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NEW DEPARTURE IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS

Our readers will recall a statement in a recent issue of the Journal that the County High School Board had decided to install a department of vocational agriculture and farm shop in the County High School that would take the place of the Manual Training department as heretofore carried on.

Mr. Churchill, Superintendent of Public Instruction approves the plan for this community.

On last Saturday Prineville was visited by E. E. Elliott, Director of the State Board of Vocational Education who came at the invitation of Superintendent Myers for the purpose of completing the details for installing the new department. Mr. Elliott had previously made a survey of our community with a view to introducing this vocational work and had carefully looked over the plant and equipment of the High School, and had been urging the school board to consider the new movement and thus put the High School in line with the more advanced institutions in the state.

In view of the fact that our school is the only one of its kind in the county and as a county high school is the largest and best equipped in the state, the board has felt that the agricultural interests of the county were entitled to have this type of education made a part of the curriculum. They therefore took the action above referred to and made application to the State Vocational Board for approval as a vocational school.

For the benefit of those to whom this new feature of school work is a novelty we have asked Mr. Elliott to give a brief statement of the plan proposed and the benefits that the community may receive from it.

The State Vocational Board was established by the legislature three years ago for the purpose of administering the federal appropriations made by congress under the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917. This act established what is known as the Federal Board for Vocational Education which works in cooperation with the various state boards. It is charged with the disbursement of the appropriations referred to and which are devoted to the advancement of vocational education in the various states. This instruction is to be of secondary grade and is intended to be given through the usual high schools of the country. For every dollar of federal money appropriated for this purpose the state or local community must match it by an equal amount and the expenditure can only be made to reimburse school districts for salaries paid to instructors in these subjects. Under this plan whenever such an instructor is hired for vocational work the local district will be paid one half of the money expended for such salaries. But this means the school has the advantage of a new department and a competent instructor without heavy expense.

The vocational work carried on under this law covers three types of instruction: agriculture, trades and industry, and home economics, each of these being carried on separately. In our high school will cover only instruction in agriculture but it is so conducted that it practically absorbs and includes what is usually referred to as manual training. This is due to the fact that in the management of a farm there are a vast number of mechanical operations which every farmer knows must go with his work and students studying agriculture are to be taught these along with the regular work of the class. On this account the county board considered it good policy and in the interests of economy to dispense with the regular manual training department and to turn over the rooms and equipment to the new department of vocational agriculture. Instead of the old plan therefore these students who are enrolled in agriculture will spend part of the time in the shops engaged in practicing what is known as Farm Shop Work. As stated this is in-

tended to train the students to become familiar with the tools and various mechanical operations that a farmer ought to know. These include carpentry, (not cabinetmaking), blacksmithing, tinning, soldering, harness repairs, rope work, cement work, repairing farm machinery and such practical features.

These departments are conducted under a somewhat novel plan. A double period is devoted to class work each day, which may be used in various ways according as the instructor may determine. Sometimes the students will spend the time in the class room or shop or they may be out in the fields and surrounding farms studying agriculture at first hand. In fact whenever the weather will permit the outside instruction will predominate. The subjects studied are taken up more in accordance with the season than the text book and they are always directed towards those subjects that are of local and community interest. In addition to the class work each individual student is required to take up and carry to completion a definite project in some line of farm practice.

This is one of the most important features of the work and is considered even more valuable from the standpoint of education than that of the class room. All of this work is done under the direct supervision of the instructor and because of its nature is carried on at the homes or on the farms of the students. The expectation is that such students will acquire a closer interest in farm life and especially in the home farm which should mean so much to them. They go from home to home represented by their students, become acquainted with the parents and conditions in each community, direct and supervise the carrying out of the various projects of each student and in fact make themselves serviceable in many ways as advisors along agricultural lines. Such instructors as a rule are found to support the work of the county agent and farm bureau and in general help to build up the agricultural interests of the communities in which they are placed.

After consultation with Director Elliott the school board through Superintendent Myers decided to employ as instructor Mr. C. A. Thompson, a graduate of Oregon Agricultural College in 1918 and who is now making special preparation for this line of work at the college. Mr. Thompson has made a study of irrigation and drainage as well as live stock and dairying and because of this special training should be well suited to the conditions around Prineville. In addition he has had considerable experience through his employment at the Harney county experiment station and at the Lander, Wyoming experiment station. He is a man of pleasing personality and it is hoped that he may be secured to head the new department.

The County High School Board and Superintendent Myers are certainly to be congratulated in the advanced step they have taken in this matter and we feel assured their efforts to promote the interests of the county through the establishment of a course of study which is calculated to arouse our people to the advantages of this section in an agricultural way will be supported by all those who are anxious to put Crook county, the Powell Butte and the Ochoco projects in the limelight.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Department of the Crook County High School presents a three-fold opportunity for development. The first of these is self-expression. Regardless of the kind of life a person may lead or the profession he may pursue, he can not reach the height of his efficiency unless he can express his ideas in the best possible manner. The second opportunity is the appreciation of good literature. One of the tragedies of our modern civilization is

the fact that most people have lost the art of enjoying a good book—one which makes them think and study while reading and meditate upon the author's thought long enough after the book has been closed. A few of the masterpieces are presented to the students each year with the hope that they will be inspired to read further. The third opportunity is a broader outlook upon life. Few of our students have been outside of the state and none have crossed the oceans. How then can they know how the rest of the world lives and thinks, unless they read? Only a small per cent of the great men of the world are living today. How can the people of the present profit by the experiences of the past, except through the medium of books?

