

CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EXTRACTS FROM THE RECENT SCHOOL LAWS.

Specified Holidays—Changing School District Boundaries.

We are in receipt of the advance sheets of the new school laws for this state, passed by the last legislature and being compiled by Superintendent Ackerman. There are many important points concerning government of schools, from which we clip the following sections:

Section 26.—The district boundary board may establish new districts on the petition of three legal voters of said proposed new district, and may change or divide the districts of its county when petitioned to do so by a majority of the legal voters of the districts concerned in the change.

Section 33.—In all districts at least eighty per cent. of the amount received from the five-mile school tax and the irreducible school fund shall be applied on the teachers' salaries, and no part of said eighty-five per cent. shall be applied for fuel already prepared for use, expense of lawsuits, chalk, brooms, blackboards, erasers, stoves or any other articles necessary for the use of schools, or for repairs or furnishing school houses, nor in paying interest or principal on bonds issued by the district.

Section 36.—The common school month shall hereafter consist of twenty (20) days, and no school shall be open in any district for the purpose of ordinary instruction on any Saturday or on any legal holiday, or in any county during the time of holding the annual election therein. The following days shall be, and are hereby declared, legal holidays in this state, viz: Every Sunday, the first day of January, the twenty-second day of February, the thirtieth day of May, the fourth day of July, the twenty-fifth day of December, and every day which an election is held throughout the state, and every day appointed by the president of the United States or by the governor of this state for a public fast, thanksgiving, or holiday; provided, that when holidays occur during a session of school, teachers shall be allowed full pay for such holidays.

SALMON MAY BE HIGH.

Warren and the Cold Storage Men Force Up Prices.

The reports from the market centers indicate a good demand for salmon during the coming season at fairly good prices. In its weekly review of the situation, the San Francisco Trade Journal says: "The market has quieted down for future delivery, both buyers and sellers appear to be indifferent pending further developments. So far as can be learned from a canvass among Alaska canners and their agents, it seems to be the opinion that prices will not be any lower, but there is a strong probability they will be higher, particularly for fish. Those of the independent canners who have sold have placed themselves in an easy position by selling from one-quarter to three-quarters of their expected pack. On the Sacramento river the Carquinez Packing Company started up its cold storage plant last Wednesday. The price paid for the fish is 7 cents a pound. There will be five cold storage plants in operation, which means strong competition in buying. On the Columbia river there will be a big fight unless cold storage men form some kind of compromise, which at this writing does not appear likely, for it is said that F. M. Warren has it in for the Columbia River Packers' Association, owing to the latter invading Warren's territory last year. Report has it that if Chinook run well the price will be 8 cents per pound, but if light, competition will be apt to force it to 9 or 10 cents per pound."

Death of Mrs. John Sundry.

A very sad death occurred in Portland last Saturday morning, being that of Mrs. John Sundry, who with her husband and family resided in this city for many years. Mrs. Sundry underwent a surgical operation at a Portland hospital from the effects of which she never recovered. Deceased was a charter member of the Plymouth Congregational church organization in this city and a beneficiary member of the United Artisans, of Houlton, in which she carried an endorsement policy for \$500. The remains were brought to this city Tuesday morning, where the funeral service was conducted in her own church and her body tenderly laid to its last rest in the cemetery at Warren. Besides the husband, there are four sons and three young daughters to mourn the loss of a kind parent, and who have the sympathy of a sorrowing community in their sad affliction.

Wholesale Butter Business.

Illustrative of the volume and extent of one of the butter manufacturing firms of our county, we heard Mr. James Dart, of the Dart & Muckle merchandising firm, remark recently that their firm paid monthly to Calvin Johnson, of the Jackson creek creamery, at Scappoose, \$75 for butter bought and retailed in this city. The amount of butter shipped here by Mr. Johnson is perhaps not more than one-tenth of the product of his creamery and gives a very clear idea of what proportion the dairying business is assuming. Mr. Johnson buys all the milk the neighboring ranchmen will deliver at his creamery, and a great volume of money is circulated in that vicinity as a result.

Sunday Fishing.

Owing to a "clerical error" which was paid for by the auditing committee of the state of Washington, the legislature omitted the Sunday closing law from the fish bill passed in the legislature, and now you can fish in Washington on Sunday, but we have a close season in Oregon. All the Oregon fishermen will have to do when it comes Sunday is to go over to the Washington side and fish. In Washington the legislature passes laws in the interest of fishermen. In Oregon laws are passed for the benefit of the combine.—Astoria Herald.

TIMBER LAND BUYERS.

A Party of Easterners Visit Oregon City Land Office.

