansions above
With Mary through eternity.

—C. H. S.

Springfield, Ore., 1915.

GOOD OLD WORDS BECOMING OBSOLETE

Boy, Girl, Child, Children—those are good old words, as ancient as the language we speak, and entitled to the utmost respect from people who lay claim to refinement and intelligence. Do you know, Mr. Goodman and Madame Goodwoman, that those words are in danger of becoming obsolete?

That is the fact. Just keep your ears open a little and you will soon be convinced of it. The new generation is about to thrust these old and distinguished members of the English language into outer darkness, and substitute therefor the cynical, low-pedigreed noun, "kid."

So true is this that one may spend the day talking with all the children he may meet, whether singly or in groups, and 99

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KNOW THY COUNTRY

I—Introductory

"Know America" is a slogan that should ring out from every school room, office, farm and shop in this nation. No man can aspire to a higher honor than to become a capable citizen, and no one can merit so distinguished a title until he is well informed of the resources, possibilities and achievements of our country.

This is a commercial age and civilization is bearing its most golden fruit in America. We are noted for our industrial achievements as Egypt was noted for her pyramids; Jerusalem for her religion; Greece for her art; Phoenicia for her fleets; Chaldea for her astronomy and Rome for her laws. Likewise we have men who will go down in the world's history as powerful products of their age. For, standing at the source of every gigantic movement that aways civilization is a great man. The greatest minds travel in the greatest direction and the commercial geniuses of this age would have been the sculptors, poets, philosophers, architects, and artists of earlier civilizations.

As Michael Angelo took a rock and with a chisel hewed it into the image of an angel that ever beckons mankind upward and onward, Hill took the desert of the Northwest and with bands of steel made it blossom like a rose, dotted the valleys with happy homes and built cities in waste places.

As Gutenberg took blocks of wood and whittled them into an alphabet and made a printing press that flashed education across the continent like a ray of light upon a new born world, McCormick took

a bar of iron and bent it into a reaper and with one sweep of his magic mind broke the shackles that enslaved labor of generations yet unborn, and gave mankind freedom from drudgery, and lifted the human race into a higher zone of life.

As Nelson organized the English navy and made England mistress of the sea, enabling the British Isles to plant her flag upon every continent washed by the ocean's waves, and to make footstools of the Islands of every water, Morgan organized a banking system that has made America master of the world's finances, brought Kings to our cashier's windows, the nations of the earth to our discount desks and placed under the industries of this nation a financial system as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar.

There is no study quite so interesting as progress; no sound so magic as the roar of industry and no sight so inspiring as civilization in action. A full realization of America's part in the great events of the world past, present and future will thrill every human heart with pride, patriotism and faith in Republican institutions.

Through the courtesy of the Agricultural and Commercial Press Service, the readers of this paper will be permitted to study America; her agricultural, manufacturing and mineral development, mercantile, banking and transportation systems which are the wonder of the world. The first article of the series will deal with transportation and will appear at an early date.

per cent of those boys and girls will refer to each other and to their playmates generally as the progeny of a goat.

Why? Because that 99 per cent of boys and girls hear little or nothing else among their elders. It is "kid," "kiddie," and "kiddo," and the least elegant of these three, "kiddoo."

The thought is, how does this strike father and mother who would like to be credited as reasonably cultured and refined citizens? Can such people say that they like this rather contemptuous slang of low breeding, as befitting their children, better than the sweet old English words—boy, girl, child, children.

In the discussion of this matter we are not straining after any high-brow, purist effect. We are simply stating a plain and palpable fact, that these splendid words, which denote something of the love and tender respect we have for our sons and daughters are by mere carelessness going out of use, so that in course of time parents will not say of their daughter: "She is our girl," but "She's our she-kid," or "little Nanay"; and of the son: "He's our he-kid," or "little Billy."

This is not a case of the survival of the fittest. It is the penalty of thoughtlessness.—Telegram.

MONEY AND TO SPARE.

Considering the complications which the war has brought about and the possible outcome of them so far as this country is concerned, there is assurance that if the worst comes we have plenty of money. It is said that in this sense we are in splendid condition. Possibly we never were better able to meet any demand that may be made upon us, says the Telegram.

Noting this assurance, a good woman acquaintance remarks on the facility with which we boast of our money and the willingness with which we would spend it if war should come and the purpose of spending it were to kill people and destroy property. Some pithy philosophy in that comment.

Why, indeed, should we hold ourselves to the profligate spending of money only upon occasion when killing and destruction are the objects? No intelligent person questions why we spend it on such occasions; but why not as willingly let go of it for constructive as for destructive purposes?

When war comes we spend tens of millions a week and when funds on hand are gone we borrow more to the illimitable credit of the nation, if that be necessary. But strange to say we would never do that to make men better, women happier and children more competent to face the duties that will come upon them when they are men and women. For these purposes we spend money, it is true, but not with the unchecked liberality with which we empty the treasure chests when war is on and some one is to be killed.

SEES A REPUBLICAN LANDSLIDE.

(Marshfield Evening Record.)

There is, indeed, a striking similarity between what is taking place here today and what happened in the days of the hard times 20 years ago. However there is a bright lining for the people—it lies in the certainty of a Republican landslide in 1916. You listen to the talk around you and you will hear scores say they will never vote the Democratic ticket again, and what is true on Coos Bay is likewise true all over the country. The people have had all they want of the Democrats, and are only waiting for the chance to show it.

STUDENTS ISSUE A FINE PUBLICATION

(Continued from Page 1.)

the commercial department. A picture shows the kitchen of the domestic science department.

The customary reports of student activities are made, and there is some very creditable stories and verse in the literary department.

The staff of the Annual is as follows: Editor-in-chief, Walter Bailey; assistant editor, France Travis; business manager, Lewis Grandy; assistant business manager, Albert Soleim; literary, Mae Lyon; society, Stella Mitchell; dramatics, Winono

Platt; art, Birdie Spencer; joshes, Orson Vaughn; exchange, Winifred May; athletics, Norton Pengra.



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