

Warrenton, an Important Manufacturing and Residence Place.



PART OF MANUFACTURING DISTRICT, WARRENTON.

Astoria's next-door neighbor in the municipal line is the snug little city of Warrenton, situated on the south shore of the harbor and at the point where Young's Bay mingles its flood with that of the Columbia; a clean bright, well-maintained civic corporation, with 350 live people and plenty of business.

Its communal affairs are in the capable hands of Mayor V. H. Coffey, who is ambitiously at work to enlarge the sphere of Warrenton's commercial operations and to keep her in the forefront of expansion generally as it applies to the mouth of the Columbia River. In this he is conscientiously seconded at all times by his common council, made up of the following leading business men of that place, Messrs. E. S. McIlroy, W. C. Hardie, George Moore, George Warren and Frank Kelly, each and all heavily interested there in business of various sorts. The city at its last accounting was without debt of any kind and had a balance of \$600 in its treasury. The departmental officers are: W. C. Stanton, police judge; E. Erickson, police chief; J. E. Higgins, treasurer; J. A. Eakin, city attorney, and Dr. C. E. Linton, city physician.

There is an excellent school of the sixth grade, with 90 children in constant attendance through the school year, with Prof. J. T. Lee serving as

principal, and Mrs. M. McCready, as assistant. And three churches, the Episcopal, Methodist and Presbyterian, are in evidence there with large and interested congregations.

Warrenton is the junction point of the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad, the main line going on to Seaside and the lower county coast points, with the branch line extending to Hammond and Fort Stevens; and is a busy locality at all seasons of the year.

Industrially, Warrenton has three big plants in her midst, that mean a great deal to her and to the section she stands for, in the matter of giving year round employment to hundreds of her people, the Old Oregon Mills, the D. L. Kelly Lumber Company, and the machine shop of the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Company; all of which she prizes highly and makes the most of.

Warrenton is flanked on the north and west by the still smaller city of New Astoria (formerly known as Hammond), an active settlement of 250 people, with a corporate organization supervised most carefully by Mayor Charles Ford. A cozy, bay-side place filled with neat and comfortable homes and several thriving businesses; the bulk of the people finding constant employment at the government post and works at Fort Stevens and the great jetty.

aggregate number of children now in attendance, 1383, with 32 rooms in use, aside from the High School quarters of four rooms.

The present school year began on September 23rd, and will close at the end of the 10-month term, on June 26, 1908; the first semester closing on February 7, 1908, and the second running from February 10 to June 26, aforesaid. The five fine modern buildings that house the children of Astoria are a distinct credit to the district, and this year has seen a half dozen large rooms added to their capacity, two at the "Adair," and four at the "Taylor"; and at the latter building, the latest and best approved system of heating and ventilating has been added, systems that furnish the 400 pupils there with 130,000 cubic feet of fresh air every hour, and heats the whole establishment to perfection. And the proven advantages of this system is creating a wide-spread conviction throughout the community, that common sense and public economy demand the installation of the same plant in all the other buildings; the fresh air generated so constantly, contributing plainly to a minimum of malady, of greater and lesser degrees of severity and contagious effect.

Just as fast as it shall be expedient, and possible, to adjust it to the administrative plans now in force, Superintendent Clark intends to so regulate the work of the graded scholars as to divide it into parts, so that the children may be classed according to their ability to advance, thus permitting the quicker ones to advance as rapidly as they are able and at the same time allowing those who are not quite so rapid to advance according to their ability and effort. Such a system would practically do away with the failures and each class would be promoted to the point reached in the grade work. At the present time the work of the schools is divided into eight grades, or years; and each year, or grade, into two classes, each covering a half year's work.

The High School enrolls 112 pupils and employs four teachers.



ASTORIA HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

While small in numbers, it has a curriculum as strong as any high school in the West. It demands more work than most high schools for graduation. The graduates are received into all the colleges of the Northwest without examination, and many of the larger colleges and universities accept their work for entrance credit.

As is the case everywhere the Astoria school system has its needs as well as its ambitions, and as fast as possible each are being met and gratified, to the common good of all concerned, and that means the last man, woman and child in the city.

While the High School is pretty well equipped for a high school, it still needs some additions to its paraphernalia in the lines of science and art. A commercial department should be maintained in Astoria, and the public would receive the greatest benefit from it if added to the High School. Many young men and women go to Portland to attend business college, which they would not do if one were added to the High School. The time is rapidly approaching when the public will demand trade departments in the public schools, so that a person leaving the school after having completed a course, will be able to enter immediately into the work and responsibility of the community in which he finds himself.

