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MORROW COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER
Thursday, October 21, 1915.

SOME SCHOOL FIGURES.

If any one should ask how many enrolled school children there are in the country you can reply on the authority of the federal commissioner of education 20,000,000. You can then say in addition to this, and upon the same authority, that there are 218,000 students in colleges and universities and another 190,000 being educated in the normal schools as future teachers. Of the total school going population there is another 67,000 that attend professional schools. There still remains an unclassified 1,243,000 scattered throughout the country in other types of educational institutions than have been mentioned. The grand total in school attendance is placed at 22,000,000 employing a corps of 700,000 teachers, 655,000 of whom are engaged in the public schools.

Concerning the cost of this stupendous educational activity, which is preparing its army of 22,000,000 for efficient citizenship, the total estimate, as nearly as it can be determined, is \$750,000,000. That is a great deal of money, but it does not look so big when we are told that we pay more than a third of that amount every year as admission to moving picture shows and two-thirds more than it for the intoxicating liquors we drink. It contributes to our pride on the other hand as we learn that the cost of education in this country during 1914 was somewhat in excess of the value of the cotton crop, a little less than the value of the wheat crop, and about one-half the value of the annual harvest of corn.

There are other figures that show the progressive trend of the schools as a whole. They show that there is some improvement in the character and attendance in rural schools the country over, and that the farther west one comes the more manifest the improvement. They show a percentage of gain in high school attendance and in the completion of the high school course, and an increase in the patronage of professional schools and in the enrollment in colleges, universities and schools of technology, although standards of admittance in many of these have been raised.

These figures show, on the whole, that the educational life of the nation is decidedly on the up grade.—Portland Telegram.

WAR ON PROFANITY.

Seventeen thousand persons in Maryland's parade of protest against the use of profanity must have presented a formidable army. The Holy Name Society appears to have flourished in Maryland despite the proximity of Congress and the halls of Government and we may assume that the monster of profane vituperation has been dealt a fearful blow by the spectacle of such a force assembled to do battle. The incident is refreshing. The disciples of blasphemy and unhallowed speech have been multiplying almost unchecked under the complications and annoyances of modern life. Originally profane invective must have been inspired by boiling passions or incited by powerful provocation. No doubt the first curses were applied in all sincerity, although they implied a spirit of venom which rendered the impious practice no more commendable. Thereafter they became matters of habit and crept into the speech of peoples, even as rank weeds grow into their gardens, and were transmitted from generation to generation, each generation added a few flourishes of its own until the total product is now something fearful to behold.

Profanity has become so commonplace in the present day that it is uttered in our theaters and homes. Who has not heard the witless comedian set his audience in an uproar by some oath which should have won him a shower of decedent fruit? Hero and villain alike may swear with impunity. There are some depraved parents who carry profanity into their homes and use it in the presence of their children. Some perverse individuals are so much the victims of this unholy practice that every sentence is punctuated by a profane flourish. Doubtless it is a mere matter of habit with the average user of impious expletives. Possibly unconscious assimilation has much to do with the swearing habits of many. But the practice reveals a certain coarseness of fiber and lack of refinement. The Holy Name Society is undertaking virtuous work when it sets out to strip the unsightly weeds of profanity from human speech.—Oregonian.

NEWSPAPER DON'TS

Don't take your paper home. It's the most active and powerful factor in building up your town, and to support it would involve you in the work, says the Woodbury, Conn., Reporter.

Don't pay for it if you do take it. Newspapers are run on wind, and the editor wouldn't keep the money anyway. He'd most likely pay it in on his bills.

Don't fail to tell the editor how to run the paper. He has nothing to do but listen and keep his temper sweet.

Don't put your name to what you want published. It's the editor's business to espouse unpopular causes and take your chestnuts out of the fire. What hurts your business might also hurt his—but that's

different. Don't notify the editor when you change your postoffice address. He may lose track of you and you will escape paying the last two or three years of your subscription.

Don't forget to write on both sides of the paper. The operator might forget how to swear.

Don't write your communications legibly. Deciphering them keeps the editor busy and he is able to make an occasional blunder, which promotes good feeling all around.

