

OREGON SCHOOL PATRONS.

We have received a circular from Prof. L. R. Alderman, superintendent of public instruction for Oregon, which is addressed to the patrons of our public schools. Prof Alderman is endeavoring to awaken real interest in school matters on the part of our people. He makes many suggestions which if followed out cannot help bettering the conditions of our schools. On one page of the circular we find the following appeal to school patrons of the state:

May I not ask for your co-operation to the extent of giving a part of one day in a year to the consideration of public school questions? We are planning this year, in the state of Oregon, to make the annual school meeting day a great day by having as many of our people as possible attend the meeting and learn conditions of our school plant. We expect to have an annual picnic on this day in many school districts, and we hope that every one interested will be present and help the school officers in making this event a great success.

The annual school meeting in your district, this year, occurs on June 19. Please take the time on the morning of the 19th to go over to the school house and look over the school grounds and school buildings. See if you can help to have conditions improved if they need improvements; if they do not, may I ask you to show your appreciation to the School Board who brought about these conditions without pay or without thanks. Some of our school buildings are very unsanitary, and our schools will not be what they should be until we have the united support of all our school patrons.

Yours for the best schools possible.

L. R. ALDERMAN.

BE AN OPTIMIST.

Editor Joe Robinson, of the Durham (N. C.) Sun, is an optimist. Through the columns of his paper he is continually disseminating cheer and good will and occasionally he hands out little bits of advice that everybody would do well to follow. For instance, the following excellent rules of conduct were given in his editorial column not long ago.

Encourage the merchant. If he has a superior style of goods tell him so

Encourage the editors of the newspaper in your town. The paper that has always done everything in its power to build up the place and its people.

Be affable to everyone. Dont wait until you have an axe to grind before you are nice to people.

Encourage the mechanics. If one has completed a job well, be sure to tell him that it is splendidly done.

Encourage the farmers. There is no class of people in this country who want your sympathy just now more than the farmers.

Encourage the doctors. You always praise the physician when he brings you up from the awful crisis of disease, but do you ever compliment the physician when, through his skillful treatment of incipient cases, he keeps you from sinking down to death?

Encourage the lawyers.

Encourage the teachers in our public schools. Go to them and tell them that they are doing a good work.

Encourage all invalids by telling them how many you have known with the same ailment to get well.

Encourage all starting in life by yourself becoming reminiscent.

To sum up the matter, live and let live Help those around you, and thus make your own lives happier thereby.