

# THE CITIZEN

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## The Public School Needs Us

There has been some suggestion from good women of this town that the fathers of children who attend the public school are not showing enough interest in the activities of the children and consequently the work of our public school teachers is not given the attention that it should be given.

The public school is the cradle of knowledge. It might be called the incubator of progress and achievement. When have you been over to see how your children are getting along and incidentally to say a kind word to the teacher who is doing so much to insure the success of your child's future? Day after day our public school teachers are doing good work—excellent work—but we simply take it as a matter of course, not realizing that they appreciate or deserve a word of encouragement from the fathers of the children for whom they are doing so much. Time after time the children have put on excellent and interesting programs at the public school, programs which are the result of hard work, both on the part of the child and the teacher. These programs will mark red letter days in the lives of these children. How much more joy it would bring into their lives if father and mother were present to see them perform. Do not neglect the public school. We do not propose to speak for the teachers, but we feel that they would welcome visits by the parents of the children, especially on days when the children entertain.

In a few years the destinies of this community will be in the hands of these children. The best heritage that we can leave them is one which will best fit them to handle the intricate problems that are to confront them in the days to come. The cradle of this heritage is in the public school. We cannot afford to neglect it. Let us visit the school, support the teachers, and offer words of encouragement and appreciation freely.

## Twelfth Anniversary of the Boy Scouts

This is Anniversary Week of the Boy Scouts of America. It is the 12th, and 12 is the minimum age at which boys may join the movement as tenderfoot scouts. So the movement itself is a tenderfoot.

Every scouting community has its program. The boys are not all alike, all of them will include the solemn reaffirmation of the oath and law by every scout. This annual ceremony will take place at the troop meetings or at public meetings, according to the agreements of local authorities. According to information from Scout Headquarters in New York City, 315,000 merit badges have been awarded in the past 12 years. Over 400 men, expert in their different lines, gave voluntary service to the Boy Scouts of America in preparing 71 illustrated pamphlets as textbooks upon these merit badge subjects. There were 4,200 Star members; 4,300 Life members and 2,000 Eagle scouts today. More than two million boys have joined the scout movement since its beginning 12 years ago. It is the largest boys' organization in America. It has more boys in uniform than both the Army and the Navy combined. It is the great Peace Army of future citizens and is destined to be the one organization in America that will lift the standard of citizenship of tomorrow.

Berea has had a scout organization for the past four years. It has had its varying degrees of successes and failures, but today it is launching upon a new era. Every boy who is a member of the Berea Troop has reconsecrated himself to the principles and ideals of the organization, and every new boy who comes into the organization will come in with a determination to make good as a scout.

The boys are fortunate in having as their leader, Mr. Benton Fielder, who was once a boy himself and who is able to think and see as boys do, and to appreciate boys' struggles, and give them his best thoughts in working out the ideals of the great movement.

God speed to the Boy Scouts of Berea and of America.

## Sinning with Flowers

Several people in Berea—students, teachers and citizens—are receiving tempting invitations by mail to purchase flowers for their friends in connection with Valentine's Day, Easter and other occasions. "Roses, violets, or sweet peas with unusual Valentine touches, \$3.50, \$5.00, \$7.50 and \$10.00. Gift boxes \$3.00 and upwards."

Surely it is a beautiful thing to remember our friends, and flowers are not commonly considered sinful! Nevertheless, when the world is in such a period of distress, when \$3.50 will save a child's life in India or China, and when many children in Madison county are suffering from under-nourishment, we maintain that it is sinful to use commercial flowers to express our love to our friends.

It is one of the simplest and surest axioms of value that we should spend money for things that last. Any gifts to friends may be sinful if they prevent the saving of those who suffer; and the gifts we do make will be all the better if they have a lasting quality. A book or a picture will testify to our sentiment long after flowers have withered.

## Evangelism!

Much is being said, and much more should be said, about present day evangelism. The first question that arises is, "Who is qualified to discuss evangelism?" There are people who would tell you that the ordinary layman knows nothing scarcely about the program and methods of evangelism, therefore only the clergy should be permitted to speak upon this subject. For the past generation the speaking upon evangelism has been so much confined to the clergy as to almost make it an indissoluble subject by the laymen, but whom is evangelism supposed to affect primarily? Ordinary laymen and reputed sinners. We, as laymen, have some opinions upon evangelism, and they should be expressed.

