

Prohibition

IN RUSSIA none can buy a flagon of vodka or old rye; the men must ride the water wagon—the country's all gone dry. The law affects all grades of critters, the humble and the rich; and those who lately sipped their biters now hit the pumpovitch.

WALT MASON.

Just the Truth--That's All

THE HERALD does not like to seem to be placed in the position of opposing bond issues for school extension, and this declaration is not justly to be construed. But The Herald is willing to go on record as saying that not another dollar should be voted for the high school, and that the proposed building should step at the foundation and concrete skeleton already contracted for, without roof, wall, or window, unless, at the same time the money is provided for its continuation, funds can also be had for augmenting the school plant in the Chihuahuas districts.

Our continual, heartless, senseless neglect of our people in that section in the matter of school facilities constitutes a black chapter in our record. It is subject to no palliation, excuse, or explanation. It is an almost unpardonable sin which can be only partly expiated by immediate abandonment of our settled policy of neglect, and immediate adoption of a fairly progressive policy of decent care for the welfare of our Spanish speaking population.

More than 3000 children of school age in this city are not attending any school. If they desired to attend school, or if they were subject to compulsion, there would be no room for them anywhere. Most of the 3000 are children of Spanish speaking parents. The few schools provided for these people are scandalously overcrowded. From one of the schools in a populous section comes the word that there are 120 children for every room. That one fact disproves the often-heard falsehood that these people do not appreciate schools and would not use them.

One hundred and twenty children to a room! An attempt is being made in this particular school to meet the problem by having contiguous sessions in three shifts of three hours each for the children, and two shifts for the teachers. And even with this expedient, and similar desperate efforts in another and larger school, there are over 3000 children of school age out of school and with absolutely no place to go if they desire to have the advantages of elementary education.

It is a travesty on our boasted progressiveness. With some three quarters of a million already invested in schools, we proudly start construction on a high school plant to cost \$500,000. But we set aside not one dollar to take care of those who need it worst.

The Herald has no need to protect its desire for and support of good schools and its constant advocacy of improvement in school facilities. But it is firmly of the opinion that if any part of the larger school program must wait, it should be the high school and not the needful provision for the 3000 children for whom there is no provision at all. If some part of the program must wait, it should be the high school and not the meeting of the Chihuahuas problem.

The Herald is fully aware that this is a most unpopular stand to take; the new high school will be magnificent, serviceable, showy; it is necessary to complete the school system, and it is not itself extravagant—Pasadena, with only three-fourths El Paso's population, has invested \$1,000,000 in her high school, and has bought \$1,000,000 worth with the money. On the other hand, to serve Chihuahuas and do justice by those thousands of neglected children down there makes no show, brings no great pride or satisfaction to the people, and cannot be used to advertise El Paso as a great educational center and center of southwestern culture. Too many of our people look upon the Spanish-American population as foreigners, as outsiders, having little or no claim upon us. In many lines of activity there is a disposition to leave them without the pale.

It is suicidal. Set aside, if you will, every consideration of human obligation, of neighborliness, of decency—there is yet left the consideration of our own self interest. Some of our people denounce their Spanish-American neighbors of the lower ranks as unworthy of assistance or cooperative endeavor, unworthy even of ordinary facilities for decent and sanitary living, most of all unworthy of modern schooling which, it is flippantly said, they neither understand nor appreciate.

But even if some of our people really believe that what they say of the Chihuahuas population is true, they ought to be able to see that the surest way to perpetuate their sad condition and sink them deeper and deeper in the scale of citizenship, is to withhold from them the elemental facilities of decent and normal community life which are afforded to the English speaking part of the population.

If Chihuahuas is a menace to the health and peace and welfare of the city, it is our own fault. We have only ourselves to blame. We have set for those people the standards of the Dark Ages and by our neglect we have compelled them to conform to them. Do we not realize that by withholding schooling from them we are doing exactly what we condemn Russia and Turkey, Portugal, Serbia, Mexico, and Spain for doing? A few days ago The Herald had something to say about the "literacy test" for immigrants. Do we not realize that we here in El Paso today are creating illiterates at a fearful rate by refusing to provide elementary schools for thousands of our own youthful citizens?

