

The Harrodsburg Herald

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When Will We Learn Our Lesson

That Prevention is Better Than Cure?

When will our community learn that prevention of fire and crime is possible. It seems we build our houses to burn and rear our sons for crime. One of the last houses to burn in town was a house not built expressly to burn but built so it was possible to be burned easily. In some countries there would have been two prosecutions because of this fire—the property owner and the builder. The state holds a certain interest in all of our property. It is state wealth. To destroy this wealth injures the state. The loss of property by fire either falls on the insurance company or the owner; sometimes both. In any case the state loses wealth.

Our court sent a lad to the House of Reform this week. The sentence of a boy in such a case is an impressive procedure. One falls into wondering if the Reformatory will reform or further deform his character. One sees the father turn away after the sentence broken-hearted, while the son shows much bravo and indifference. Then you say, "No the reformatory will not reform him."

The cost of maintaining this boy has begun for a four-year period. Were the moral aspect ignored and the cost to the state counted, it would show that it would go a long way towards maintaining a modernly conducted play place for youth in Harrodsburg. Somehow we feel that had this boy been kept busy at play during that period when he was most susceptible to yielding to wrong impulses, our town would not have the stigma of sending out a criminal of such tender years.

When will we learn our lesson? Will we go on permitting the spoilation of youth? Or, will we seek the use of the crime prevention agencies. Aggressive church and Sunday school activity in behalf of youth, and a union of these resources in an organization like a Y.M.C.A. to plan supervision of youth while not in school seems imperative if we would check crime.

Crime is the most expensive item in the nation's expense account. Is it right to permit crime hazards?

In October each year the fire underwriters put forth extra effort at fire prevention. Why not have a crime prevention week just to teach youth that crime never pays. Let's put one on in Harrodsburg! It may be an odd thing to make some gesture at preventing circumstances such as sent this lad from the Mercer Circuit Court to the State prison, but we feel it would be worthwhile if it saved just one boy.

The crime prevention lesson looks simple—when will we learn the lesson?

We Rise To A Word of Praise

For Our Regular Coal Dealers

As we emerge from the throes of the worst cold spell we ever experienced, we must turn to and thank our coal dealers for the part they played in preventing much suffering, and perhaps many deaths, from freezing.

To begin a companion thought to this we must go back to last summer and fall and review the condition which destroyed the local coal market and cancelled a score or more jobs for coal handlers in the coal yards. Our streets became the coal yards for twenty-five or more mountain coal trucks. Homes were besieged many times daily by the coal hawk. The price for a ton of coal varied according to the "fit of desperation" of the seller. Coal buyers refused to buy coal until late in the evening when a load could be purchased very cheap.

In buying this coal, one was not getting coal from a mine known to furnish coal of a standard grade. On the contrary, the coal was just inferior and never considered of commercial grade.

The weather this winter, that rendered the roads impassable to traffic stopped short the coal hawkers on the streets, and at your front door. When the coal bins got empty, the old reliable coal merchants were turned to. Though their coal stacks were not as great as formerly, when they were justified in making elaborate preparation for each winter, they took care of the public. They went into supplying the demand at any cost when they went into the coal fields for spot coal.

When Harrodsburg awakes in the spring and starts her clean-up campaign she will have a major indictment to return against that spurious coal burned here this winter. We believe it will be realized that the greatest winter damage ever done to our homes was caused by this coal this winter. The most destructive agency to a metal roof is a sulphurous coal. Such a coal mars the paint and the stone dust laden air that enters our homes has taken its toll on walls, draperies and furniture. This is a part of the price we pay for cheap coal and by far the greater part we pay.

But we started out to salute and praise our local coal dealers in Mercer county. Gentlemen, you did a noble piece of work and we hope we are all grateful to you.

Her Birthday Cake Had

Eighty-Four Flaming Candles

Mrs. John H. Lucas, the most beloved and honored woman in Osceola, Mo., was once a little Sunday school girl at the Harrodsburg Methodist church. Her father was its superintendent. Mrs. Lucas, who was before her marriage Miss Nannie Cardwell, left Harrodsburg as a young bride 65 years ago.

Clinging to her early training she carried on religious activities in the new county to which she had moved. This speaks much in testimony of a firm and purposeful character.

