

# The Harrodsburg Herald

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**Our School System Is Faulty—****Fails To Fit Itself To Pupil**

Our public school system is very faulty in that it attempts to do the impossible. It attempts to fit the pupil in every case to the system instead of the system to the needs of the pupil. Were every pupil in school of the same mental capacity of the same ambition and the same financial status, then a general fixed course of study could be pursued. Since this is not the case the course should be more flexible.

The greater number of high school pupils will never need much of which they are asked to acquire in the school in order to receive "credits." Credits for the purpose of receiving eligibility to strive for more credits. Credits seem to be an educational yardstick to be laid down on a person to measure them to see if they may go to college. This is the only instance where this yardstick is used or useful.

The credits yardstick means nothing when the high school graduate comes before the business man, the banker, architect or editor. What they do not care for in a pupil's credits is whether they have or have not read Virgil or Horace. What they do care for is whether the young person has acquired the knowledge that will make his entry into the job he is wishing to take up easy.

We feel that our schools should give our pupils who are not to go to college and university, a more practical education.

To the pupil who is most certain to seek employment in a place of business should have special training for a business career. All business is run on or should be on a dependable basis. The ethics and principles of sound business are applicable in every case the world over.

To the young man and they are many, who either by circumstance or choice will pursue agriculture should have the training most needed to his life work. Virgil or Horace will not come to his aid in his farm problems. But a knowledge of soil that will not allow him to be ignorant of why he should not do this and should do that in his cultivation of land would be what he needs. To know the science of breeding, is as important to him as is anatomy to the doctor.

To advance in the art and science of farming he must be taught in school those principles which will insure his occupation to be profitable. He must be taught that this is a basic industry and to it must be brought a stability through intelligent co-operation. He must be taught that the farmer will have to devise his own business protection through organization.

We would say that the basic part of much of the education for girls should be home economics. It is very much more important that a girl is acquainted with the elements of home making than algebra and geometry which she will likely never need.

We dare say that Superintendent Ensminger and the school principals of the county could arrange a more adaptable course of study than the state is requiring.

We would have more commercial classes, agricultural classes, home economics classes and music classes. We would diversify some system of athletics that would be for the whole school and not for a few of the best physical specimens. The present expenditure along this line is unfair to the ones needing physical culture most.

We can imagine that there will grow up from our present inefficient school system some day a practical system that will recognize the need of the pupil.

**Soil Conservation Program Not The****Old A.A.A. Disguised in New Dress**

From all developments thus far, it appears that those who jumped to the conclusion that the Administration's new Soil Conservation Program is merely the old AAA in disguise have guessed wrong.

In the first place, the new program does not contemplate any minimum diversion of crop land from soil-depleting crops to soil conserving or soil-building crops.

Moreover, Secretary Wallace has announced that farmers shall be paid only if they actually divert their land from soil-depleting to soil-conserving or soil-building crops, and if they actually build their soil. To an unbiased observer, this is soil conservation in fact.

Wouldn't it be well for the social order in general if all of us were a little slower to believe that politics or some other hidden motive was the mainspring behind movements that on their face are for the common good? One reason for government is that it alone, in many instances, is capable of the effort necessary to carry out such programs for the interest of us all as does the program for the conservation of our most precious heritage—the soil.

At the very moment partisans were calling the new farm program a "subterfuge," the ferocity of floods was a grim warning that a careful and long-time plan for the care of our soil and forests is imperative.

It has too often been overlooked that one of the objectives of the old Agricultural Adjustment Act was the conservation of soil resources. Critics in their eagerness to discredit the Administration, deliberately subordinated or entirely obscured this objective and the accomplishments under it. These critics have failed to give credit to the AAA for already having increased by more than twenty-two millions the acreage of crop and devoted to the cultivation of erosion-preventing the soil-conserving crops.

There may be need for minor alterations in the new farm program; for improvements; for administrative flexibility. But in view of the lesson of the floods and the dust storms, the necessity for the program should be taken for granted. A sound structure can be built with that premise as a starting point and if, as an indirect result of such a plan there should be a prevention of a return of those burdensome surpluses that brought starvation prices for farm products, would not that give the program added value both for the American farmer and American industry?

The flood waters Sunday night in Mercer county is one an object lesson of the necessity of withdrawing much of our land, where erosion is apt to start, from cultivation of crops.

**A Foolish Tax Howl**

Over at Danville the Commercial Club was led into a fight on the Administration in the matter of opposing the proposed tobacco tax. The usual alleged plea is that the tax would be taken off of the price of the weed on the market floor. Of course, this is purely a mistake. All the cost of tobacco, as in other matters, is passed on to the consumer. It is good doctrine to tax the luxuries and non-essentials of life and leave the burden as light as possible on the necessities.