The land office was visited this week by a number of Minnesota lumbermen, who were in search of information regarding timber land. From Grand Rapids, Minn., came W. F. Foster, H. Wallace and J. Knight, experienced woodmen, who intend to buy timber land and make Oregon their future home. Mr. Fuller formerly conducted a large sawmill at Grand Rapids. Speaking of his visit to Oregon City, Mr. Fuller said: "We are looking

AN APRIL FOOL ORATION

DISSEMINATION ON PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

Correspondent Deals With Matters of Local Nature.

COLUMBIA CITY, April 1.—(To the Editor.)—I have chosen this day to say something in the paper so that no one could criticize my choice of a day, to say the least of it, however wide the article may miss the mark. While I understand the pathetic import and much to be deplored in the affairs of men, yet, when men and things are moving off in a wrong direction it is not well to speak of it? Now, I wish to put in my protest against the great effort of men and women to see how little good they can accomplish in this world in the way of truth and character. Experience is a dear teacher.

What I want to say the most of is the problem I understand the best, which will be little enough, but so much has been said about the blooming life on a farm made out of the timber lands in this county that I wish to draw the line at the strained relations of truth and honor. I have made three small farms in this county and in doing so have destroyed more timber and valuable time than the places are now worth, and also spoiled a good governor. This is a post mortem examination, and I wish it to be so considered. To come close to the subject, I advised men to go out into the country, take up lands and make farms as I had done—God forgive me. Many tried to do so, but most of them failed. However, those who held on sold their timber places and did well, for many of them received as much as \$1500 for their property, and they would not have made that amount in other ways. But to return to the practical subject and not drift is what I am about to attempt. Now, as much of the land has been purchased and very soon all will be owned by millmen and railroad companies and roads built to all sections of the county to haul out the timber of every description, so that nothing is left on the ground but stumps after the fire runs through—and the Lord knows there are enough of them, then men can make farms in this county and do so profitably, for the land is fertile and responds abundantly to cultivation. But to get the timber off the ground and out of the way will probably require ten years as most of the land between here and Nehalem will produce 20,000 feet of lumber to the acre, which makes the land worth \$10 an acre. Much of this money will be spent in the county in building roads and getting the timber to market. Another important point. All this timber should be taken off at once, for after a portion of it has been removed and the fire passes through the usefulness of the remainder is entirely destroyed.

As I am specially privileged on this day and have used it to back and fore ground, I will close by saying if the people of St. Helens and Houlton will join the people of Columbia City in building a union school house convenient for all, I am with them to the amount that I am able to pay at once. C. G. C.

WARREN NEWS.

Carson Harms is now working at the Patallo farm.

Mr. and Mrs. John Nelson went to St. Helens last Tuesday for medical aid for their infant son.

A social dance will be given at the school house hall this (Friday) evening. Tickets 50 cents. Everybody invited.

Mr. J. S. Bacon has been very seriously ill for the past week and his many friends all hope for him a speedy recovery.

Mr. Geo. W. Baker, once a resident of this place, but now of Houlton, visited with his daughter, Mrs. J. S. Bacon, last Tuesday.

Amos Stevens, sr., and son, Daniel, visited with their daughter and sister, Mrs. John Scott, at Kalama, a few days the first of the week.

Mrs. J. F. Downing, of Ryan, Wash., came home on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Collins. She will spend two or three weeks visiting with old friends and acquaintances.

The Evangelical church is nearing completion and will soon be ready for occupancy. But little more remains to be done, and if everything permits, services will be held Sunday, April 14th, by Rev. Ballantyne.

Messrs. Mullen Bros., of Scappoose, passed through Warren Sunday with ninety head of stock, en route to St. Helens, where they shipped them to Flavel, Or., where they have rented a large farm. It is their intention to engage in the dairy business there.

A grand graphophone and talking machine entertainment was given at the Methodist church last Tuesday evening. The programme of the evening consisted of the latest musical and vocal selections, also speeches, as given by some of our noted men. Those who were present spent a very enjoyable evening.

Mrs. John Sundry, of Portland, was buried at the Odd Fellows' cemetery last Tuesday afternoon. Owing to some misunderstanding about the funeral arrangements, but very few were in attendance. Her many friends here will all miss her gentle and kindly presence very much as she was esteemed and loved by all who were acquainted with her.

Vail Grange No. 294 held a meeting at the school house hall last Saturday afternoon. State Master B. G. Leedy, of Tigard, Or., and Deputy Master Mrs. H. L. Vail, of Palestine, Or., were present. A very interesting meeting was held and the following officers were elected: Overseer, Henry Larsen, sr.; lecturer, Maude Stevens; steward, Eli H. Lynch; assistant steward, Frankie Hoyt; chaplain, Lars Baasmo; Florence Adams; Pomona, Mrs. Stevens; Flora, Stella Adams; lady assistant steward, Mrs. Sophia Nagel. At the previous meeting Mr. F. M. Hoyt was elected master, Lillian Larson secretary, and Charles W. Adams treasurer. The Grange will meet the first and third Saturdays of each month at 7:30 p. m.