On February 1st, her eighty-fourth birthday, a reception was given in her honor with ninety invited guests.

To eulogize such a character and commend its emulation to our young women we reprint an extract from a long article in the St. Clair County Democrat, published in Osceola: "Her chief interests through life were her home, her friends and her church. Even now no weather is too inclement for her to go to church and Sunday school. A woman of simple tastes she has always practiced thrift for herself and household but has been a prodigal giver to her church and all community needs. In her home, when it was small as well as when the walls widened was the 'prophets' chamber.' Her charities varied from the youth seeking an education to the aged servant of God, worn out in work for which he had been meagerly paid. Her gifts have been large not only at home but also in the mission field. Strong in body and in mind, Mrs. Lucas has through the passing years been a 'shelter in the time of storm' to her family and to her friends whenever sorrow has overtaken them. Her interest in local and national affairs has in no way diminished. A voracious reader, much of her time is passed with her religious papers, books, and newspapers. During the sixty-five years she has been in Missouri, her home paper (The Harrodsburg Herald) has come to her each week from Kentucky."

Is there not enough of thrill and romance in the life of the little Sunday school girl and later the most beloved woman of her community to commend itself to youth to dare to emulate it?

What Makes Common Carriers

Polite As You Find Them Today?

The politeness of the common carriers today emphasizes how autocratic they were several years ago. An untoward circumstance in their business has brought them to their present very pleasant method of public contact.

We can illustrate how very autocratic were the help in the days of the carrier's monopoly. The express and railroad people showed their patrons very little consideration. This was before the advent of the automobile trucks. We have a sample case in mind. It was with the express company. We had produced some printing which totaled some 450 pounds or more. We attempted for two days to ship this printed matter to the Presbyterian Seminary in Louisville. One would naturally think the express company would desire this business enough to see that it was moved promptly thro the office which was not over 300 feet away. A watch had to be set to find it open. When it was found open we were informed that the boxes could not be received at that

time though it was in the regular business hours of the day. Pressed for a reason for not receiving heavy express then, was that the wagon was not there. Such an idea for a business place. We thought then that their course was such that some day it would change.

At that time many railroad clerks thought they were called on to be czars. One dreaded to inquire about freight. Now matters have changed. Express and railroad people solicit business and make you feel that they appreciate it.

The Southern Railway is taking an additional step in service. Last week they extended their service to complete freight and delivery service. Your freight will now come all the way to the spot on your floor wherever you designate.

If these carriers had been earlier in their movement for complete and courteous service, the huge trucks that now clutter up the highways might not have developed the present efficient service they are offering the public.

This lesson learned late by the carriers, perchance might be reviewed, to advantage, by those in other lines.

If You Have Never Had a

Driver's Code, Adopt This One

We have been an automobile driver for twenty years. We have never been in a very great hurry when driving. During our experience as a driver we have always wanted to be regarded as courteous on the highway and never do a thing that would be considered discourteous under other circumstances.

We are reminded that there is an unwritten law of the sea that is followed religiously—the desire to save life. Why can't we have the same high purpose on land?

Such voluntary action is always based on necessity. We are now thinking of the thousands of cars on the highways, thundering ever forward. Life-saving in such traffic is now as important as life-saving at sea-traffic. Such rules as the following, adhered to with strictness would save many a life and perhaps yours.

1. Before making a turn, get in traffic lane nearest desired direction.

2. The rear vision mirror is for something beside looking for traffic officers—watch cars behind you.

3. Never take chances in passing and do not crowd the right-of-way. Saving seconds is no excuse for causing one unnecessary risk of life.

4. Learn the feel of the car on the road, like the captain does his ship. Study the action of the car on the dry pavement, wet pavement, gravel road and icy road. Even the highest ability is not one hundred per cent perfect in driving.

5. Take driving seriously; you are probably no smarter than the last person whose neck was broken on a windshield. The smartest man (supposedly) meet with unfortunate disaster through gross carelessness.

Courtesy is not a sign of weakness; it is a sign of character and wisdom and the ability to be foresighted and obliging.

The sea captain doesn't unnecessarily take chances when they can be avoided, but he willingly risks his life and his ship to prevent an accident or aid another vessel in distress. But automobile drivers will fully risk their own lives as well as the lives of others, for no good reason at all; it doesn't make sense.