One minister will come into the community and hand out to the unregenerated man, and to the entire congregation so far as that is concerned, a carefully done up package of theology and evangelism with the statement something like this: "Here it is in the only authenticated, authorized, prescribed form. Take it and be saved, or reject it and be damned." Another evangelist comes along and offers you a different package of salvation and declares that it is the authorized form. Each one forgets that religion is a personal matter; that Christ came to save individuals and that there are as many ways by which individuals can be saved as there are individuals themselves. The greatest evidence of the divine wisdom and power of God was His creation of man. All men are made in the image of God, and at the same time, except from the common strain of humanity that runs thru all, no two are alike. It has always been, and will probably continue

to be true, that there are a variety of ways of making Christian decisions, and yet there are people who will hold up before a Christ-seeking, yearning soul the idea that a particular type of Christian experience in conversion is the only method. In spite of this preaching which we have heard from infancy, we have seen many varieties of Christian decisions that were permanent and true.

Another mistake that evangelism is making in many parts of our country is in trying to stifle investigation and education. We've Christ in the world today. He would invite all the investigation, the philosophy, and the science that could be brought to bear upon the true religion of God, for under the microscope of investigation and scientific analysis true religion and Christianity are magnified and made more glorious. Many of the theologians with their present day methods of attacking problems are on trial, and their success in meeting the issues of the day will depend upon the broad-mindedness and liberality of their attitude toward the spirit of investigation which is the unconquerable spirit of the age. We sometimes tremble at the results that are liable to follow the alienation of the growing race from the Church of Christ. And to what is that alienation due? It is due to the unwillingness of many of the leaders of the church to recognize virtue in the practical studies and the marvelous development of science and kindred branches. The type of evangelism that paints to an unregenerated world pictures of a seething hell flowing in liquid fire is losing its grip. The fear of death no longer stops men in their onward course because men are not afraid to die. The glory of God's universe, the matchless love of Jesus Christ and God the Father, the desire to serve humanity in righteousness are the only effective appeals that touch the present day American. Narrowness, bigotry are no longer tolerated. Orthodoxy can scarcely cope, and the Gospel of the eternal vengeance of God makes no lasting impression. To the average layman Christianity means truth and love. Sometimes truth will bring us into serious and sore conflict. It brings opposition, but in the end it will win. The gospel of love has always been attractive; has always made its appeal; we see love in every turn of life; it can be nothing other than "the greatest thing in life" because carried back to its final definition it is God. It is the prayer and the desire of the common work-a-day Christian that there may come into our midst a reconstructed theology that will place the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ in its proper setting and relationship to mankind.

## The "Living Wage" Bill

The minimum wage bill, introduced by Senator Simmons, of Covington, has now been placed on the calendar of the Senate and may come up for a vote at any time. This is one of the most important bills that will come before the Senate, and its passage will put the State of Kentucky in line with other progressive states which have legislated to ensure that no working woman shall receive less than a living wage. The success of the system in Kentucky is doubly assured, as the bill now before the Senate contains in substance all of the best that has worked successfully in other states.

There has been some objection offered to this measure, on the grounds that if it were put into effect in large industrial centers, the increased cost of labor to the employers would be so stringent as to throw large numbers of inefficient working girls out of employment and thus add to the burdens of society. This is not really an objection; it is simply an apology and a very poor apology at that. Indeed, such a provision, in addition to saving women from the ruinous results of the sin often resorted to by underpaid working girls, it would tend to lift from the care of society all those unfortunate women who are the victims of ill health early in life as a result of trying to live on a meager wage.

It has been found that most girls who appear inefficient, on less than a living wage, become efficient workers when their toil ensures them life and comfort. Furthermore, in industrial communities where the minimum wage has been in effect, it has led to a more efficient organization of industry. An employer, somehow, when forced to pay a decent wage, will see to it that there are the minimum amount of leaks in his industry. If there are any industries in the State of Kentucky that cannot survive and pay their working women a living wage, we are constrained to believe that the State can survive without such industries.

Let your senator know at once that you are counting upon him to support this measure.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SOLDIERS AND THE RED TAPE

Now there were two soldiers, one of whom was large and the other small. The big soldier was drafted when the war was almost over, and sent to a training camp, where he drilled and fattened for three months and gained fort pounds. When the war was over he went home without ever having left his native state.

Therefore, because that he had saved his country, he considered every man, woman and child and all the Americans yet unborn as his debtors. And he asked his government for compensation, a pension, vocational training, reconstruction, money for cigarettes, money for pipe tobacco, for an attendant, for an assistant attendant, for a groom of the bed chamber and for an hundred changes of raiment. All these things were added unto him, and he bought Life Insurance, a dressing gown and slippers and took a wife, so that Solomon in all his glory was not so well arrayed. And he abode in such luxury as he had never dreamed of in the days' before his military career, and he waxed exceedingly.

Now the little soldier, forseeing the great catastrophe that was to engulf the peoples of the world, had volunteered, and he went with the first division of his countrymen that ever trod the sacred soil of France.

He carried his rifle in many battles and did his duty humbly without question or hesitation. He went over the top, he carried hand grenades, he did his bit on outpost and sentry. And when the day of the great battle came, the morning star looked sadly down upon the fields of France and the Yanks were ready.

