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### PENDLETON IN SCHOOL FRACAS

STAR-CHAMBER SESSION LOUDLY DENOUNCED

School Patrons Want Salaries Raised and Standard Recouped

Pendleton, March 15.—Confirming the informal action they took on Monday afternoon, the members of the school board last evening formally voted for A. T. Park of Hermiston as superintendent of the Pendleton schools for next year at a salary of \$1800. The vote was unanimous. It is understood however, no contract has yet been made with the superintendent-elect.

The matter was brought up at the conclusion of the routine business last evening and occasioned more or less discussion between members of the board and Supt. A. C. Hampton.

There is decided resentment over the action of the school board in selecting a new city school superintendent

ent without giving notice such action was intended and it is being freely suggested on all sides that before closing any contract with a new man the board should consider the matter more fully with a view to securing the very best man available. It is suggested from a wide field and the salary raised so as to be on a par with the salaries paid by other eastern Oregon towns of Pendleton's class. In this way it is believed a man can be secured who will give the schools prestige and redeem the present unfavorable situation.

Since the action of the board removing Prof. Hampton was taken he is considered as eliminated from the contest and no effort is being made with a view of having him retained. Mr. Hampton himself takes the view he is entirely out of the race.

To sound sentiment as to what people think of the board's action the East Oregonian questioned a number of prominent local people today. Some were opposed to Mr. Hampton and some favorable to him. With a single exception every man and woman questioned criticised the board for acting hastily and urging that further attention be given the matter before a full decision is reached.

#### HAMPTON TO LEAVE

Pendleton Superintendent Will Be Succeeded By New Man

Superintendent A. C. Hampton of the Pendleton public schools who was one of the active participants in the recent superintendent's meeting in La Grande, has been supplanted at Pendleton and his place will be taken by A. T. Park of Hermiston. It is reported in the Pendleton papers that Mr. Hampton's removal was done at a secret session of the school board, and there is indignation expressed at this surreptitious action of the board.

Pendleton, March 14.—At a star-chamber session of the city school board yesterday afternoon an agreement was reached by the board whereby Supt. A. C. Hampton will be supplanted next fall as head of the city schools by A. T. Park, now principal of the school at Hermiston.

The action of the board, news of which leaked out last evening, comes as a big surprise to the community, as no intimation had been given out that an election was to be held at this time, or any notice that the board was considering applications. Among the friends of Supt. Hampton the news was received with indignation, both because of the summary end the board's action brings to his long ser-

vice in the schools and because of the secret methods employed in electing a successor.

The meeting of the board was held yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock in the back room of the offices of Clerk Lot Livermore. No one was present but the members of the board and no record was kept of the meeting. The regular meeting of the board will be held tonight. Chairman J. V. Tallman stated this morning that he was requested yesterday at 11 o'clock to call the special meeting by Judge G. W. Phelps, another member of the board. He stated that after a short discussion of the school situation, a motion was made and carried that Mr. Park be chosen as superintendent for next year. Personally, he said, he did not know much about Mr. Park nor his school record, but had been assured by other members of the board that he was a good man. He said he had never promised to support anyone for the position but that Mr. Park had spoken to him last week as if he had received enough pledges to insure his election.

Chairman Tallman had little criticism to make of the present superintendent but stated that there was a feeling on the board that a new man should be secured. He said some opposition has developed against Supt. Hampton and that the board had been quietly considering for some time the qualifications of other applicants. He said it had not been the intention of the board at this time to make any announcement of the action taken.

Prof. Hampton was for eight years principal of the Pendleton high school and, when Supt. J. S. Landers was requested to resign last spring he was placed in the position of acting superintendent for the balance of the year.

#### Hughes' Name May Be On Ballot.

Salem, Ore., March 14.—If the political supporters of Justice Hughes for president petition to have his name put on the ballot, and he does not formally object in writing by April 20, Secretary of State Olcott will certify his name to the county clerk, according to an announcement made by him last night. The Roseburg Hughes club has intimated its intention of petitioning to have Justice Hughes' name put on the ballot, and it was this that prompted the secretary to make the announcement. Under the law passed by the last legislature the name of a candidate for president or vice president may be printed on the ballot upon his request or the petition of 1000 registered voters. April 20 is the date when the secretary certifies the

names of candidates to the county clerks, and he takes the position that silence by a candidate is tantamount to assent when a nominating petition is filed.

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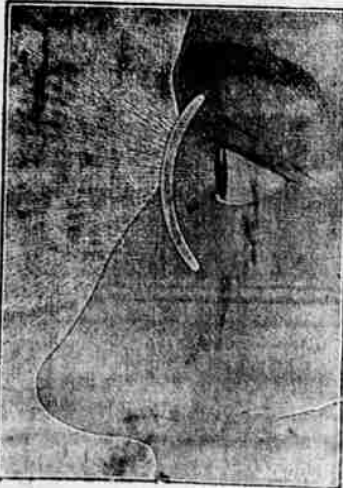
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