

St. Helens Mist

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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

WHY NOT A PARENT-TEACHERS ASSOCIATION?

St. Helens is keeping right in line along other lines of progress and many of the parents as well as teachers have expressed a wish to add the above named association to the other branches of civic good, hence it is up to some of those interested in the co-operation of the school and the home to get busy.

Whether it is of more benefit to the parent, teacher or pupil is determined by locality, but each should reap some benefit from the banding together of parents and teachers for the betterment of the children thru co-operation of parent and teacher.

We read an article in a local paper written by some man or woman; suppose he or she was a parent, lamenting the lack of politeness in the school children and advocating that the teacher should teach the children manners. That is, for instance, teach Johnny to tip his hat to ladies and Jane to keep her gum out of sight. The teacher does all these things, for teachers of today are models of all sorts of excellence, but they might teach manners 'till the end of time and only have a surface effect upon a child without good breeding. The home must co-operate with the school. One little fellow was taught to say "thank you," and "if you please," in the proper places, and was thought to be such a polite little fellow; one day he was asked if he ever forgot to say "thank you," etc. He replied, "not when I'm here, but I don't say it at home." This is only an instance of one phase of the co-operative system. There are many questions that could be settled and the work of the teacher augmented by the help of the parent.

Then the benefits derived by the parents should in itself appeal to them. Some of them never meet the instructors of their children. They trust their care and teaching to strangers five days of the week, and do not concern themselves about school affairs except to inquire when something distasteful is done by the child, "Did you learn that at school?" Parents are waking up all over this great state of ours to the fact that they must keep up with their children or take a seat in the chimney corner and be considered a back number. It used to be that boys and girls were sent away to school and college and after finishing their education were ashamed for their friends to meet their old-fashioned father or mother, who had stayed at home and furnished the means. This has passed, and by the mingling of parents and teachers the parent is enabled to keep in touch with the educational systems and have a broader view of the relative duties of parent and teacher. Also much good might be derived by talks on subjects of interest to both and discussions participated in by the parents. It also gives the parents an opportunity to get acquainted, being bonded together by a mutual tie, much can be accomplished for the social factor of the school.

Each association has their own idea of carrying on the work, but to have a strictly Patron and Teachers' association, it has been found more successful to conduct it without the presence of the pupils. In some places the pupils furnish the programs; this is not the object, but the parents and teachers furnish their own programs and entertainment and when the pupils give entertainments, attend and see what they have accomplished.

Some children would be surprised that their parents really knew anything along the new educational lines, but are always proud to have them meet their friends when they do find that father and mother can understand and are with them. Before the child started to school the parent was infallible—"father said so," or "mother said so," settled all disputes, and in a few weeks the father's or mother's opinion is questioned should they chance to differ with teacher. "Teacher said so," is then the watch word, and if they are not keeping up with the procession, they begin to question their own knowledge and let "teacher" be the guide, thinking things have changed since they went to school, so leave it to others. While it is left in good hands, they are left out of it and there is a gulf between parents and children. So the parents have awakened to these facts and are lining up by co-operation with the instructors of their children for the better welfare of home and school, and consider at least one meeting a month well worth while for the benefits to be derived from such an association.

On the morning of October 30, the governor of Oregon will be given a military escort from the St. Francis hotel, San Francisco, to the Panama Pacific fair grounds. At 12:30 in the afternoon ceremonies will be held at the Oregon building, participated in by Governors Withycombe and Johnson, Mayor Rolfe and President Moore.

Whatever may be said about the conditions and whoever may be to blame, the fact remains that there is a wide gap between the six cents received for hogs by the farmer and the thirty-five cents paid for bacon by the consumer. Who gets the difference? The producer is entitled to an answer and if this can come through legislative halls, it is up to him to see that he has proper representation in those halls.—Rural Spirit.

IGNOBLE SONG.

I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier,
I brought him up to be my pride and joy,
Who dares to put a musket on his shoulder,
To kill some other mother's darling boy?
The nations ought to arbitrate their quarrels,
It's time to put the sword and gun away.
There'd be no war today
If mothers all would say,
"I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier."

There is a terrible, triumphant crash about that last line, says the London Spectator, "I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier!" With a good tune it must be invincible. But what are we to say of the political faith behind this verse of captivating ugliness? It is surely an appallingly unforseeing faith, even a mad one. It is the equivalent of faith that has brought China to impotence time after time. Detachment from brutal military affairs is the mark of the truly civilized man. It is noble in a nation to renounce and scorn every kind of military junction when it is exercised with a view to aggression, oppression, or the satisfaction of vainglory or greed, but to maintain an army for the purpose of insisting that the right shall prevail, that the weak shall not be exploited, and that quiet people shall enjoy the privilege of being quiet—this, in an imperfect world, seems to be a holy enough principle for any right-thinking mother to instill into her darling boy. Let us rewrite the verse for her (since we can not escape it):

I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier,
I brought him up to hate all row and fuss,
But he will put a musket on his shoulder
If other people try to bully us!
The nations ought to arbitrate their quarrels,
It's time to put the sword and gun away,
But they will rule the day
If they make mothers say,
"Well, after all, he's got to be a soldier!"

What sort of a home would that be in which the first thought was how to avoid danger, how to be a successful shirker in the battle between right and wrong?

CLEAN LOT OF BOYS.