If ordinary rules of common sense and courtesy were followed in driving (unwritten laws), accidents would be caused only by freak circumstances.

PIONEER PARK NOTES

(H. C. Wood, Curator)

A VEGETABLE VALENTINE

The celery said—"Pray take my heart."

To-mato-oh, supreme bliss!

What c're may turn-up, lettuce wed,

If you cantaloupe—squash this."

The first school since the intense cold weather visited the Fort on Thursday of last week. The pupils were from Mt. Vernon. Usually quite a number of schools are visitors at the Park during the winter months.

Mr. Richard Bell, in writing to his sister, Mrs. Annie Goddard, at Beaumont Inn, spoke of a very interesting interview he had with a Mrs. Terry, who had attended school at Caldwell Institute, Danville, Ky., in her girlhood. She later married Judge Terry, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California.

MANY CASES ARE DISPOSED OF IN CIRCUIT COURT

(Continued from page 1)

\$25, or be committed to jail. He failed to pay on the date set.

The court instructed that the 102.5 shares of stock in the Citizens Bank and Trust Company at Burgin, owned by the estate of the late Webb Moulder, a former cashier of the bank, be divided among his wife, Mrs. Mayne Moulder, his daughter, Miss Mary Moulder and son, James William Moulder and re-issued in their names.

Mrs. Minnie Ball Moore Biggerstaff was appointed by the court guardian of her niece, Miss Joanna Ball Coleman, a minor, with the consent of her father, Henry Coleman, and grandfather, T. H. Coleman, who will continue to contribute to her support.

Mrs. Ruth Strader, Master Commissioner, was ordered to settle in full several cases in which she had sold property under court instructions after her reports had been approved by the judge.

Sid Monroe, charged with stealing turkeys, found guilty of grand larceny and sentenced to one year in the penitentiary. William Thompson, Negro, was given two years for housebreaking. Thompson was arrested after corn was stolen from the crib of Joe Vaughn, dairyman, and traced to his home where other stolen articles were found, which he confessed to having stolen after breaking into the graded school building.

Joe Taylor, charged with larceny, plead guilty and was given six months in the county jail.

Collins Gentry was given judgment of \$100 against Mrs. William Rose in his suit for \$150 which he claimed was the value of a registered fox hound, alleged to have been shot by Mrs. Rose as it ran through her yard. Mrs. Rose claimed that she and Mr. Rose had suffered severe losses and had been much annoyed by dogs in their sheep flock; that they had warned fox hunters to keep their dogs off their place and that when she killed the dog it was to protect the sheep from a possible attack by the dog as she saw no one accompanying it.

Gentry claimed that he was with the dog on a hunt; that it was properly licensed and was not molesting the sheep or other property of the defendant. A committee named by the court appraised the dog at \$150 and Gentry sued for that amount.

The grand jury has adjourned to meet again Friday, February 14.

Hand The Herald \$1.50.

Countywide Spelling Bee Is Set For March 21st

Contest To Select Mercer's Best Speller For State Bee At Which All Schools Enter Representatives.

In the afternoon of the same date a final oral contest will be held, to which the public is invited.

Mercer County is to send a representative to the state-wide Spelling Bee in April which is sponsored by the Courier-Journal and Louisville Times.

At a meeting of the local committee, composed of J. K. Powell, Misses Flora Cassell, Winnie Grimes, Jewell Matherly and Cordella Moore last Monday in the office of the county superintendent of schools, rules and regulations for all schools were discussed and adopted for holding the local contest, which will be held in Harrodsburg, March 21, at the high school building.

The contest again this year will conform to the method adopted in the State contest: namely, a preliminary contest will be held at nine o'clock in the morning of the above date at the high school building, when all but twenty-five contestants will be eliminated in a written contest. At 1:30

Each school must send the name, age, grade and address of each contestant, also the name of parents, and school to the office of the county superintendent in care of the chairman not later than March 7th. Numbers will be assigned and given to the contestants the day of the contest.

Rules for both the written and oral contests will appear in a later issue of The Herald, according to Mrs. Lucile Sharp Brown, chairman.

FIRE DESTROYS THE WORK OF A LIFETIME IN A FEW BRIEF MINUTES

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