Don't imagine that the newspaper has anything to do. Newspapers run themselves and the ravens feed the printers.

WHY SPEND YOUR OWN MONEY?

If anyone ever doubted the ability of British diplomats, this is the time for him to hang his head in shame. The luring of Italy into the fray was a triumph itself, but the plans of the British to permit the United States to carry the expense of the war will make that feat seem trifling in comparison if they succeed.

America is asked to supply the Allies with arms, ammunition and food to enable them to beat Germany. England promises to pay high prices for the supplies. But with the war costing \$21,000,000,000 or more a day, she hasn't the money.

Now she proposes to borrow it from American financiers who benefit by the war sales. They are to lend the money deposited by American citizens in these financiers' banks.

Then later, if the Allies win, and England is not bankrupt, the loans will be repaid.

This certainly is a scheme worthy of great admiration. There will be no immediate addition to the wealth of America as a result of the much praised war commerce, prices will go up here as a result of heavy foreign shipments, and while we operate the industries on our own capital, England will receive the output without paying a dollar form any years to come.—Seaside Signal.

KEEP THE DUTY ON SUGAR.

The necessity of not only preserving every present source of Government revenue but of drawing more heavily on some of those sources is at last impressing on the mind of President Wilson the wisdom of retaining the duty on sugar, at least until the emergency caused by the war is past. Beet-sugar production has proved so profitable that it might have increased, without the protection afforded by the tariff, and the consumer might have benefitted by lower prices had sugar become duty-free, but the disturbance of market conditions consequent to the war has deprived us of the opportunity to prove by experience whether that belief was well founded. The fact remains that exclusion from the world's market of the German, Austrian and Russian supply of beet sugar has held prices at a high figure. It has impressed upon us the wisdom of developing a domestic supply to supplement that which we draw from our insular possessions. There is no reason to believe that under present conditions removal of the duty would materially reduce the price.

The question then naturally arises, why not retain the duty and thereby encourage increase of the domestic supply to meet our own needs and at the same time to give the Government sadly needed revenue? A duty which adds only slightly to the price of sugar brings in so large a revenue as to be wise from a revenue standpoint alone. It has been so recognized not only by protectionist countries but by free-trade Britain also.

Were the present duty continued for a few years without change and then reduced, if at all, only by degrees as it becomes unnecessary for revenue and competition assures to the consumers the benefit of reduction the beet industry might be greatly extended and firmly established. Oregon soil is so well adapted to beet growing that a sugar refinery is now projected for Medford, and one may soon be erected in Portland. Oregon offers an extensive home market for beet sugar in the fruit canneries which are becoming numerous. The fertilizing properties of the beets are also so great that the production of other crops may be increased by the use of beet pulp from the refineries.

The American people are having an important lesson in the value of being economically independent of other nations. Let us apply it in the matter of sugar, as we are beginning to apply it in relation to chemicals, dyes and many other commodities, for which we have hitherto depended on imports.—Oregonian.

The Heppner papers say that a flow of artesian water has been found on the R. B. Rice farm in Morrow County with a flow of 240 gallons a minute. If artesian water exists in Morrow County it is safe to say it can be found in Gilliam County; all that is needed is some one with the enterprise and money to go down deep enough and the problem would be solved. If Mr. Smith, the spender for the O-W. R. & N. Co. would advocate artesian wells in this county he might accomplish something that would be of real benefit. Dr. K. I. J. McKenzie of the Plateau Land Co. has the money and Mr. Smith would do well to put the artesian bug in his ear. The money being spent in experimenting with dry land alfalfa, corn and the like would go far towards getting the water that would make

these crops a success and raise the price of the Doctor's land from \$25 to \$100 an acre.—Condon Times.

LEXINGTON.

Herb Olden, of Eight Mile, was a caller in Lexington Saturday.

J. H. Brad and family of Black Horse, spent Sunday in this city.

Mrs. Breshears and children have gone to Walla Walla for a visit of a month.

W. E. Barnett and Will Crow shipped two car loads of hogs to Portland Sunday.

Roy Tyler and family of Sand Hollow, spent Sunday visiting at the home of Lee Reaney in this city.