It is a source of a great deal of pleasure, not only to parents but to the patrons of the school and citizens generally, that our High School football team are good losers and what is still more commendable, that they are gentlemen. While they met with defeat over at Ridgefield, they took their medicine like men and received the following compliment from the Ridgefield Reflector:

"The St. Helens boys are a clean lot of fellows and took their defeat with good nature. There was not a particle of rag chewing during the contest and the best of feeling existed between the two teams. It is a pleasure to entertain as pleasant a bunch as the St. Helens team and their supporters proved to be."

It is stated that the consumption of ice cream in the United States is greater than in all the other countries combined.

An 8-months-old calf was sold at the Holstein sale at Courtland, N. Y., Friday for \$10,000. The calf's sire is King Segis Pontiac Alcartia, and his dam Woodcrest Peterje Elma. He was bred at Middletown, N. J.

Since the beginning of the war 2000 French public school teachers have been killed on the battlefield and 8000 have been put out of service, according to statistics given out today by the ministry of public instruction. The number of mobilized teachers is 30,000.

Hallowe'en comes on Sunday. This will give Young America three Hallowe'ens, provided parental vigilance will permit. Parents who forget that they were young once, are opposed to all kinds of Hallowe'en pranks and festivities.

In the name of justice, will the liberating of criminals from the Oregon penitentiary never cease? We were in hopes with the new administration that the decision of courts would have greater consideration and criminals would receive their just punishment.

Approximately \$7000 was cleared by the Oregon state fair this year after paying a debt of \$1000 left from last year, according to an announcement made by W. Al Jones, secretary of the state fair board. The gross receipts at the fair were about \$35,000, and of this amount \$21,000 was taken in at the gate. Wednesday of state fair week, which was Salem day, had the largest gate receipts in the history of the fair, approximately \$8000 being received, which is \$300 more than any other day's gate receipts since the fair was instituted.

The keel of the \$15,000,000 superdreadnaught California was laid Thursday at the Brooklyn navy yard. The superdreadnaught will be the first large war vessel to be propelled entirely by electricity. Secretary Daniels said electric motors had been thoroughly tested on the collier Jupiter and a most satisfactory type developed. The California is expected to be launched within fifteen months and to be placed in commission in about three years. The vessel will be of 32,000 tons displacement, length 625 feet and beam 97 1/4 feet. She will carry twelve 14-inch guns and twenty-two 5-inch guns, as well as having four submerged torpedo tubes.

The editor of the Rainier Review uses unusual language, and we feel like lending a helping hand in its interpretation. He speaks of a citizen who did not expect to draw a pair. We suppose he refers to horses and should have said "pull." Then the man "who sits in the game." Men do not sit when they are out after game, but no doubt the word was used thoughtlessly, as men always walk when after game. Also a "pair of jacks" is mentioned. This refers to a stock breeder, but they seldom have more than one jack, "Jack pot" refers to a cooking utensil, which can be found in a hardware store, and is used to cook jack rabbits in. It was the worst mixed item we have seen lately, but all great men make mistakes occasionally.

STATE AND COUNTY

Veneta will have a sawmill in the near future.

Oregon City has a new bank, \$50,000 capital.

Springfield city tax will be less for the coming year.

A milk condenser plant is talked of for Cottage Grove.

Allen & Lewis of Portland, expect to build warehouses in Eugene.

It is rumored that the Smith Pulp mill at Marshfield will run soon.

Halfway—Contract awarded for construction of municipal pipe line.

Milwaukee will soon advertise for bids for extension of water system.

Reports say a new planing mill is to be built in Roseburg this winter.

All wheat warehouses in St. Johns filled to overflowing, first time in years.

The Finnish Brotherhood society of Astoria, will erect a \$10,000 garage.

Sumpter—North Pole and Columbia mines now working steadily with good prospects.

The largest Carload of apples ever sent from Hood River has just been shipped to Petrograd.

The Dalles—Fill for O. W. R. & N. terminal finished and track laying will begin in a few days.

It is expected through train service from Coos Bay to Eugene will be given the public May 1, 1916.

Baker—Dredging operations in Sumpter Valley for mining, requiring capital of \$500,000, being planned.

The Willamette Valley Electric from Mt. Angel to Portland starts first train service Sunday, October 17.

Wouldn't it be nice if a few of those steamship companies Portland in after could sail under the American flag.

The North Pole mine in the Sumpter district has 40 men taking out and shipping large quantities of high grade ore.

Simpson Lumber Co. of North Bend, made the largest cut on record in September for a North Bend mill, 3,415,650 feet.

Reports say that the Hill interests will spend large sums constructing additional wharves and enlarging terminals at Flavel.

Jitney fares have been reduced to six for a quarter. The jitneys might next provide free life insurance policies to their patrons.

Oregon, California and Eastern filed articles of incorporation and plans to construct 400 miles of railroad in Eastern Oregon.

Astoria—After a long controversy, council voted unanimously to grant Pacific Power & Light Co. street car franchise on Franklin avenue.

The true way to help bring prosperity, is to lighten the burden of the taxpayer and take some of the shackles off business and industry.

The S. P. Co. and the city of Corvallis have agreed upon terms for a satisfactory franchise for the electric system of the S. P. Co. in that city.

Oregon City passes stringent ordinance for jitneys, requiring \$5000 bond, \$50 quarterly license and continuous service between 6 a. m. and 10 p. m.

The reduced round trip rate of 25c granted by the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co., between Portland and Vancouver, is making heavy inroads on the jitney traffic, especially as the street cars are more comfortable in cold weather.

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