A Gentle Hint.

In our style of climate, with its sudden changes of temperature—rain, wind and sunshine often intermingled in a single day—it is no wonder that we so frequently suffer from colds, or any disease of the throat or lungs, its success is simply wonderful, as your druggist will tell you. Get a sample bottle free at the St. Helens Pharmacy. Regular size, 75 cts. Get Green's Prize Almanac.

Headache often results from a disordered condition of the stomach and constipation of the bowels. A dose or two of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets will correct these disorders and cure the headache. Sold at the St. Helens Pharmacy.

REUBEN ITEMS.

Mrs. D. A. Wine visited Portland Friday.

Mrs. John M. Lindsay visited Portland Saturday.

Chas. Muckle, of St. Helens, was in town Saturday.

Mrs. L. Morel, of Tide creek, visited Kalama Saturday.

Mrs. T. J. Calvin visited her mother at Kelso Saturday and Sunday.

Emil and Harry Wasser attended the I. O. F. lodge at Kalama Friday evening.

J. M. Lindsay, Miss Kitty Lindsay, C. C. Hansen and Thos. Burgess visited Portland Monday.

Thos. Peoples took his team to Mayer Monday, where he has a contract to haul 200 cords of cotton wood bolts.

Julius Ordway, of Portland, was in town Saturday looking for saw logs for the Innan, Paulson mill at Portland.

Albert Larsen arrived from Iowa Sunday evening on a visit to his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Anton Wisen. His states when he left Iowa everything was covered with snow and four days later when he arrived in Oregon everything was green and no snow in sight.

Law Does Not Prescribe.

Houlton, March 29.—(To the Editor.)—In your paper of this date I notice a table of measures for produce, but do not see onions mentioned. Will you, in your next issue, give the weight of a bushel of onions, if you can. "Onion."

The laws of Oregon do not prescribe the weight of a bushel of onions. There are but twenty-six states in the union whose laws touch this matter, and weights range in those states from 47 to 58 pounds. In Washington the law states that 60 pounds of onions shall be a bushel, and our close proximity to that state might dictate the weight in Oregon. We desire to correct the statement made in our last issue relative to dried peaches and pears. It should have read "28" instead of "38" pounds.

Hypocrites.

Someone has evidently been ruffling the Tillamook Headlight map. In the last issue of his paper he has this candid dissertation on the subject of hypocrisy:

"The world isn't half so full of fools as it is of hypocrites. If the foolkiller should change his vocation and go after those people who profess one thing and do another he might be of some use in the world. The person who pretends to be a friend and then slanders you behind your back is worse than a fool because he knows better. Help a dog out of a ditch and no matter what kind he is—tired dog, country dog, educated or illiterate, domestic or plebeian—he will wag his tail to paralyze and exhaust every muscle trying to tell you that every drop of blood in his veins is at your command. Help a man out of a ditch and what follows depends very much upon his breed. The more we see of a great many men the more we like dogs, anyway!"

THE COURT HOUSE PROBLEM

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON MATTER NEXT TUESDAY.

Court and Citizens to Discuss Matter Collectively.

Next Tuesday the members of the county court will meet in this city to consider the proposal to erect a court house. The court has asked for and will undoubtedly receive numerous expressions of opinion on the matter both for and against, and whether these will have any influence upon the court or any bearing upon the matter remains to be seen. There certainly are none more fitted by acquaintance with the existing conditions to judge of the necessity of a new court house than the members of the court. The present building, as we all do know, is quite inadequate to the requirements and is daily becoming more so. The time is not far distant when a new and larger building must of necessity be erected, and there is no time like the present. We do not choose to criticize the acts of the people in other parts of the county in offering building sites and other inducements for a court house. That is natural enough; but the fact remains that St. Helens is the county seat, and must so remain until the people of the county shall determine otherwise. An opportunity to do so is prolonged indefinitely, meantime the demand for better facilities and more room in which to carry on the large and rapidly increasing volume of business is becoming not only noticeable but urgent. So far as taxation and financial ability to do this improving it concerned it can be accomplished without increasing the burdens of the taxpayer, just in the same manner that the large debt of the county has been reduced during the last three or four years, by judiciously administering public affairs. A great debt has been practically paid off without increase in tax burden. True, the rate of taxation has been high, but no higher while the debt was being paid off than it was during the time of acquiring the debt. Throughout the county there is a wonderful prevailing indifference in regard to the matter, which the court should carefully consider, for it has been well and truly written that silence gives consent. In some parts of the county and with some individuals there is opposition, as a matter of fact, which there always is to any proposal of whatever nature, but the real question to be decided is: Does the county need a new court building, and will there ever be a more opportune time for its construction than the present?

