

OLD CENTRAL SCHOOL WAS LOCATED WHERE PORTLAND HOTEL IS

Many of City's Business Men Boast of Having Been Pupils in This School.

WAS IN USE MANY YEARS

Old High School on Fourteenth Street Built With Money It Was Sold For.

By Henry E. Reed.

Portland's first free public school to be built with money derived from taxation was opened May 17, 1853, and stood on the site now occupied by the Hotel Portland. It was known as the Central school. Mainly because it was in the middle section of the west side, which was then about all there was to Portland. In later years this name served to distinguish it from the Harrison street, or Southern school built in 1857. For 25 years, the Central school was a conspicuous landmark in the educational history of the Pacific northwest. Its great glory departed in 1853, when the general sold for hotel purposes and the building itself divided into sections and moved to the block north of Hotel Portland. The last traces of the school disappeared five or six years ago with the erection of the Selling and Maegly-Tichner buildings.

People Build Own School.

Free public education in Portland, saw its dawn on lot 2, block 29, on the west side of First street, 50 feet north of Oak street. On May 22, 1842, when Portland was a straggling village of 19 to 20 houses and perhaps 100 people, some public spirited citizens conceived the idea of erecting a school and meeting house. They signed up \$1000, bought the lot from Townsland and Coffin for \$300 and started the building. The structure was completed in the fall and Rev. Horace Lyman opened a private school in it in December, 1842. The building was known as the School House and was used for public meetings—religious and secular—and for school. Among the teachers other than Dr. Lyman, who held school in the building were Cyrus A. Reed, Deion Jefferson and Rev. N. Doane. All these conducted the school and charged from \$2.50 to \$10 per pupil per quarter.

Records Are Gone.

Even the date of the organization of the school district cannot be proved from any records now extant, and only be approximated. The territorial legislature in September, 1819, passed a law establishing a system of common schools in the territory. It gave the people of any town or neighborhood to form school districts, directed the school commissioners, as the county school superintendents were then called, to divide the counties into school districts before January 1, 1821, and provided for school district meetings on the first Friday of November, annually. Portland, which was at that time in Washington county, was incorporated in April, 1851.

State Exhibits Are Desired in Capital

Washington, Dec. 30.—(I. N. S.)—The governors of California, Oregon and Washington have been asked by a committee of Washington citizens to aid in the movement for a permanent exhibit of the various states of the union at Washington. The idea for such an exhibit was fathered by Senator Works of California, who has offered a bill in the senate providing for the purchase of land by the federal government to be used as the site for the state exhibition buildings.

Paper Opposed Free School.

"Out of the taxes levied by our city council, elected April 1, 1851 (when municipal government began in Portland), there was collected something over \$1000 for city purposes. There convened another council November 1, 1851, known as the common school