If Chihuahuas does not progress as we should like to have it progress, if some of the people down there do not live as we should like to have them live, if they fail to rise to the possibilities of life in this splendid city, who is to blame? Can we possibly shift the blame? Is it not all upon us? Let each El Pasoan ask himself this question: What would become of the petted children of the best of our homes if those children were to be condemned to neglect and squalor and darkness of enforced ignorance to which we El Pasoans condemn the children of Chihuahuas?

This is no sudden outbreak or departure from The Herald's established policy in school matters. Many years ago when the new high school proposition was first broached—that is, long before the present high school was built—The Herald took the stand that elementary schools for all the children of school age ought to precede any new provision for higher education, or at any rate accompany it. This attitude has not been departed from. The Herald has been fighting the fight for Chihuahuas for unnumbered years, and the fight will go on until a degree of justice shall be done down there.

Two years ago when the school board first proposed the \$400,000 bond issue for a new high school building, The Herald resumed the fight for decent school facilities for Chihuahuas. In the column adjacent to this today The Herald reprints portions of various editorial articles which appeared during the year 1913 bearing on this question, and now earnestly invites the people to read them in connection with this appeal.

The present condition is practically as old as the city and its public school system. At no time have adequate facilities been provided for the schooling of the Spanish-American children, particularly those in what is known as Chihuahuas. The need has always existed and it has always been ignored, or practically so. Every school board and every city administration back to the beginning must share with the general citizenship (which is chiefly responsible) in the blame, but more particularly those of the last 10 or 12 years since El Paso began to emerge into her real city class and began to have adequate funds to work with.

A few days ago the school board formally decided to petition the city council to authorize a \$250,000 bond issue, \$200,000 to continue work on the high school and \$50,000 for Alta Vista. Alta Vista is necessary. But if we must choose between continuing the high school construction work, and building up the elementary school plant in Chihuahuas, then The Herald asserts that the work in Chihuahuas is the more necessary of the two. If it is not necessary to choose between them, let us have both by all means. But let justice be done on the south side, even if realization of our ambition for a modern high school plant must be postponed another year.

It will require \$250,000 to bring the school facilities of Chihuahuas up to a decent, modern, progressive standard. The first steps will cost \$100,000. Then let the rest follow as fast as the bonding power of the city will allow. Our present policy of neglect breeds myriad evils, of which a fearfully high death rate is by no means the greatest.

CONTINUED NEGLECT OF OUR CHIHUAHUAS PROBLEM IS THE MOST COSTLY AND DANGEROUS MISTAKE EL PASO IS MAKING—A GOVERNMENTAL ERROR, A SOCIAL MENACE, AND A FRIGHTFUL ECONOMIC WASTE.

The "Made in El Paso" show gave El Paso quite a boost. Many a man went home and ordered a stained glass window or a colic pup or a new mattress, while the women planned for cans of barlett pears, little pasta rings in their soup, survey quilts, new finishes to their floors, made over rugs, a coffee percolator, and an azalea.

Some Vital Facts About Our Schools

Extracts from Herald editorials of two years ago which are as true today as they were then.

"ABOUT THE NEGLECTED 3000?"

(From Herald, June 13, 1913) There is only one thing the matter with the school board's proposal to ask the city for a \$400,000 bond issue, and that is that the proposal does not do for enough; no provision is made for the 3000 children of school age now attending no school—most of them in Chihuahuas.

The suggestion that a new high school and an addition to Highland Park school will give ample facilities for the next ten years is nothing short of astonishing. The population of El Paso will more than double in that time and that of the public schools, the primary and intermediate schools. The new high school will not supply this need.

A high school is badly needed—no body can deny that. But with 2000 children already without schooling or school facilities, the extra money that is to be expended for the high school is a waste.

As a matter of fact, it is not the adequate extension of the primary and intermediate schools more important even than the extension of the higher schools.

El Paso needs both. El Paso can afford both. The next call on the bonding power of the city is unquestionably that of the public schools. But the plans should be broad enough to include provision for the thousands of children without schooling, and for the recent housing, training, and teaching of the multitudes in Chihuahuas now shamefully neglected.

