

FINE NEW SCHOOLHOUSE

SOUTH PORTLAND BUILDING WILL BE OCCUPIED TODAY.

It is the First Section of a Large and Handsome Structure—Modern Improvements.

The new schoolhouse just completed on Corbett street, South Portland, has been so far occupied by teachers and pupils today.

The building is colonial in style, and is a handsome structure, combining the good proportions and classic detail of the colonial with the utility and conveniences of a high French roof, a feature well adapted to the wet climate of Oregon, while classic simplicity has been maintained throughout.

It is two stories high, with basement, and contains four school rooms, a large hall, a small library and large, well-lighted playrooms for boys and girls in the basement.

The building will form the southwest wing of what is to be a 15-room schoolhouse, with an assembly-hall on the second floor, and is so planned that it can be added to, four rooms at a time, as the growth of the district demands, being respectively a four, eight, 12 or 16-room building.

The schoolrooms are lighted from one side only, the left of the pupils. The general arrangement is such that the teacher can stand at the door of her room and oversee the classroom, the cotroom and the main hall.

The blackboards extend entirely around the rooms, and are of a dull green color. The walls are plastered with lime mortar, left in the brown color, and are tinted in water color a dull gray green, much lighter than the blackboards, but in perfect harmony with them.

This, with the good lighting, it is believed will overcome to a large degree what is known as "school headache," caused, experts believe, by the severe strain upon the eyes in looking at the white page of a book, paper or white walls to the intense black of the boards.

The interior is finished in silver pine, except the doors, which are quartered oak. The floor is a low grade.

The variety of grain and the beauty of these native woods, when properly finished, cannot be described, and must be seen to be appreciated.

The growing maturity, however, of this building in its system of warming, ventilation and sanitation.

It is warmed with low-pressure steam in the same manner as the Thompson schoolhouse, in each room being provided with a supply of warmed fresh air, not less than 1800 cubic feet per hour. The air enters the rooms above the blackboards and passes out through a register at the door level, the temperature in all parts of each room, and can be changed or regulated by the teacher in less than a minute.

The building and sanitation are especially features of this building, and are practically duplicates of those in the Thompson school. The basement is ventilated by means of a large shaft, which draws the air down through a special plumbing fixture into an underground duct, from which it is discharged upward high above the roof, making it impossible for the wind to blow back over the building.

Careful investigation shows this schoolhouse to be equipped with one of the best sanitary plants in the city, that it is absolutely impossible for odors or germs to enter the building and that the plant is likely to be in a good condition 10 years from now as it is today, for the reason that it is simple and works on correct principles.

For many years the members of the school board and other citizens interested in school work have been making a careful study of defects in the older schoolhouses, as well as the merits of the modern building, and the result of this object was the designing of a schoolhouse that could be built in sections, the abandonment of the interior standing assembly-hall, out of all proportion to the needs of the school, and the substitution of a large skylight, which adds to the light and was always a source of expense and annoyance to the district.

Also the righting of many defects in architecture, such as the lack of ventilation, sanitation, construction and simplicity of design, especially on the exterior. The Thompson schoolhouse, erected last year, was a direct result of this careful study, and is the first modern building in Portland's schoolhouse construction.

When members of the National Educational Association visited Portland they were taken through the Thompson school, and expressed their surprise and admiration at the schoolhouse, and so complete a building should be found on the Pacific coast.

However, they made several suggestions, which were readily adopted by the board of education. It is to be noted that the schoolhouse was decreased and the length increased about two feet, making the size of the schoolrooms 22x22 feet. They also suggested that the windows of each schoolroom be increased in size, so that it were possible. These men could hardly believe that the Thompson school had been erected at a cost of \$2000 per schoolroom.

Their large Eastern schoolhouses cost from \$2000 to \$3000 per schoolroom. Time and again they were heard to remark that they could not see how such a building could be put up for \$2000 per room.

So great was the satisfaction given by the Thompson school that the Holiday people came in a body before the school board and demanded that their new school building be like the Thompson schoolhouse. Many of the South Portland people also requested that their new building be like the Thompson school.

The contract price for the South Portland schoolhouse is \$20,000, which includes a heating plant, and the cost of the six rooms yet to be erected, or 10 rooms in all, of which \$1250 is for the heating and ventilation. Total cost per room, \$2000. After deducting cost of heating plant for future use, the total cost of heating and ventilation per room, after deducting cost of heating plant for future use, is \$1250.