Rev. Powell, who was recently appointed to this charge by the Methodist church, South conference, held services here last Sunday.

B. S. Clark of Strawberry Flat, was transacting business in town Saturday. He reports farmers in his section preparing for fall sowing.

Mrs. W. F. Barnett, Miss Dona Barnett and Mrs. Francis Parker left for Portland Tuesday to spend several days visiting friends and relatives.

Ed Pointer is spending these days in Heppner as foreman in charge of the excavation work for the new Masonic building going up at that place.

John Moyer went to Portland a few days ago for medical attention. Word was received later that he was operated upon and hopes are now held for his immediate recovery.

Mr. Gregg, our former station agent, was down from Heppner Monday visiting friends in town. Mr. Gregg says he expects to be employed at a new station before long.

The Lexington R. R. station now has a genuine agent. Elmer Slocum of Heppner has taken up the duties of the office and in a short time will also have charge of the express business at this place.

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. has had a force of men changing their line through town. The change will be for better service than has been given to the public at any time in the past.

The work on the new school house is progressing very rapidly. The brick laying for the last story will be completed in a few days and then the roof will be put on. It is expected that the building will be completed by December 15.

Word was received here that Thos. Boothby died in the hospital at The Dalles October 12. His mother, Mrs. Susan Boothby of this place was not able to be present at the funeral. Thos. Boothby will be well remembered by early settlers in this vicinity. He came here with his parents in 1833.

Lexington high school football team paid Heppner high school a visit last Saturday. The game resulted in a tie score and from all accounts it was an interesting contest. Some of the players were slightly injured, a common occurrence in all games. Jim Kyle, mayor of Stanfield, was a business caller in town Friday.

FALL WORK.

Now is the time to prepare your ground for fall seeding, or in case you are unable to seed this fall, for the spring seeding. Early fall seeding on well prepared ground is the best for this county. But owing to the lack of early rains the seeding will have to be done late, or early next spring. Late fall seeding is preferable to spring seeding in most cases.

Get at the work as soon as possible so that you will be ready to seed when the conditions are favorable. Double disk your ground so as to cut up all stubble and trash and make a mulch. This puts your ground in ideal condition for plowing, as it breaks up the hard surface condition, and when it is plowed it fits closely in the furrow, uniting the two layers of soil. This eliminates the air spaces and prevents the loss of moisture. Plow a little deeper or shallower than you plowed before. If you have been plowing eight inches plow seven, or if you have been plowing five inches plow six this time. This varying depth of plowing prevents the forming of a plow sole and allows the plant roots and the moisture to enter the soil. Follow the plow the same day with the harrow as the soil breaks up finer at this time and does not bake, forming clods. Harrow once or twice more before seeding.

Run the grain through the fanning mill so as to free it from smut balls and small weak seeds. Treat it a couple of days before seeding so that it will have time to dry; not more than three days before seeding as it is liable to become infected again. Treat it with formaldehyde, one pint to forty gallons of water, and let it soak about ten minutes. Stirring the grain while soaking is a sure method of killing smut germs. Seed from 45 to 60 lbs. of wheat to the acre, but do not seed until there is sufficient moisture to bring the grain up. Do not seed too deep, but just deep enough so that all the seed is covered. Spring seeding should be a little deeper.—Orren Beatty, Wheeler County Agriculturist.

Mrs. Walter Cason came up from Ione Tuesday evening to be at the bedside of her daughter, Mrs. Pearl Henry, who is very ill.

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The little one-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Tucker has been quite ill from an abscess on the upper jaw, due to the cutting of a jaw tooth. The tooth was extracted and the boy is now on the road to recovery.

Jeff McFerren came down from the mountains Wednesday with one of the prettiest six-pointed bucks we have seen for a long time. He killed the deer in the vicinity of Pole creek, near the Potomus. He has sent the head and skin to E. L. Gonty, a Portland taxidermist, who will mount the animal.

Henry Blackman, a former well known Morrow county citizen, who now makes his home in San Francisco, arrived in the city last night and is visiting at the home of Phill Cohn.

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