There is something needing radical readjustment when some 2000 El Paso children between the ages of 7 and 17 are attending no school, and when no facilities are provided for them if they should be induced to attend school.

This problem, it appears, must be met with a bond issue in connection with the proposed new high school. Continued neglect of our Chihuahuas problem is the most costly and dangerous mistake El Paso is making—a governmental error, a social menace, and a frightful economic waste.

"EL PASO'S BIGGEST PROBLEM"

(From Herald, June 14, 1913)

If we must choose between providing adequate schooling for the younger children, with vocational training especially in the Chihuahuas district, and providing modern facilities for the high school, the former is the more important. But it is not necessary to choose between them. El Paso can afford both, and must have both.

If the proposed bond issue be not large enough to take care of the neglected Chihuahuas, then the biggest problem El Paso has before her today, that of Chihuahuas, sanitation, vocational schools, and recreation grounds, all supplemented by constructive work in behalf of women and children, offer the only practical solution for permanent results.

"THAT SCHOOL BOND ISSUE"

(From Herald, Aug. 16, 1913)

Local taxpayers would probably favor a bond issue for school extension purposes, provided due provision be made for the Spanish speaking population. There is no doubt that the existing public school buildings, with one or two exceptions, need thorough overhauling and rebuilding, to make them safe and adequate. None of the buildings can be called modern with the exception of the two latest structures. Some of the present buildings should be entirely demolished, and the land used to better purpose, for they are not worth spending any more money on.

Considerable more should be done to bring the physical plant of the public schools up to modern standards. This money cannot be secured through ordinary tax channels, and must be had from bond issues. But no plan should be adopted that does not call for making provision for the Spanish speaking population of Chihuahuas.

Thousands of children of school age in Chihuahuas are attending no school. What can we expect of these people when we neglect them so shamefully? There is no provision for them, there are no accommodations, there is no effort to make schooling attractive to them. This is our greatest educational problem today.

The existing grade schools must be made adequate to present needs, and the Chihuahuas problem broadly met, before it is possible to talk of building a modern high school to cost several hundred thousand dollars. Let the first steps be taken along the lines above indicated. The taxpayers will readily vote for \$100,000 or \$150,000 bonds for meeting the most pressing needs.

Life In the Trenches

BY GEORGE FITCH, Author of "At Good Old Sitwah."

As the present war goes on the wisdom of the American republic in staking its great reputation in the mild climate of the southern states becomes increasingly apparent. During all the present winter millions of European soldiers have been living in trenches far from the comforts even of an American street in midwinter—for an American street is usually well drained, while the trenches of the world are not. The trenches are a cesspool, and it is necessary to chop the garbage out in the morning at great labor and expense.



Just as a trench becomes comfortable its occupants must rise and charge forward 1000 yards.

Winter in western Europe consists of blizzards and blaws and mud and ice in equal parts. After a private soldier has lain for a few days in a trench paved with six inches of mud, frozen feet come almost as a relief. In the trenches one does not have a chance to bathe or to wash, and with any persistence, or drink hot lemonade for incipient pneumonia. It is impossible to waste any time keeping warm because the entire business of war is to make it warm for the enemy.

We cannot help thinking that if Parliament, the Reichstag, the House of Deputies and the Duma were to be compelled to legislate in trenches with children at their feet, a crawling, suffocating half-way up and unlimited strapped just overhead, some new and very intelligent ideas regarding the trench business might be evolved within a week.

They say that when the soldiers have lived in a trench for a few weeks they become very comfortable and begin to dig deep caves and installing baths and stoves and a card table. However, patriotism demands that just as a trench becomes sufficiently comfortable to keep a hog in without arousing the Humans Society, its occupants must rise and charge forward 1000 yards, driving the

enemy before them and lying down triumphantly once more in the mud and snow. Trench life is wasted in Europe, particularly upon the English, who have already learned how to live happily in unheated houses at a temperature of 40 with fog trimmings, but it would be a great education and help to millions of Americans. After an American soldier has survived a campaign in a trench he would look upon the modern street car with more fortitude and would be able to hang onto the roof during the rush hours in January or stand on the slush covered floor in perfect comfort. He might even be able to live in a city flat building operated by a janitor's union without murmur or complaint.

