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News Notes of the County's Schools

By Fay Clark Hurley

Seven or eight vacancies exist in the teaching force of Malheur county though every effort to find teachers has been put forth. Last week, two teachers were placed and one application has been received this week.

The hand grenades promised the school children who were owners of thrift stamps will not be delivered, according to a letter received from the Treasury Department.

Mr. Frank Newton is teaching his third term of school at Riverside. Miss Louise Sears, a third term at Harper. Mrs. Dorothea Echave, a third year at McDermitt. Mr. Westenkow, a fourth year at Porterville and Mrs. Conklin, a fourth year at Cairo. A long tenure of office for teachers in towns and cities is not unusual but rural districts are prone to make frequent changes. The employment of teachers year after year speaks well for both teacher and patrons. More appreciation of the sterling qualities of both teachers and patrons will tend to overcome the desire for such frequent changes in teachers and positions. Teachers who know their pupils and the people in their district are in a better position to do good work from the first day of school than are strangers. Employment for twelve months instead of eight or nine and a longer tenure of office for good teachers will work wonders in our rural schools.

The phonetic chart and manuals to be used with the new texts have not yet been received. As soon as they are delivered to the county office they will be forwarded to the teachers.

The new course of study in Physical Education has been received and a copy sent to each school. All teachers, and particularly those who were not at institute should read carefully pages 1-12 before attempting any of the work.

An effort is being made to renew the interest of Malheur county school patrons in the work of the Parent-Teacher organization. This important work was neglected during the period of the war, as was that of almost every other organization not bearing directly upon the winning of the war, but should again be given serious attention. During the summer, a local association was organized in the Wade District in Big Bend. Schools interested in the organization of local Parent-Teacher

circles will please write to Mrs. T. M. Lowe of Nyssa who is one of the vice-presidents of the State Organization or to the county superintendent.

Malheur county's good record in club work should be an incentive to renewed activity along industrial lines. Pupils, teachers and patrons should cooperate in order to accomplish much. The children can and will do the work but they need advice and encouragement from their parents and teachers. We would scarcely feel that a child who merely indicated his desire to study arithmetic and bought a book should be held accountable for the year's work in the subject if no teacher were provided and no encouragement were given him by his parents. Club work presents as many difficulties to the average child as does the regular school work and the child trying to carry out his project should have the same kind of help and advice that is given him in school. The results of club work are splendid and any man or woman who wishes to render a real service to any community can find no better opportunity than in the position of club advisor.

Mr. I. B. Quisenberry is making a good record as Truant officer. Most of the truants are back in school and the few remaining offenders will soon be there. Ontario has asked for a local officer and the attendance there will soon be increased. Practically all of the pupils lost time last year and it is more important than ever before that every child be in school.

The Nyssa Domestic Science girls are again serving hot lunches to pupils who do not care to return home at noon. Nyssa transports pupils for a distance of several miles and hot lunches are especially welcome to these rural children.

A fine opportunity for service is given the teachers and pupils of America by the Roosevelt Memorial Association when they are asked to assist in recalling the wonderful service rendered our country by Theodore Roosevelt and to help raise the funds necessary to erect a memorial to his memory. Mr. Aiken of Ontario has this work in charge in Malheur county and is now making an appeal to the schools for their aid. Surely, every school will respond cheerfully and willingly and will have a part in this great memorial.

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