If there were enough time to go before the people and correct the false statements going forth to the effect that it will hurt the market price, we would favor the passage of the tax. It is possible that some of the agitation is being done by those in the employ of the tobacco companies. If so, their noise is not to be countenanced. Our Senator Miller feels that he will oppose the tax inasmuch as there has not been enough time for a public appraisal of the possible effect of the bill. Were we in his place, though feeling as we do, we would oppose the bill.

**"Nix On Fight Game"**

PULLMAN, Wash. . . . "Dad told me to go in for athletics, but to stay away from the fight game," said Jess Willard, Jr. (above), as he came out for football and track at Washington State college. The son of the former heavyweight champion stands 6 ft. 2 in. and weighs 196 pounds.

**PIONEER PARK NOTES**

(H. C. Wood, Curator)  
With rabbits in the woodpile,  
And squirrels in the horn tree,  
Birds everywhere—fish in the pool,  
Our zoo is fair to see.

Mr. Chalmers Todd and wife, and Mr. and Mrs. Wylie Mitchell, of Midleton, Ohio, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Soaper, were visitors at the Park this weekend. Mr. Todd is a relative of the Todd family, whose daughter, Mary Todd, married Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. George Stone, who died recently, the same day his wife was buried, did much of the beautiful stone work in the park here, especially the flagstone walks and terrace.

A recent visitor at the Mansion Museum, on seeing a picture of L. D. Hockersmith, which hangs in the Confederate room, remarked that he had heard this man tell of his escape along with John Hunt Morgan, and another Confederate soldier from an Ohio prison, in which they had been confined. Mr. Hockersmith helped to dig the tunnel through which the prisoners escaped.

**Hospital Notes**

Mrs. Addie Wilson, Hotel Harrodsburg, entered the hospital yesterday for treatment.

Mrs. Jack Stopher was dismissed from the hospital last week.

Mrs. Flora Scott is recovering nicely from a major operation which she underwent Wednesday.

Mr. Donald Martin, of Perryville, is improving under treatment.

Mr. H. T. Gritton, Salvisa, is improving after a recent major operation.

Mrs. Kelly Perkins was dismissed from the hospital Wednesday.

Mrs. John Freeman has returned to her home on the Danville pike, having recovered from a major operation.

Mrs. Befty Redwitz, Harrodsburg, is improving satisfactorily under treatment.

Mrs. Lester Salmon, of Salvisa, underwent a major operation Tuesday and is doing nicely.

Mrs. Eugene Wells is improving under treatment.

Miss Frances Ray is recovering from an appendectomy.

Mrs. Gorman Brummett is better after a recent major operation.

Mrs. Edgar Gaither returned to her home on Beaumont avenue Wednesday after a prolonged illness at the hospital.

Mrs. James Houchins was dismissed from the hospital Tuesday, having improved under treatment.

Mrs. Oscar Davis is improving after a major operation.

Mrs. Ovie Rogers was dismissed from the hospital Monday.

**Explosibility of Dusts**

One of the principal factors in the explosibility of dusts seems to be the degree of fineness of the dusts, says a writer in the Washington Star. The explosion appears to be the propagation of flame through a very finely and uniformly divided dust cloud. This flame travels at a very rapid speed, building up considerable pressure, thereby producing what we ordinarily call the explosion. It has, therefore, been extremely difficult in certain instances to determine definitely when the fire ended and the explosion started. It would appear that any fire might result in an explosion if combustible dust clouds were present.

**OPERA HOUSE**

Tonight-Friday  
Fred Astaire—Ginger Rogers in "Follow the Fleet."  
Special Matinee at 3 p.m.  
Fox News.

The "Camel-Back" Engine  
Designed about 1850, having a sloping fire-box, and the cab located in the center of length of the boiler.

Have Four Eyes  
Tropical four-eyed fish are able to see both in the air and water below, as they skim along the surface.

**POULTRY****KEEPING POULTRY  
HEALTHY ADVISED****Vital Points Suggested by an Authority.**

By Roy S. Deasline, Poultry Department, North Carolina State College, WNC 8400.

Keeping the flock healthy is one of the vital points in a successful poultry business. As a means for protecting the health of laying birds, the following suggestions are given:

Provide dry, open front, inexpensive houses that will be free from drafts in cold weather.

When possible, put wood or concrete floors in permanent laying houses.

Place the roost poles level with a screen beneath so the birds will not have access to the droppings.

Clean the dropping boards at least once a week. Clean the houses as often as the litter becomes dirty.

For all flocks of 25 or more birds provide yards, allowing one acre for 300 to 350 laying birds.

Have two yards, if possible, so the birds can be changed occasionally from one yard to another.

Treat birds for parasites, both internal and external, whenever they are present. But do not deworm hens while they are laying.

Take precautions to protect growing stock against internal parasites and disease, especially coccidiosis, or bacillary white diarrhea.