The Daily Novelties

THE VILLAINESS.

She shuddered fearfully. "The woman is a villainess," she thought, "but surely, surely, she could never have the heart to kill my child!"

She looked down at the little sleeping child, so unconscious of impending annihilation. "The threatened," she muttered. "But no, she could never bring herself to do it. Black villainess that she is, it would kill me. My only child!"

And as she looked at her sleeping child, she came to her eyes a light which said that she would defend its life with her own.

Yet the villainess was black enough, even for that. Gliding up while the mother slept, she took the kitten by the back of the neck and dropped it in a bucket of water. But the mother had her revenge. Some time later, she appeared with another litter of seven.

The high school comes next, and ample provision should be made for a school plant fully equal to the best to be found anywhere. Cities of 50,000 to 100,000 with vocational features fully provided for. The high school plant, including the final payments on the ground and the cost of grading and parking, will approximate \$500,000, and the amount is none too much to spend for the purpose.

"USING SCHOOL BOND MONEY" (From Herald, Dec. 20, 1913) If \$200,000 be all that can be made available this year, no part of it should be spent on construction work for the high school.

Part of the money should be used to prepare the grounds for future use, and of the remainder the greater part should be used for new construction of adequate school and playground facilities in Chihuahuas, and for construction, additions, and repairs in connection with the ward schools; what remains may then be held another year until the fund can be made adequate to the need of the high school plant.

QUESTIONS ON CURRENT EVENTS. From Providence (R. I.) Journal. There are some current questions that will be likely to baffle the classes in the new college course of "general information." For instance, who is the present president of Mexico, and who was president last Friday?

Students of the El Paso Schools

MONTESSORI system was first introduced into the public schools of El Paso by Miss Anna Washburn, the director of the kindergartens of the Lamar and the Sunset schools. Miss Washburn, at her own expense, bought the Montessori equipment and the school board had a special set of cabinets constructed in which the equipment could be kept when not in use.

Miss Washburn has Miss Emma Hoffmann as her assistant in the kindergarten work. The children of the Sunset kindergarten are:

- Grace Alexander, Ruth Allen, Portia Andrews, Newcomb Brunner, Louise Binford, Kathleen Beard, Thelma Cannahan, Juliet Cohen, Marjorie Cook, Jane Deun, Dan Duke, Clarence Duriam, Mabelle Elliott, Herbert Floss, Richard Froendthal, Josephine Goodman, Laura Haddock, Bertram Hirsch, Ralph Howell, Ethel Irene Howe, Glen Evelyn Hubbard, Hascal Hatfield, Arthur Hense, Walter Jencke, Alfred Hill Johnson, Jimmie Lewis, Mary Anna Lissou, James Lucas Lindsey, Katherine Liscomb, Dorothy Landa, Constance de Lille, Gertrude Mathias, Elizabeth Moore, Emmett Meisel, William Morris, Howard Miller, John Beall Neff, Jessie Ormsbee, Morris Rosenwasser, Evelyn Rotermund, Marguerite Shawl, Doris Claire Secord, Frederick Stevenson, Betty Whitelock, Cora Wilson, Josephine White, Charles Byron Weddell, Helen Zeiman.

The names of the high eighth grade of the Vilas school will appear tomorrow.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

"THE 'Amigo Lito' fund will continue until the members of the destitute Mexican families are able to secure positions through which they can support the family," said A. Schwartz.

"There are many families in El Paso who are in dire need of the bare necessities of life. Most of these families are refugees brought to El Paso by the United States government and then turned loose upon El Paso to shift for themselves. As many of the masculine members of the families have been unable to obtain employment, a great many have been in actual want. The citizens of El Paso are entirely too humanitarian to permit these people to suffer from privation and actual starvation. And it is certain that as long as such conditions exist as are now known to exist that El Pasoans will with their usual liberal contributions largely to the support of the fund."

"For the past three weeks I have been in El Paso," said Guy Harper, of Boston, Mass. "Wherever I stop I take an interest in the political situation. If there is a campaign on, I have heard many political speeches and seen many political campaigns at different times in different cities. And I want to say that I have never seen a more clearly conducted campaign than the one being held in El Paso at the present time. There is practically no slander, or mud slinging."

