

# THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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## RED SCHOOLHOUSES

Must the little red schoolhouse go the way of the once thriving little stage station? There is a very definite trend in that direction through the county unit plan which has been placed into effect in several counties of Oregon. Some say the county unit plan is the only means of getting the operation of schools on a firm financial basis.

Through the efforts of Miss Kistie V. Patch, teacher at Park school, a meeting will be held in Ontario today. The public has been invited and it is hoped the county unit plan will receive a thorough airing. Miss Patch has investigated the subject at length, most of her material coming

from Lincoln county where the county unit plan has been in effect for nine years.

During the nine years, Lincoln county built 23 new school buildings, paid for them in full and at the same time reduced warrant debt from \$124,592 in 1923 to \$13,915 in 1932 and bonded debt to \$12,900. This was done in spite of the increase in tax delinquencies from 24 per cent in 1930 to 40 per cent in 1932. If taxes had been paid at the average rate of other years, Lincoln county could have paid all outstanding debts, said A. M. Cannon, district superintendent.

Merging would not only save the county a respectable sum but the educational system could be improved under the county unit plan, its sponsors believe. Any teacher can handle a class of 25 with efficiency and a class of 40 in most instances. In addition to the waste brought about through under-sized enrollment, there is often useless duplication in school supplies, fuel, equipment, buildings, insurance and so forth.

The county unit plan deserves very serious consideration. It may offer a way out of the entanglements in which virtually all of the school districts of Malheur county now find themselves in. It may open the way to better educational facilities at less cost.

## EASTER BRINGS AWAKENING

Easter is the spiritual New Year's day. With the drab December days of the old year of the calendar comes the end and at the midnight another circle of months begins. Though we christen it the New Year and celebrate its birth with the ringing of bells, outwardly there is no change apparent and inwardly there is only the hope that change for the better and brighter may soon come. But with Easter day comes a real sacramental transfiguration of nature and of human hopes—the "outward signs" and the "inward grace" conjoin—the yearning of the spirit are answered from the earth and from the skies. The dead things have come to life. Beauty and splendor are returning to "soothe and heal and bless." Now the real New Year is beginning and its heralds are abroad everywhere in the land. With flowers, with music, with prayer and thanksgiving, with hopes renewed, we welcome its dawning. It is the day of resurrection.

Religion and nature both will meet in the miracles of rebirth. The hopes of immortality and redemption symbolized by the Risen One centuries ago are again given solemn pledge and sanction. From the ancient tomb we hear re-echoed that heartening question, "Why weepst thou?" From the sod, the trees, the shrubs and the flowers comes again the visible assurance that they were not dead but sleeping. To these symbols, spiritual and natural, the human heart must needs respond, and does respond, whatever its cares or sorrows, its wavering faiths or its buried hopes. Easter is our day of resurrected life and resurrected hopes, and to such rebirths all things are possible. Greet the New Easter year with a cheer and a song. Release the new-born hopes and faiths to grow and expand with awakening nature and the resurrected spirit.

## OPPORTUNITY

They do me wrong, who say I come no more  
When once I knock and fail to find you in;  
For every day I stand outside your door,  
And bid you wake and rise to fight and win.  
Wait not for precious chances passed away.  
Weep not for golden ages on the wane.  
Each night I burn the records of the day;  
At sunrise every soul is born again.

Perhaps it is the spring, when poetry is more in vogue than in any other season of the year, perhaps it is a mood, but whatever the cause, we enjoy the thought that the foregoing little verse by Walter Malone brings us at this hour.

It is a new thought, as we have all been told that opportunity knocks but once, and once only at each man's door. Unless he opens the door instantly, opportunity goes her way, never to return. But instead of a single visit, Malone says opportunity will come again and again—urging man to rouse himself. Think of the cheer to be found in these lines:

Each night I burn the records of the day:  
At sunrise every soul is born again.  
There is no discouragement there.  
No matter how many times we have ignored the summons of opportunity, she will come again. We can be ready with the new dawn.

## EDITORIAL TABLOIDS BY CLARK WOOD

While a man's house is still his castle, the beer barons are hopeful that it will no longer be his brewery.

Perfectly truthful persons are said to number but three percent of the populace. We'd no idea we were so few.

## Joy Riding

Days Are Near

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## Around the Country

Senator Kendrick of Wyoming, assistant democratic leader, McNary of Oregon, Republican leader, and Hayden of Arizona have urged the retention of Reclamation Commissioner Mead.

When President Roosevelt received his first pay check last week he sent 15 per cent back to the treasury—the same reduction he gave government workers.

A bill which provides a five-day week of 30 hours labor, all goods in interstate commerce coming under its provisions, was adopted by the senate. Its sponsor says it will put millions to work.

An injunction is holding up the new sales tax measure in Illinois and confusion is said to surround the law's operation.

Chas. T. Early, chairman of the state accident commission, died of a heart attack at Salem Monday. Early was named chairman of the commission two years ago by Governor Meier.

Hamilton F. Corbett of Portland purchased the Oregon copper claims near Baker Saturday.

The Ogden brewery was closed Monday until such time as Utah is certain no state law is being violated by manufacture of beer. Some beer from Ogden had been received in Nyssa—and more had been ordered. The beer manufacturing act, permitting sale outside of Utah, becomes effective with a new Utah code about July 1.

Governmental refinancing of farm mortgages, with a readjustment of the principal of the farmers' debts as well as a reduction in interest rates, was proposed in a special message to congress by the president. He said he would soon also suggest a similar plan for debt-burdened owners of small homes. A bill to enact the suggestion into law was introduced in congress, proposing a \$2,000,000,000 issue by federal land bank.

Father M. J. McMahan assisted in conducting the funeral service for Rev. Patrick J. O'Rourke of Baker Thursday. The Baker priest died last Monday after a lifetime of service, many years of which were given to eastern Oregon.

Mrs. J. D. Conner, 60, pioneer matron of Dead Ox Flat passed away last Friday in Weiser. She and her husband homesteaded their farm home in eastern Malheur county, her husband having passed away some years ago. Mrs. Conner was buried at Weiser.

## U. S. PAID OREGON VETS \$7,670,000

It cost the government more than \$7,670,000 in the last fiscal year to meet payment to veterans and their dependents in Oregon.

Of this sum \$2,619,318 was paid in pensions of 5,025 veterans of the Spanish-American war the Civil war, Indian wars, and widows and other dependents of these veterans.

To 3,231 World war veterans in Oregon, \$1,988,677 was paid last year as compensation for disabilities. To 2,470 World war veterans who claimed non-service connected disability, \$470,392 was paid.

For the maintenance of the hospital and soldiers' home services, \$48,545 was paid. Adjusted service and dependent pay cost \$17,330.

## Another Victory for MEAT



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## WILD STEER ATTACKS McDERMITT STOCKMAN

McDermitt—Cleo Achabal, of the 74 Ranch in Oregon Canyon, was quite badly hurt when hooked by a steer. He was taken to Winnemucca for medical aid.

Mrs. Archie Meyers returned home the last of the week after a trip to Nyssa, Vale and Caldwell.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Ward were visitors last week in Reno and Winnemucca.

Miss Mercedes Mendiata returned to her home in Jordan Valley after spending most of the winter with her sister Mrs. Joe Jaca of McDermitt.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Aubrey have returned after a winter's visit in California cities. They are again living at Opalite mining camp.

Funeral services were held last Thursday for George Crutcher at the McDermitt Indian reservation, with Miss Wright, Episcopal missionary in charge. Mr. Crutcher was kicked in the small of the back by a vicious horse which he was breaking. The injuries proved fatal.

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