**Wild Turkeys Are Being****Produced for Illinois**

An experiment to raise wild turkeys in a domestic manner is being tried by the Illinois department of conservation for restocking areas in the state suitable to wild turkeys. Breeding birds with a wild strain were obtained in 1930 from Garnard K. Leach of Kirkwood, who has been experimenting with the breeding of wild turkeys for nine years on a farm near Lesterburg, Mo.

Young hens from broods of wild turkeys were domesticated in pens until mature. During the mating season, their wings were clipped and they were placed in pens in woods accessible to wild gobblers. Mating was successful and Leach now has the fourth generation of these crosses. They show the markings and wary characteristics of the real wild turkey, Leach said.

For continuation of the experiment this year the conservation department of Illinois has 150 birds. When they breed in sufficient numbers they will be released.—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

**Lanterns Guard Turkeys**

Western sheepmen often place lighted lanterns on poles at night near their flock to keep coyotes away. Many turkey raisers in the Great Plains follow the same plan to protect their birds. Coyotes usually are less daring when they see a light. To get them to "clean" ground, farmers often raise turkeys at some distance from the farm home. Such flocks are more likely to be attacked by coyotes—especially when they roost outdoors. "Coyotes are naturally afraid of anything that is unusual," says the bureau of biological survey of the United States Department of Agriculture. "The cans tied together on a pole and rattling in the wind also frighten them, but once accustomed to such devices they are likely to begin their depredations."

**Egg Auctions**

Pennsylvania is a great state for auction selling. Four years ago poultrymen around Doylestown, Pa., tried an egg auction. The idea has since spread into Montgomery, Lancaster, Chester and Northampton counties. Eggs and poultry worth more than \$1,000,000 were sold during the first six months of 1935. Farmers get about ten cents more a dozen for their eggs, buyers have a more regular supply, and consumers get better eggs for breakfast, as the auction method puts a premium on quality. . . . New Jersey is credited with being the first state to try egg auctions, the first one having been held at Flemington. Many eggs shipped by Pacific coast producers are sold by auction in the big New York market.—The Country Home.

**Alfalfa Good for Birds**

Under natural conditions, hens only lay during the season of green feed. But we have changed their laying habits, and get nearly one-half our production during the time when green feed is not available outside. Some substitute must be provided if we are to maintain the highest production throughout the winter, as well as to keep the flock vigorous and healthy. In the midwest, the regular use of alfalfa is the answer, says Wallace's Farmer.

**Drinking Fountains**

In cold weather, the drinking fountains must be kept from freezing. One way is insulating them with several thicknesses of flexible insulation, on the top and around the sides down almost to the water in the pan, fastening with wires twisted fairly tight or by sticking with emulsified asphalt or roofing cement. If the insulated container is filled with hot water, it will stand severe cold for several hours without freezing.—Wisconsin Agriculturist.

**Spring Coats, with or without, Furs**

NEW YORK . . . Fashion designers say smart dressers can have their furs or leave them alone in Spring coat styles. Above, left is a self-checked gray woolen, three-quarter length coat with full draped sleeves, trimmed with a flattering collar of blue dyed fox. . . . Right, is an imported navy woolen coat, sans fur, with bishop sleeves and belled waistline. Both hats are of straw, navy and veiled.

**Booker T. Washington's Progress**

Booker T. Washington, educator, was born in Virginia in 1856. He began work after the Civil war in the salt furnaces and coal mines of West Virginia. In 1872 he worked his way through Hampton Normal and Industrial Institute where he paid his expenses by acting as a janitor. Following this he taught. In 1881 he accepted a call to organize and become principal of a normal school at Tuskegee, Ala. This is the outstanding school for the colored race. The degree of A. M. was conferred upon him by Harvard university in 1883 and of LL. B. by Dartmouth in 1901. He died in 1915.

**No More Loans**

"My friend Hi Ho, the sage of Chinatown," said Hi Ho, the sage of Chinatown. "I would gladly proffer it were it not for his manner of superiority, which would place me under an eternal sense of obligation if he accepted it."

**Works of Nature**

Nature produces the beautiful with a lavishness which finds no parallel in the works of man.

**Peter the Great Aided Russia**

Peter the Great, who ruled the Russia during the early part of the Eighteenth century, transformed Russia from a weak and backward country into a mighty empire. He established schools, hospitals, a military and naval academy, built cities and enlarged his country's borders both in Europe and Asia. He traveled widely in Europe, greedily absorbing knowledge which would enable him to improve his country. He studied navigation, medicine and engineering; and to learn the secrets of shipbuilding he worked for seven weeks in a Dutch shipyard.

**Greatest Mass Fist Fight**

The greatest mass fist fight in history took place in Queretaro, Mexico, in 1831, when the Indians persuaded the invading Spaniards to lay down their arms and fight like men. So the next day at dawn, writes Mrs. C. S. Aiken, New Orleans, Louisiana, in Collier's Weekly, thousands lined up on each side and the battle began—and raged for 12 hours before a Spaniard knocked out the last Indian and took over the city in the name of Charles V of Spain.

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