These figures show an increased cost of building of \$1000 per room more than that of the Thompson school, erected over a year ago.

The average cost of schoolhouses recently erected for the city of Boston is as follows: Cost per room, \$1000, erected with brick and stone and practically fire-proof, \$800. The cost for heating and ventilation per room runs from \$450 to \$800 per room. The results obtained in the Boston schoolhouses are practically the same, the temperature of the rooms is the same and volume of warmed fresh air provided each pupil is the same.

The school board which, accompanied by Architect Miller, inspected the building Saturday, were loud in their praise of the new building and its equipment, and feel that it represents the very latest and best that can be done in schoolhouse construction.

A Scotchman Criticizes England.

PORTLAND, Feb. 18.—(To the Editor.)—Judging from the persistency and tone of this pro-Scottish campaign, one would be inclined to suppose that no Scotchman or Englishman could be led to see anything but justice in Great Britain's course in South Africa today. Now, I am a Scotchman by birth, and I desire here to set forth my deep approval of this war in South Africa. Let us hope that it won't take a surgical operation to get it into the heads of all Scotchmen, Englishmen and others that, after all, they have been making a name of themselves. Is there no one of us who will raise a voice of protest against the action of the unscrupulous few, who on occasion lead our brothers out to

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NO DEBT TO ENGLAND.

One Who is "Tired of Hearing of Our So-Called Obligations."

PORTLAND, Feb. 14.—(To the Editor.)—If Mr. "Common Sense" wants to be a distinguished and not to shrink himself behind a non-descript plume. He will find many to take up the gauntlet which he has thrown down, if The Oregonian will find space and is willing to print all the communications which will send to it.

Cervantes, in his "Don Quixote," says that any man who will deny the country of his parentage will sell and forswear his own mother and is not fit to live.

Mr. "C. S." claims to be an American, but true American would despise to use such insulting language against his fellow-citizens as he uses. Any one who knows this country's history is well aware that the Germans and Dutch, under Herkheimer, saved New York state to Washington. They were no "sausage-makers," either, but they felt as if they could make sausages of the English. They were no "pig-sticking joust," as the British praise themselves to have had with the Boers at Glencoe.

Now to Pennsylvania. It was mostly settled by Germans. They had to fight for their homes. At one time it was a question if the official language of the state should be German or English. The vote was a tie and a German legislator (a pastor) voted in favor of the English language. And these men were not all "cheese-makers," either, but they helped to build up this country by making cheese of the English. Who laid the solid foundation of the building up by hard work, perseverance, hardships, brains and muscle of the Middle states, as Ohio and others, was only too willing to side with us, because he knew we held the "winning hand" from the start. There is no one, surprised that we don't get tired of the English. Who laid the solid foundation of the building up by hard work, perseverance, hardships, brains and muscle of the Middle states, as Ohio and others, was only too willing to side with us, because he knew we held the "winning hand" from the start. There is no one, surprised that we don't get tired of the English.

As to Mr. "Common Sense," I only wish to tell him that there are some taxpayers in this country who pay more than a bicycle tax and who have the right to be as much at heart as himself. They see a danger in the so-called imperialism, not only to their pockets, but to their country. They are not a few of the ancient Greek and Roman republics, only too well, as also the militarism of their own countries.

It is the worst kind of cant for an American citizen to say that he is going to go home to our own countries if we don't like it. I think that we have as much right to our own opinions as American citizens, on this subject, as he has to mine. It is such a cant as David Harum mentioned when he related the canal story—"Low Bridge."

HENRY SCHOLHORN.

A New Senator's Problem.

Chicago Tribune.

Senator Chauncey M. Depew came down in the senate elevator one day last week. He had a bundle of mail in his hand, and on his face he wore a look of not entire satisfaction. "See here," he said, addressing two or three fellow-senators, "when do you get any time in Washington to work. I have been here two months, and I haven't done anything but attend the sessions of the senate, receive callers and try to keep up with social obligations. I say, when does a senator get time to do any work?" The other senators smiled. Mr. Depew smiled, too, but it was evident he was more than half serious. "Chauncey," said the Michigan man, under whose name the senator was speaking, "you will discover that one of the most difficult things a new senator has to learn is to find time to do any work."

TO CURE A GOLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bismuth Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Gore's signature is on each box. 25c.

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