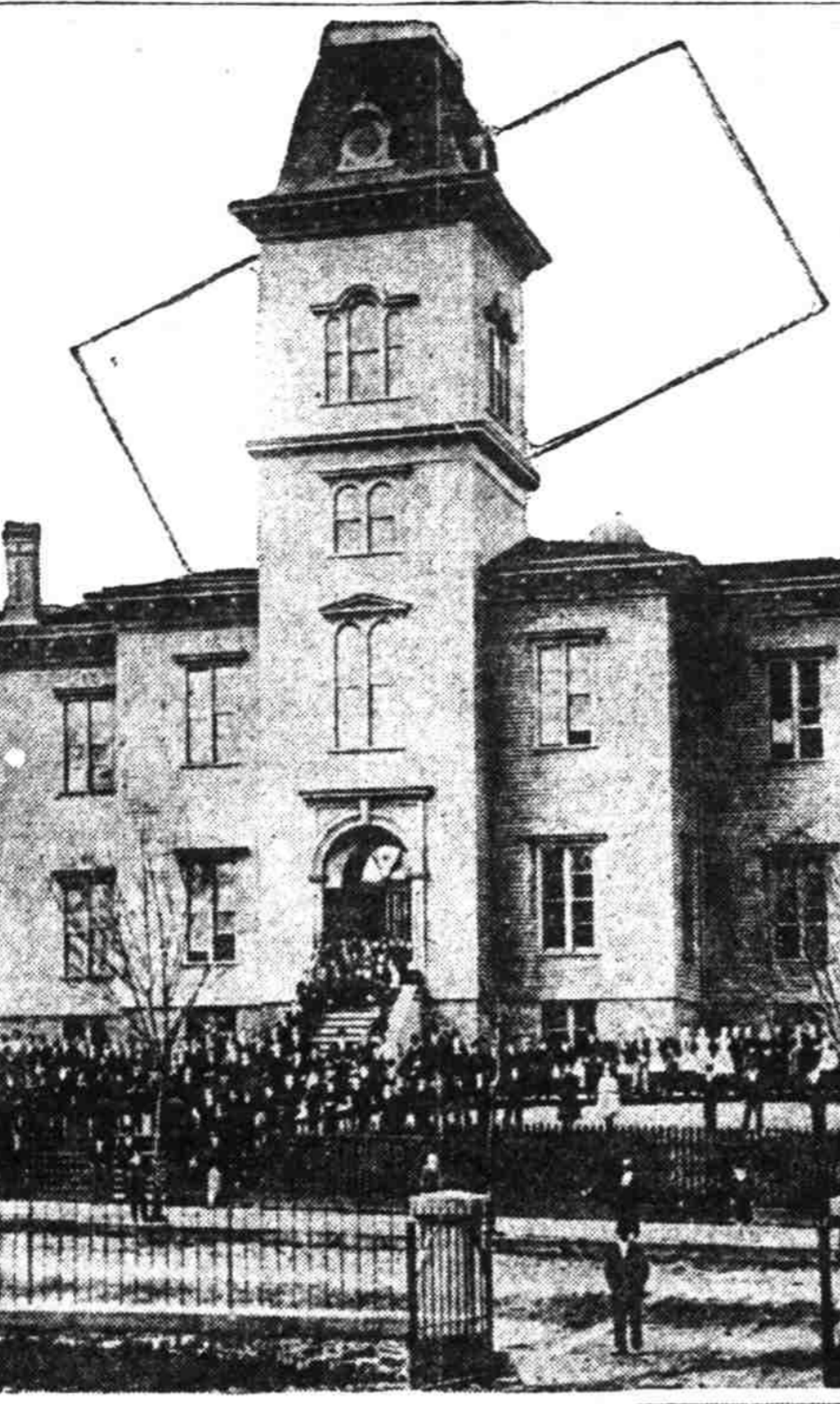
council, but more familiarly as the pie-and-ginger-cake council, self-called, self-elected, that voted \$1000 additional to be paid for pedagoging some dozen or two children." On November 4, 1852, the directors of school district No. 1 leased the schoolhouse for one year at \$10 per month, and on December 4, reopened it as a free school, with Mr. Outhouse as principal. The primary pupils were taught by Miss A. M. Clarke in a building on the west side of First street, just south of Taylor. A short time previously \$1600 had been raised by taxation for the support of the schools. It was calculated that this fund, together with the receipts from the county apportionment, would employ Mr. Outhouse and Miss Clarke for 19 months.

Just when sentiment in favor of a publicly owned free school began to form is not known. After the close of school in the summer of 1853, the public school question lagged and did not take on new life until the two Portland districts were consolidated in April, 1856. The need of a school building was apparent and the new organization set about to provide it. In May, 1856, a committee of taxpayers was appointed to consider sites and make a recommendation. The



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SCHOOL ONCE CITY'S PRIDE



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Boy Attacked by Wildcat Recovering

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 30.—(P. N. S.)—Neil McElwain, a 11-year-old school boy, is slowly recovering from the effects of a narrow escape from death he experienced the other day when he was attacked by a wildcat. That he was not clawed to death was due to the presence of ming of his brother, 18 years old, who was hunting a short distance away when he heard the boy's cries. He ran forward and shot the animal dead, but not until after his brother had been terribly scratched. The wildcat was three feet, 11 inches long and weighed 55 pounds, the largest ever killed in the east bay region.