The little soldier advanced into Hell with the remnant of his company. And even as he helped to smite the enemy, even as the enemy was flying in confusion, a wave of German gas swept down the lines and a mighty shell burst above the head of the little man, and he fell and

dropped the bayonet that was red with the blood of his country's enemies.

After a few hours he was found and carried to an hospital by a member of that organization that follows all the ways to bind up wounds and ease the pangs of death among the soldiers. He was sent home in a beautiful ship, but he left his strength and half a lung in France.

When his ship arrived he limped ashore, and when he saw the broad fields and mighty hills of America, he said, "Yea, now am I content. I have done the best that I could for my country, and now my country will care for me." And after that he had come to his home and rested himself for a few days, he said, "I perceive that I am growing weaker. I will apply to my government, and I shall have physicians and food and lodging and raiment and they will heal me of my grievous wounds."

And he applied to his government and they sent him a paper to fill out; and no man might understand what was printed thereon. And it was not filled out properly. Then after a season the government asked for seventeen affidavits. These he sent, but they did not contain the proper information; and after a season a new carload of red tape was opened and the authorities desired to know the color of his grandmother's hair. Now this lady had died before the little soldier was born, and many weeks elapsed before an ancient man could be found who was able to furnish the information. And when the man had been found, behold, he had known the wrong grandmother. And the soldier grew weaker in the meantime. But when this information was at last gotten and sent to those who desired it, and after they had given it solemn consideration, they spent many more weeks considering what would have been the probable color of the lady's hair if she had been living at present. Not arriving at a satisfactory conclusion, a com-

Once you have me no man can take me away. —Thrift

## MODERN METHODS

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MAIN STREET BEREA, KY.

mittee of nine experts took the matter under advisement, they handed in their report and recommended that the little soldier's case be reopened, but the records containing his name had been lost.

When the little soldier heard it, he coughed up a mouthful of red tape and expired.

He was clothed in a shroud of red tape and buried at government expense. He was carried to the graveyard in a hearse lined with red tape. The harness and trappings of the horses were of red tape. The driver was tied to his seat with red tape. The casket was lined and covered with red tape. It was lowered into the grave with cords of red tape. When the grave had been filled, a bunch of beautiful roses was laid upon the mound, and they also were tied with red tape.

This parable attempteth to shew a condition, but toucheth not those who so richly deserve such compensation as they are receiving.

—Alson Baker

## WOMAN'S CLUB

On Wednesday afternoon, February 1, members of the Woman's Club assembled in group meetings.

These group meetings have a fascination peculiar to themselves and attendance is always good.

The Literary and Home Economics group met with Mrs. Hirschy.

After a short business session a Dante program was rendered, under the direction of Mrs. Hirschy, which was both instructive and entertaining, especially was the reading from Dante's "New Life" by Mrs. Ridgeway, enjoyed.

The Music and Educational group met with Mrs. Clark.

During the business session the members heartily endorsed the Educational program now before the State Legislature.

Then followed a very interesting program on the noted musical composer, McDowell.

Mrs. Smith gave an interpretation from his compositions and a solo. A piano selection by Mrs. Edwards delighted everyone present. Other members gave a biography of his life and interesting items concerning his compositions.

The meeting of the Health, Social Hygiene and Civic group was postponed until Tuesday, February 7.

On Monday night, February 20, in Vocational Chapel, some stereoscopic views from Dante's Divine Comedy will be shown by Dr. Weidner. All members of the club are invited.

Mrs. Frank Abney, Reporter

MARGARET STAHL  
Berea College Chapel, Monday,  
February 13

Amongst American women Play-Readers, Margaret Stahl is probably the most widely known, the most highly honored, and her position as a great Artist, the most securely established. In her more than twelve years platform experience she has lived one of the busiest and most exacting lives, but she has made everything in her experience and study contribute to the one end, her platform art.

One of the chief features in Miss Stahl's presentation of a play is that she is distinctively a creative artist. She is not an imitator; she is not a mimic. Imitation is not a virtue; originality is. And Miss Stahl is preeminently a Reader with insight, originality and power. Thru the most winsome personality she introduces her own emotional and intellectual conception; she seeks naturalness and humanity in her characterizations, rather than any affected or imitated accent or elocutionary trick.

If the stamp of public approval represents real appreciation then Margaret Stahl has had that in abundance. Probably no Reader today has a finer record of recalls than she.

## St. Valentine's Mission.



When winter's at his coldest  
And coldest  
And boldest,  
Then cometh good St. Valentine,  
To show that love is burning  
And sighing and yearning,  
And breathe upon the wintry earth  
his tenderness divine.

When life is at its bleakest  
And meekest  
And weakest,  
Then cometh good St. Valentine,  
To show that love is rosy  
And wistful eyed and cozy,  
And breathe on every torpid heart  
his tenderness divine.

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