"The project of building an addition to the Y. M. C. A. is one that should meet with the approval of every business man in the city," said C. A. Kinne. "It has been a long time since the Y. M. C. A. is the best indication of the moral tone of the community. When the present building was erected it was thought that it would accommodate the needs of the city for years to come and the fact that it is totally inadequate is one of the best indications that could be had of the huge growth of the city in the last six years."

"West Texas is in much better shape financially than east Texas," said H. H. Meiser, of Galveston. "The eastern part of the state, of course, is affected by the low price of cotton, the manner in which this cause removed west Texas and especially El Paso would be far in the lead. I have a good deal about the heavy tax on automobiles being responsible for the good times here and, to some extent, this undoubtedly is true, but in my opinion, the prosperity of El Paso is due to the increasing number of automobiles with the resulting influx of money."

"The movement for the relief of the Mexican refugees in El Paso is meeting with the general appreciation and support of the public is being shown by the voluntary contributions that have been received," said Zach Lamas, club. "It is gratifying to a committee in such a cause to receive liberal contributions when these are solicited, with the increasing number of automobiles in use in this city, is undoubtedly a sign that the public is back of the movement."

"The idea of requiring all drivers of automobiles to pass examinations and receive licenses to drive automobiles is a very good one and one that might be enforced in El Paso with much benefit," said Elmer E. Elmer. "The licensing of drivers has been found a good way for handling a part of the traffic problems of cities larger than El Paso and, with the increasing number of automobiles in use in this city, would be a good move for public safety."

"Miss Fawn Lippincott has returned from a delightful visit to Stop 15. She says the place is growing wonderfully and a Majestic theater, some 20 or 30 English sparrows. It pays to be good, but nobody ever got rich at it."

"Mrs. H. A. Bethen is reported as being very ill. Mrs. H. P. Nonke has cards out for a party to begin on the 14th. Miss Minnie Finney will entertain the 11th grade Saturday evening. Capt. J. T. Heall has returned from an extensive business trip to Mexico. F. Match is able to be about again after having been ill for a few days. Mrs. M. P. Philbrook has returned after a seven months' visit in Mexico. J. S. Dodds has been granted a permit to erect a time home in the Campbell addition. Will I. Watson, for the past year with the El Paso Saddlery company, has resigned and will go into another business in the near future. Last Saturday evening Miss Lella Trumbull entertained the Charing Club club. The club will meet next Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Will Brown. A team hitched to a water wagon made a short but destructive run from the S. P. depot this morning. Harry Cyrus, the driver, was thrown but not injured. A. E. Blair has come here to locate from North Carolina and will fill the position in the U. S. general offices made vacant by the resignation of Clarence McKie, who has taken another line of business. The Women's club entertained this afternoon at Ubbie hall. Among the attending were: Mrs. Chase, Mrs. Tuttle, Miss Fitzpatrick and Mrs. Carpenter. Receipts for the monthly numbers were rendered by Mrs. Chase, Mrs. Leonard and Miss Fitzpatrick. Among those attending the informal reception of the Women's club which was given Monday were: Mrs. Meames, Howell, Jones, Magoffin, Hartman, Houghton, Schuster, Chilberg, Bray, Small, Dawson, L. C. Morris, Harper, Wells, Russell, Clark, S. T. Turner, Howe, Ramsey, W. Burkes, Jamison, Cooper, Galt, H. C. Foxall, Aratlin, Rhoden, Coles, John, Bowden, Seawater, Chase, Baum, Dullman, Kohlberg, Cooper, Beach, Mrs. Higgins, H. Irvy, Carpenter, and Mrs. Higgins. Paul, Ford, Adams, Niles, Fitzpatrick, Westcott, Martin, Kemp, Howell and Cartwright.

INDOOR SPORTS

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INDOOR SPORTS. GIVING A NEW BURLESQUE COMPANY THE ONCE OVER IN THE HOTEL LOBBY.

WATCHING A COMPANY OF ACTORS

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WATCHING A COMPANY OF ACTORS. I CAN'T TELL YOU NOW—THERE ARE LADIES PRESENT.