EIGHT HOUR DAY FOR WOMEN WORKERS IS DEMONSTRATED NEED

Five States Now in Line and Supreme Court Decision Adds Momentum.

CONFERENCES ARE HELD

National Women's Trade Union League Foster Series of Meetings to Promote the Idea.

By Florence L. Savville.

Within the last few months—more recently even than the enactment of that still unfinished piece of federal legislation, the Adamson law—a force for a wholly different application of the eight-hour working day has been quietly gathering momentum. The working women of the nation are concentrating efforts to secure an eight-hour day through legislation for themselves. This movement is based on nothing less sound than a decision of the supreme court of the United States, which in February, 1915, upheld the California statute limiting the hours of work for women in virtually all industries and occupations to eight in a day and 48 in a week. Its latest manifestation has been the series of interstate conferences of working women, held by the National Women's Trade Union League, the latest of which took place recently in New York city.

New Chapter Is Begun.

Here begins a new chapter in the history of industrial conditions for women. Through the chapters that close the dominion of the state was the demonstration of the need and justification of legally limiting women's working hours. In state after state where these hours were virtually unrestricted by law, the various legislatures were slow to be convinced that they were allowing unregulated industry to sap the very sources of vitality in their commonwealths. It needed the historic decision in 1907 of the United States supreme court in upholding the Oregon 10-hour law to set the seal of the nation's approval upon the conservation of its womanhood. Then one after another the states fell into line, until there are only 10 states at this time which do not recognize at least a 10-hour limit for the daily labor of its girls and women.

Harley Will Give Inaugural Ball

Astoria, Or., Dec. 30.—Mayor-elect F. C. Harley has mailed invitations to all mayors in Oregon and some mayors in Washington towns to attend the inaugural ball to be given in the east wing of the port docks Monday night, January 1. Mr. Harley distinctly wants it understood that the affair will be informal. A special decorator from Seattle has been secured to decorate the interior of the dock for the big ball.

Klamath Postoffice Experiences Rush

Klamath Falls, Or., Dec. 30.—More than 21 tons of incoming mail were received in Klamath Falls from December 17 to 26 according to a report of Postmaster W. A. Delzell. This amount of mail, 1200 sacks at an average of 50 pounds per sack did not all remain in the city, as a considerable part was distributed through the five star routes which head here. These are Lakeview, 110 miles; Merrill and Tule Lake, 40 miles; Fort Klamath, 40 miles; Swan Lake, 12 miles and Odessa, 28 miles.

NEW HOMESTEAD LAW OPENS FOR GRAZING THOUSANDS OF ACRES

Register Campbell Says Applications Can Be Entered as Soon as Classified.

The United States commissioner of the general land office has telegraphed to N. Campbell, register, and George I. Smith, receiver of the land office in Portland, under date of December 29, as follows: "Receive and suspend applications with petitions for designation under grazing homestead law approved yesterday. Clay Tailman, commissioner." "There are approximately 49,000 acres of public lands in the Portland district subject to entry under the new law," said Mr. Campbell. "I suppose much of it can be taken as grazing lands, and as soon as classified the applications be entered to run as homesteads. Many will be able to add to their holdings portions adjacent that can only be used for grazing."

Young Church Folks Have Evening Club

Plans are being made by the First Presbyterian church of this city for the organization of a Monday evening club, with the idea of providing some educational opportunities for the young people of the church and others of the congregation who are interested. The plan, so far as it is formulated, will be to use the church house every Monday evening during January, February and March for the study of history, literature and current events. The management of the courses will be under James P. Ewing, educational director of the church. There will be a variety of courses offered, with competent leadership each Monday evening from 7:45 to 9 o'clock, with the following subjects: "Shakespeare's Tragedies," "The Historical Roots of the Great War," "Present Day Poetry," "Current Events Week by Week," and such other topics as may be added from time to time. At 9 o'clock all classes will gather in a central room for the enjoyment of travel talks by Dr. Boyd. These talks for the present will follow the general subject "Capital of the Great War," and will be illustrated with the stereopticon.