Next Sunday is Easter. Mrs. M. J. Scott, of Kalama, was in our city last Friday. Mr. George Webber, of Bachelor Flat, is reported very sick. Mrs. T. C. Watts, of Reuben, was in the county seat Tuesday. Mr. John Scott was up from Kalama Tuesday looking after property interests. Max Berg, of Warren, was seen hustling about on our streets last Monday. Miss Lottie Cooper, of Kalama, visited friends in this city a day or two last week. Mrs. Hortense Rice, of Portland, was the guest of Mrs. W. B. Dillard for a few days this week. Mr. Chris Johnson, of Yankton, was attending to business matters in Portland Wednesday. Captain C. E. Gore, of the N. P. transfer boat at Goble, was in town on business, etc.

Teachers' examination will be held in this city next week, beginning at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning. Dr. Crawford, the dentist, visits St. Helens each Wednesday. He can be found at the residence of B. Cox. Ed Wonderly was up from his Beaver valley ranch Saturday, paying taxes and attending to other business matters. Rev. Mr. Philbrook will preach next Sunday at Yankton in the forenoon and at Bachelor Flat in the afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. B. W. McNutt, of Cornelius, were in town Tuesday of this week, the former looking after business matters. Dr. J. E. Hall was up from Clatskanie Tuesday attending the monthly meeting of the board of medical pension examiners. Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Foster, of Portland, visited their nephew, Dr. Cliff, and family, of this city, a day or two last week. Mr. and Mrs. A. Tucker, of Oregon City, visited their son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. A. Robinson, in this city, a day or two last week. Mrs. Lulu Frakes, of Scappoose, has re-entered the Portland Business College, after an absence of three months on account of sickness. Eugene Whitney and wife, of Clatskanie, visited for a day or two in this city this week and continued on to Portland before they returned home. The fishing season will open on the 15th of this month, in consequence of which there is much activity among the fishermen in preparing for the event. The steamer G. W. Shaver has resumed her old run from Portland to Clatskanie, and after the 15th of this month will make two trips weekly. Sard Salsar, of Bachelor Flat, who recently purchased the Hayburn place, in that vicinity, informs us that he has taken from the place 4,000 cords of wood. Mrs. Martin White has returned home after a three-weeks visit in the vicinity of Quincy, where she went with her husband on the occasion of his first assessing work. Messrs. Wallace and Moyer have removed to this city from Paris, and are preparing to open their music store, mention of which was made in these columns a couple of weeks ago. March was somewhat of a profitable month for the county clerk's office, the fees collected during the month being \$277.55, as follows: Circuit and probate court, \$67.90; recording fees, \$209.65. Dr. Byron M. Caples, of Waukesha, Wisconsin, was married to Miss Grace Stelle in Chicago, March 23. Byron was an old-time resident of Columbia City, which is still the home of the family. A snow storm in April is not a pleasant thing to contemplate, much less to realize. However, such has been the character of the weather, we have been contending for several days, greatly to the discomfort of our Webfooters. Mr. John Henric informs us that we were so sorry we stated last week that the Henric property on Sauvie's island was purchased for \$6000. The property was bid in subject to the mortgage, the entire amount being \$2800. A young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dupont, of Valther, died on Tuesday of malignant diptheria. She had been sick nine days, and when the doctor arrived Tuesday forenoon the girl's life was beyond human power to save. In this issue will be found a number of recently enacted school laws. These sections relate directly to matters of importance often coming up for discussion, and their careful perusal may prove of value to those interested in school matters. Word arrived here Tuesday of the death of Bert Brown, son of Chris Brown, who formerly resided at Yankton. The young man was employed in the woods near Blaine, Wash., and a falling limb of a tree struck him. He was hurt last Friday and died Saturday. In the Oregonian lately there has been a series of photographs and biographical sketches of the old people of the state, among them being the photo of "Grandfather" Muckle, of this city, who is approaching the five score year mark. Mr. Muckle will soon be 92 years old and is quite active. Supervisor Plank has been doing some good work on the roads recently in the vicinity of Holstein's place, in Milton creek bottom. Punchons were laid for some distance, some of them being three feet wide. A three-foot-wide punchon is pretty wide, but they are said to be that wide, and we believe it. The Mrs. Merr last week contained 35,000 sets of live local news and legal matter, nearly as much as the three other papers in the county combined. We hope to be able to keep up that record, and each week materially improve the paper until it becomes an indispensable household necessity. Mr. P. O. Marks, of Goble, is the duly authorized representative in this county of the Union Book and Bible House, of Denver, Col., for which firm he is canvassing for the sale of their publications, consisting of history, travel, biography and religion. His prospectus of the several publications indicate a very valuable collection, which he is offering for sale at most reasonable rates. Mr. Marks will also take subscriptions for Tux Mags.

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