

**THE LOCAL TEACHERS' INSTITUTE**

**An Interesting and Profitable Session Held at Toledo.**

The Oregon Lincoln County Special Local Teachers' Institute convened at the court house in the city of Toledo, on the morning of May 10th, to consider subjects of interest to the common schools of the county.

The meeting was called to order by County Superintendent S. G. Irvin, at 10 o'clock. After the announcement by the superintendent of the object of the convention, the election of secretary and the registration of members, the regular work of the institute was entered upon.

The first paper presented was upon the subject of "School Government" by Prof. L. K. Brooks, principal of the Toledo city school. The professor clearly demonstrated the importance of the subject and gave some very good suggestions of practical utility. A lively discussion followed occupying the remaining time of the forenoon session in which most of the teachers present participated. Many practical ideas were advanced among which the subjects of Visiting School, Making Rules, Discipline, etc., were freely and ably discussed. The general opinion prevailed that the promiscuous visiting of schools is detrimental and should be limited. School officers, parents and teachers only should be encouraged to visit our common schools. Additions to our regular code of school rules should never be made until necessity requires. The school should be considered and governed as a state in miniature. The pupils in the advanced grades should be allowed to assist in legislating for the school. Corporal punishment to a reasonable extent should be tolerated. Punishment of large pupils should be suspension or expulsion. The quiet school is not necessarily the best school. Popularity of the teachers is not always a true test of excellence.

The Monday afternoon session was devoted to the subjects of "Arithmetic" and "Busy Work." Prof. Geo. Bethers, of Yaquina, presented the subject of Arithmetic, and in a lucid blackboard demonstration presented contracted processes whereby by combining written and mental work results could be readily obtained with a great saving of time and written work.

Prof. Bruce, also of Yaquina, presented a concise operation for extracting the square root. The professor, by the use of a diagram, made the process of extracting the square an easy and pleasant task.

The subject of "Busy Work," introduced by Supt. Irvin, elicited a lively discussion. It was held by some that five minutes taken occasionally from the regular program and occupied either by the teacher or school in a general discussion of some practical topic would not only be a means of rest and mental recreation, but also an incentive to inquiry into the more practical phenomenon of every day life. Friday afternoons might be occupied by literary exercises, spelling matches, or by mechanical or chemical experiments.

Monday evening was occupied in literary and musical exercises followed by able and instructing addresses delivered by Mayor B. F. Jones, on the subject of "The Relation of Our City to Her School," and by the Hon. G. M. Irwin, state superintendent of public instruction. The Rosebrooks orchestra furnished enchanting music.

On Tuesday morning the first paper presented was by Mrs. Eunice Akin, of our city school, upon "Reading." The subject was ably treated. The four processes of teaching beginners to read were named, among which, the word

method is considered the most prominent and popular. In more advanced primary instruction all the methods should be employed both separately and combined. Reading has two objects, viz: Receiving and imparting information. Oral reading rendered in such a manner as clearly to convey the meaning of the author or writer may be denominated elocution.

Miss Nettie Wright presented a paper on "The Teacher's Preparatory Study." It was held that no teacher is fully prepared to teach a class unless she has prepared herself by previously studying the lesson.

The Chautauqua reading course was recommended as a great help in the teacher's avocation. The teacher should be prepared to teach morals by example as well as precept.

The subject of "Physiology" was presented by Mrs. E. J. Norton in a manner which seemed to awaken an interest among all present. The speaker clearly proved that no subject taught in our schools was of more practical importance. A sound mind in a diseased and emaciated body cannot exist. We should teach our pupils the functions of the different organs of the body and the laws to preserve them in their normal conditions.

The Honorable C. B. Crosno, a member of the city school board, addressed the institute on "The Relation of the School Board to the Teacher and District." The address was very instructive and thankfully received.

Prof. F. M. Gormley read the closing paper of the institute, which was upon the subject of Mental Arithmetic. Mental arithmetic is an important study,—a fact which is shamefully ignored by even college graduates, many of whom would resort to the pencil in the simplest problems of addition. Mental arithmetic is not only of great practical worth, but also greatly strengthens the memory and in other ways disciplines the mind.

The project of forming a colony of the Lincoln county teachers to be established and located at the Newport beach during the coming summer school, was introduced by Superintendent Irvin. An interesting discussion ensued, after which the sense of the convention was voiced, showing that nearly all present favored the scheme.

The following members of the institute took prominent parts in the discussions: Professors Bruce, Bethers, Strayer, Brooks, Chitwood, Miss Wooden, Miss Harrington, Mrs. Nortons and others. The number of names registered was 42. S. G. IRVIN, Chairman. W. V. GRAVES, Secretary.

**RESOLUTIONS.**

The following resolutions were adopted by the members of the institute:

Whereas, This Institute has been one of pleasure and profit to the teachers attending; and,

Whereas, The efforts of Superintendent Irvin, and those assisting him have made it so entertaining and profitable; therefore,

Be It Resolved, 1. That we extend our thanks to Supt. Irvin, also to Mayor Jones, Hon. C. B. Crosno, Dr. Townsend and Prof. Strayer.

2. That we hereby thank Prof. G. M. Irwin for the part so ably performed by him.

3. That we commend the action of the O. C. & E. railroad company and the proprietors of the Toledo hotel in granting reduced rates to those attending the institute.

Whereas, The people of Toledo have prepared and rendered a very interesting musical and literary program, therefore,

Be it Resolved, That we thank Rosebrook's orchestra, Mrs. J. F. Stewart, the choir, H. Denlinger,

Jr., and the little folks who have so ably entertained us.

**THOSE IN ATTENDANCE.**

The following is a list of the teachers who attendaded the Institute:

Geo. Bethers, Geo. H. Bruce, Mrs. E. J. Norton, Miss Jessie Wilson, Mrs. Maybel Bethers, Yaquina; C. D. Wilson, Chitwood; Miss Lula Harrington, Storrs; Miss Belle Wooden, Harlan; B. F. Wilhoit, Jerry Banks, Glen; J. H. Crawford, Misses Clara Crawford and Ivy Hooker, Elk City; F. M. Ghormley, F. J. Strayer, Miss Nellie Fawcett, Newport; W. Walu, Axtell, Miss Agnes Gibbs, Morrison; Miss Nellie Wright, Yaquina; L. K. Brooks, W. V. Graves, D. J. Chitwood, Mrs. Eunice Akin, Miss Addie Brooks, Miss Effie Crosno, Miss Ruth Gaither, Mrs. Ada Graves, Ira Wade, C. B. Crosno, Toledo.

The present senate seems to be as completely under the domination of the sugar trust as the senate was that reported and held up the Wilson bill. Indeed it is more so. It is admitted that if the Dingley bill passes in the shape as recommended by the senate committee, that it will put an extra \$10,000,000 per year into the pockets of the sugar trust. It is interesting to note that the price of stock in the sugar trust raised \$3 per share the same day the bill was reported.

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