The courses of the English department are adapted to meet the needs of all classes of students. For those who intended to teach, and for the business people, and for others, there is a practical help offered. Incidentally, this department touches every student as the subject is required of all. Courses in Journalism, the short story, debate, oratory, letter writing and the drama are included with the ordinary work of composition and rhetoric.

SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

The science and mathematics work of any school is not such that it lends itself well to description, particularly the mathematics. The work of the sciences is more tangible and thru the aid of interesting experiments, the work may be more closely related to the experience of the student which makes a stronger appeal to his interests.

But mathematics is the foundation of all true scientific endeavor, and like all fundamental subjects is largely regarded as drudgery. In fact one subject in mathematics—geometry—aims to teach one how to think in a scientific manner. Algebra, however, aims at helping shorten certain arithmetical processes.

As for the sciences themselves, general science seeks to acquaint the student with some of the more common natural phenomena of every day life, showing both cause and effect. Physics and Botany aim to deal more definitely and comprehensively with two of the major divisions of science. In physics, the study of forces, hydrostatics, heat and light and electricity offer excellent opportunities for the student to become acquainted with the common natural forces of nature which play an important part in his daily life. This is illustrated and exemplified by laboratory work and field trips. A brief survey of radio activity brings him into the realm of pure science.

Of all modern foreign languages Spanish is the most useful to the American people. All nations to the south of us with the exception of Brazil speak Spanish and if we wish to develop our commerce with these nations, we must be able to use their language. Two years of Spanish are taught here. In the first year grammar work is done together with some easy reading chosen from a text dealing with the life and problems of our southern neighbors. In the second year Spanish classics are read.

NORMAL DEPARTMENT

The Oregon state course of study provides for two distinct courses of Teachers' Training that a school may be adopted by any standard high school in the state. One of these, the elementary teachers training course, includes professional subjects such as psychology, history and principles of education, methods of teaching reading, arithmetic and languages.

The Crook County high school combines these two courses, thus making the work doubly strong. The two great aims of this de-

partment are: first, to create in the minds of the students a love for learning and, second, to give them practical training in the profession of teaching, thus enabling them to become self supporting as soon as they graduate from high school. The state department of education grants a one-year state certificate to the graduates of the normal department. This may be renewed for another year after six months of successful teaching experience. This gives our graduates the opportunity to earn enough money to start to college or to invest in some business.

The normal department was established in the Crook county high school in 1909 and has since been a permanent part of the school. Including the graduates for the present year, sixty-nine students have been graduated from this department. There are seven in the class this year which leaves a balance of sixty two who have gone out from the school. Of that number seventy one per cent have taught; sixty per cent have taught or are teaching in Crook county. It has always been a most commendable practice of the county school superintendent and the rural school boards to encourage this department by employing its graduates in the schools of the county. At present about 14 per cent of the teachers of the county are graduates from this department. It is interesting to note that fifteen per cent of our normal graduates have attended schools of higher learning and that the remaining fourteen per cent are mostly girls who have married soon after graduating and are living in Crook county.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT

Crook County high school is one of the few high schools within the state that is represented by a complete four years course in commercial education.

This course is based upon the needs of the student, from the standpoint of qualifications for higher institutions of learning, and to best qualify the student for practical work on the commercial field. If the student does not desire to continue the work in college.

This solution and adjustment of the commercial problem has been reached thru intensive study and experience during the last ten years.

The department is divided into two major divisions embracing accountancy and stenography. The department of accountancy offers a complete and practical course in the science and art of bookkeeping and accountancy in detail. The student is taught the necessary fundamentals of recording the business operate a simple retail business, on up thru the series to the practical application of bookkeeping and cost accounting.

OTTO HODGES MARRIED MAY 11

S. E. Hodges received word a few days ago that his son, Otto K. Hodges was married to Lucille K. Doan of San Francisco, on May 11th.

Otto Hodges is an Alumni of the C. C. H. S., having graduated with the class of 1915.

Mr. and Mrs. Hodges are making their home at 1141 Octavia Street, San Francisco, California.

FORMER TEACHER VISITS PRINEVILLE

Miss Catherine V. Conway, who formerly taught in the Crook County High School English Department, is now visiting her sister, Mrs. Sylvain Michel. With her is Miss Ethel Conway, also a sister.

Miss Conway is now teaching in the High School at Ontario, Oregon. She had planned for some time to make this trip to Prineville, and when it became known to the members of the high school here, the graduating class requested her to appear on the program and sing. Miss Conway has many friends in

Prineville who are glad to see her. The major portion of her friends lie in the Alumni, most of whom went to school while she was a teacher here. In the present class, she is also well known, however, she had left the school the spring before the present class entered.