Information Is Bought.

Information as to whether a particular tract or plot of land is subject to entry may be obtained from the register or receiver of the land district in which it may be located. Plans and diagrams of any township can be secured for \$1 to \$4 from such officers, showing the entered land, and if more information is wanted a large amount of detail for the larger sum.

List of Vacant Lands.

Table listing vacant lands in the Portland district by county and acreage.

May Be Rushing Business.

The new law allows homesteads of as much as 640 acres of grazing lands. It is expected that some entries will be made under it for Clackamas county, where there are lands that could not be utilized except by adjoining homesteaders. The largest body of land unfiled upon in Clackamas county is 4751 acres, and the smallest is 40 acres.

Congress Heroes Remembered.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 30.—The Pacific Coast company today forwarded, as a present in recognition of their heroic services in rescuing the passengers and crew of the burning steamship Congress, a \$250 talking machine to the officers and members of the crew of the government dredge, Col. S. P. Mitchell.

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Rev. T. S. Anderson To Leave Atkinson

Final Sermon After Full Year's Pastorate to Be Delivered Tonight; Will Reside in Portland. Today will complete one year of pastoral services of the Rev. Thomas S. Anderson in the Atkinson Memorial Congregational church, and he will give his last sermon in the evening. This will also complete 23 years of Mr. Anderson's ministerial life, during which period he has never been without actual charge of a church, not for a single Sabbath, passing directly through five pastorates. He served two churches in Chicago, presbytery, for nine years. Was pastor of Marquette, Wis., Presbyterian church for seven years and in the First Presbyterian church of Bay City, Mich., for 11 years.

A year ago last summer Mr. Anderson suffered a nervous breakdown. At the earnest solicitation of friends and seeking a complete recovery of health, he came to Portland the first of the year and took charge of the Atkinson church. It was the hope and expectation that this church might be developed into a strong community church, but because of financial depression and strong denominational rivalry this seems to be impossible at the present time. Mr. Anderson says that the secularian spirit seems to be even stronger in Portland than in the east and he believes the city to be over-church-ed but not over-religious.

Falling Limb Kills Crabtree Workman

Crabtree, Or., Dec. 30.—D. W. Beougher, who with his two sons has been getting out logs for the Crabtree Lumber company mill, on the C. P. Sargent place six miles from town, was instantly killed Thursday, when a limb which broke from a tree being felled, struck him on the head. It was thought Beougher was only

Advertisement for 1917, wishing one and all a happy, prosperous new year. Includes the text 'Wishing One and All a Happy, Prosperous New Year' and the logo for Robert's Bros. Third & Morrison.

Advertisement for Ben Selling, featuring the text 'FOR everyone, no matter what his faith or flag, I wish happiness and prosperity throughout the whole new year.' and 'For all the citizens of your Portland and my Portland I wish renewed devotion to the highest civic and business ideals, to the end that our city may abundantly sustain a cheerful and a thriving people.'

Advertisement for Marguerite Clark in the play 'Snow White'. Features a large illustration of Marguerite Clark and the text 'MARGUERITE CLARK IN "SNOW WHITE" FAMOUS PLAYERS-PARAMOUNT'.

Advertisement for the play 'Snow White' by Marguerite Clark. Includes the text 'One week starting this morning Daniel Frohman Presents the Magnetic, Captivating Favorite Marguerite Clark In an entrancing six-act picturization of her greatest stage success "Snow White" In which she appeared for two years at Winthrop Ames' Little Theatre, New York. No need to use superlatives in describing this offering—it's one hundred per cent pleasing.' and 'Daily from 11 a. m. to 11 p. m., with special Midnight "High Jinks" at 11:30 o'clock Tonight, at Portland's favorite, The Peoples Alder Street at West Park Marshall 880—A-2087'