Recently, the voters of the district, at the special school meeting for the purpose of levying school tax for the coming year, voted two mills extra for the increase of salaries. This will enable the Board to offer a salary sufficient to bring the most capable teachers into the district.

School System of Clatsop County Up to Full Standard.

Under the splendid system of public education fostered by the State of Oregon, Clatsop county and the City of Astoria are most thoroughly and amply equipped and each maintains the best, and largest, facilities possible, in this behalf. The county of Clatsop is particularly fortunate in having perfected a fine group of schools in all the fastnesses of her rugged, mountainous domain, and is again fortunate in the steady and voluminous response made to the call, by



MUNSON RESIDENCE, WARRENTON.

her citizens, everywhere in the county. These important interests lie in the capable and faithful hands of Miss Emma C. Warren, who, as superintendent of the county system, lends her fine personal equipment and years of sterling experience to the cause entrusted to her, with a culture and devotion, that finds its best expression in the unvarying progress of the system throughout the county everywhere and which is readily acknowledged on all sides.

The county is divided into 33 school districts, and the entire enrollment at present shows 2404 pupils, with an average daily attendance of 1990, the school year averaging seven months.

The average salaries paid to the men teachers is \$73.75 per month, and to the women teachers, \$47.83. And yet it is a famous fact hereabout that even this variation has no effect on the relative interest manifested by the ladies and gentlemen in charge of the schools, the same devoted care and pronounced success inuring from the schools in common throughout the entire county.

Nearly every school district in Clatsop makes a special levy each year for school purposes, thus augmenting the allotments from the State fund and advancing the status of the several schools steadily and notably; and every school in the county has its own library attached, a source of pleasure and value to scholars and teachers alike.

For the most part, the buildings and play grounds throughout the county are in excellent condition, and are kept so continually, the value of pleasing environment having become a demonstrated element of the curriculum prevailing here; and this is enhanced by the care taken by the county court, in its steady improvement and development of the public highways leading to, and past, the schools; a feature that also makes it possible to lengthen the terms year by year.

Very many of the Clatsop young people have come up from the outer schools to the high schools of the towns of Clatsop, and many others have passed on to the colleges and universities of this and neighboring States, where their preparation for their life-work will be completed; and everywhere one turns in old Clatsop the fact is borne in on one's interest that the cause of education is growing widely and wisely throughout the entire county in very palpable shape.

At the presenting writing there are 50 young people from the schools outside the City of Astoria, in this county, who have passed the eighth grade examination, and their diplomas give them full entrance into any of the high schools of the State, without further examination, a prerogative valued as it should be and one that speaks plainly for the quality of the schools that put them forth, as well as for the meritorious ambition of the pupils themselves.

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G. T. MOORE'S BLOCK, WARRENTON.

Educational Facilities of Astoria Among the Best in the West.

ONE of the marked, and essential characteristics of Astoria as a community, is its firm and generous adherence to the gospel of education as exemplified in the public systems of the land. Nothing of parsimony, nor of ambiguous consideration, hampers the administration of her schools and the latitude is widening all the time, keeping even pace with the growth of the clientele for which they are maintained. It is counted as one of the distinct credits inuring to the city and county that nothing is ever permitted to operate adversely to this cardinal interest, and the years, and the citizens that are proud to assert the home-claim for Astoria, constantly and conclusively prove the faith that actuates her in this behalf and the adequacy of her fulfillment of the great trust.

Prof. A. L. Clark, as city superintendent of the Astoria schools, and as secretary of the Board of School Directors for the district, is among the ablest and most conscientious of his colleagues in Oregon, in the field that absorbs his time and interest; and he, with his 36 teachers and co-assistants in the noble work, leave nothing undone that shall contribute heartily and healthily to the perfect development of the work that is theirs in this city. From the office and records maintained by Professor Clark, the following comprehensive data has been compiled and has the seal of authenticity to recommend it to those to whom it shall be of interest at home and abroad; and their name is legion.

At this writing there are 1271 pupils in the grades, attendance at the five handsome and roomy structures devoted to this department, the "Alderbrook" school, with 4 rooms and 89 pupils; the "Adair" school, with 8 rooms and 332 pupils; the "Shively" school with 6 rooms and 294 pupils; the "McClure" school with 6 rooms and 277 pupils; the "Taylor" school 8 rooms and 279 pupils; and the High School, housed in the "Taylor" building, with 4 rooms and 112 pupils, making the

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