

LARGE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Work on new Building Progressing.--Painting Contract let.--Truant Law.

The attendance at the Jacksonville schools this year, while not as great as will be later on, is much larger than last year, and everything indicates a most successful term. The teachers are the most efficient that could be procured, and the new school books are of the latest and best.

Work on the new school building is progressing rapidly since the necessary timbers have been secured. The contract for painting the building inside and out was let to Ling & Lane of Medford for \$595, that being the lowest bid. Some of the bids went over \$1200.

Bids were received Wednesday from various contractors in the county, as well as at Portland, for a heating system for the school building. Nothing definite was decided upon by the school trustees, as they wish to look over the heating systems of other valley schools before arriving at a conclusion. It is safe to say, however, that a steam system will be adopted. A hot air system was talked of and would probably have been installed if it were possible to secure electric power at a lower rate than the town is paying for its lights, but at 7½ cents a kilowatt hour the cost would be too great. This system is the latest and best and is being used by all the schools of Portland, Seattle and other large cities on the coast. The system consists of electric fans which drive the heat and keeps the air in circulation.

A truant officer for the Jacksonville School District will doubtless be appointed next week. It will probably not be amiss to reprint the new Oregon truant law so that parents may thoroughly understand that children of school age must be provided with an education.

Children between 9 and 14, inclusive, must attend school. Also children between 14 and 16, inclusive, who are not engaged in lawful employment. They must attend during the full time that school is in session in the district.

The exceptions to this rule are:

1—Those being taught privately the branches taught in the schools. The school board is to examine such children.

2—Those physically unable to attend. A written certificate of a competent physician is necessary.

3—Those between 9 and 10 who live more than 1½ miles from the school-house and those over 10 who live three miles from same.

4—Those attending private or parochial schools. School board to examine.

Upon conviction, parent or guardian subject to a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$25, or imprisonment from two to ten days, or both fine and imprisonment.

In districts of the first class the police at the request of the school board or a citizen may be appointed.

The truant officer is to be notified by superintendent of neglect on part of the parent or guardian to send children to school and shall deliver written notice in person or registered mail. Pupil must be in school the following Monday with proper books. The truant officer will notify the superintendent at the same time and unless the child appears in school the superintendent will again notify the truant officer, who will file complaint against parent or guardian within three days

before a justice of the peace. Said justice will issue warrant, and upon conviction of parent or guardian the penalty falls as above.

The truant officer shall also investigate all cases of non-attendance at school.

Any school official who fails in his duty in the above after proper notification is subject to a fine of from \$5 to \$20 for each offense.

Oregon Anglers' Association.

C. L. Reames and Peter Deisch went to Gold Hill last Saturday to attend the first annual meeting of the Oregon Angler's Association.

At this meeting a number of interesting matters were brought out, one being that the present fishways over the Gold Ray and Amment dams in Rogue river are defective. Needed changes will be made at once. The matter of prohibiting seiners at the Amment dam was discussed. It was claimed by a number of those present that the government's new hatchery would effectually ruin fishing by preventing salmon and steelheads from ascending the stream. As it is well known that fish ascend streams to spawn, and that each fish ascends only to the place where it was hatched, it would be only a few years before there are no salmon or steelheads left in the Rogue. The fish taken at the new hatchery could just as profitably be taken at the mouth of Elk river. The worst feature about the hatchery is that the roe and young fish are shipped to stock other streams.

Governor Chamberlain appointed a committee consisting of D. H. Miller, W. F. Isaacs, C. R. Ray, Jos. Hammersly, R. C. Kelsey, J. Donelson, W. A. Carter, H. T. Blanchard, Joe Beman and M. C. Amment, who are expected to attend to the needed reforms.

Late Legal Decisions.

Synopses of Land and Mineral Decisions, furnished the Post by Woodford D. Harlan, Land Attorney, Washington, D. C.

COAL LANDS—Failure to perfect entry within the statutory period defeats the right of purchase in the presence of an intervening adverse claim.

GOOD FAITH—FINAL PROOF—Good faith may be shown by acts performed after submission of final proof.

HOMESTEAD DISQUALIFICATION—It is no violation of the acts of May 2, 1890 and of March 3, 1891, for the owner of 160 acres or more to dispose of such part of said land as will enable him to make the oath required of homestead applicants, provided the sale is final and made in good faith.

MINERAL—Land not shown to contain deposits, in paying quantities, of any of the mineral substances usually developed by mining operations, but which appears to be valuable and desired by parties attempting to secure title thereof chiefly because of a cave or cavern, the entrance to which is situated thereon, and for the crystalline deposits, and formations of various kinds, such as stalactites, stalagmites, etc., found therein, which are made the subjects of sale by the parties, not as minerals but as natural curiosities, is not mineral land.

Mineral land is not excepted from the operation of the arid land act of October 2, 1888.

Attorney Gus Newbury visited his ranch on Applegate last Sunday. Mr. Newbury finds but little time to visit this fall as his business in his law office is increasing to a great extent. He is a lawyer of great ability, and he has a fund of trite and witty sayings that goes a long way toward convincing a jury.

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