ALUMNI GIVE GRADUATING CLASS A RECEPTION

After the Commencement exercises, the Alumni of the Crook County High School gave a reception in honor of the class of '21. The Alumni and the class met in the Ladies Annex rooms where they were served with ice cream. On behalf of the Alumni, Arthur Michel welcomed the incoming members.

Mr. Michel, acting as presiding officer, received the motion to re-elect the officers of last years election as a body, which is as follows: Harry I. Stearns, President; Clark Morse, vice president; H. Rei Powell, secretary, K. Clinton Houston, Treasurer. The meeting then adjourned and went up stairs where a dance was held.

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS RETURN TO THEIR HOMES

The day following the graduation exercises, the faculty of the high school that live in other parts of the county left for their various homes on the early morning train.

Miss Florence Cramer who taught in the English department for two years, is returning to her home at Monte Vista, Colorado. As she has the opportunity to teach near her home, she will not return to Prineville, but will teach at Florence, Colorado.

Mrs. Clara Pratt of the Normal Department left for Portland where she will remain for a short time. She will then go to Pendleton where she will take up work in the Pendleton Summer Normal School. As she will get work in Pendleton at a higher salary than she can get here, she will not return.

Miss Lenora Cunningham who was in charge of stenography in the Commercial Department went to her home in Portland. It is very likely that Miss Cunningham will not return either.

Miss Phila Hall of the Home Economics department went to her home at Corvallis. Information has come quite recently that Miss Hall will not return next year.

D. W. Medley returned to his family at Lebanon. Next year Mr. Medley will take up his work again, both in the Commercial Department and also in coaching athletics.

Mr. C. E. Platts who handled the Manual Training department will return to his home at Eugene. Mr. Platts will not return to Prineville, as his department has been changed over and will be handled by the Smith-Hughes project.

Mr. Vernon C. Shippee will leave for California in a short time where he will spend the summer. He will return to take charge of the Scientific department.

Mr. E. E. Evans, so far as is known, will remain in town.

SHORTHAND DEPARTMENT

The shorthand department of the C. C. H. S. shows by comparing records that it is becoming the most popular department in the high school course.

This year there has been an enrollment of forty eight in the shorthand and typing classes.

The work in Shorthand is confined to junior and senior students only, during the junior year only the fundamental principals of the system is mastered a grade of 90 being required before the student is permitted to enter the dictation class at the beginning of the senior year.

The second years requirements are one hundred fifty letters transcribed from the shorthand notes, a required number of articles of solid matter and ten legal documents.

This gives the student a wider and more complete idea of the different business enterprises. A speed of 115 words is required for graduation.

The typing course is divided in a similar manner, the requirements of the first semester of the first years work are eighteen perfect lessons and a speed of 20 words per minute. The second semester are 36 words and a speed of 40 words per minute, the graduation is 72 lessons and a speed of sixty words. This entitles the student to a special diploma granted by the different typewriting companies. The Underwood preferred, whose main office is in New York city and to which place all papers are sent for correction and approval.

The demand for business men and women is growing and the C. C. H. S. is meeting that demand in a very commendable way.

MYRTLE LISTER RECEIVES TELEGRAM FROM STANFIELD

Miss Myrtle Lister, who graduated Friday evening, was the happy recipient of a telegram from Senator Robert N. Stanfield on the day of her graduation. The telegram is as follows:

Miss Myrtle Lister, Prineville, Oregon.

Kindly accept my congratulations on this momentous occasion, your graduation day, and may your life and thought of your classmates be one of continued success and accomplishment, is my wish.

R. N. STANFIELD

ATHLETICS

Since the very existence of C. C. H. S. the school has supported this branch of education. Athletics has a place in every school and as no school is complete and successful without them.

In every case it is necessary to have sufficient physical exercise to stimulate and best keep the brain in condition for the mental study which is paramount in every school. As a result of this system, the school has continued to flourish and gain the respect and confidence of all competitors in the athletic field.

The school maintains and supports teams to represent it in all major branches of athletics such as football, basketball, track, baseball, and tennis.

The competition is not only with other schools, but sufficient athletic competition is arranged between classes and school organizations so as to give each and every individual an equal opportunity to secure the required physical training.

MUSIC

The music activities in Crook County High School has flourished this year perhaps better than ever before, due to the fact that a large number of the students are studying voice, violin and piano. Fewer are studying the band and orchestral instruments because of the fact the high school credit cannot be received for such study. In spite of this, the work of the orchestra has been very creditable this year also we seriously lack the filling but uninteresting bass and second instruments. The organization of the Musical Club will not only accomplish musical activities of the school but will enable us to put on at least two concerts next year.

Making Talking Machine Records.

The method of recording phonograph records is as follows: The record is first placed on a wax master record, by a process similar to electrotyping. This record is finally transferred to a solid metal plate. It is from this plate that the records are pressed. An unlimited number of records can be produced from a single plate. When vocal artists make records they sing into a small wooden or metal horn.