

ALDERMAN VIRTUALLY CALLS TEACHER LIAR; HER HUSBAND RAGES

Big Sensation Punctures Testimony Given by Former Principal of "Poly."

NEAR-MELEE IS CAUSED

Superintendent of Schools Offers An Apology, Which is Not Accepted by Attorneys for Woman.

For a moment the proceedings in the hearing of Mrs. Alexia Alexander, deposed principal of Benson Polytechnic school for girls, seemed about to grow into a free-for-all fight last night, when Superintendent of Schools Alderman questioned the truth of a statement made by Mrs. Alexander, who was testifying.

Mrs. Alexander said that Mr. Alderman had called her a mad woman and a "crazy old fool." Mr. Alderman retorted: "I never heard such a pack of lies as I've heard here tonight."

Mrs. Alexander's husband sprang to his feet.

"Mr. Alderman," he shouted, "stand up like a man." Mr. Alderman remained seated.

"Cowardly" and "Dastardly" Attack. Attorney Clark, appearing for Mrs. Alexander, said:

"In all my court experience I never heard a more cowardly attack."

Attorney Korrell, his colleague, said: "Nor a more dastardly attack."

At the conclusion of the hearing Superintendent Alderman offered a public apology to Mrs. Alexander and the members of the school board.

Attorney Clark declined to accept the apology in behalf of his client, saying that Alderman, in "not offering amends sooner, has sinned away his day."

Mrs. Alexander's husband said: "I am sorry for my wife's conduct, but I am not sorry for my wife's conduct."

Mrs. Alexander occupied the witness stand for more than two hours. She related the details of the circumstances leading up to her dismissal as principal. She laid particular stress upon the expressions of loyalty and appreciation of her work, which she said she had always received from Superintendent Alderman.

"First Notice of Displacement." "When did you first hear that you were to be displaced?" asked her attorney, A. B. E.

"The first intimation of it was on July 19, last year," she replied. "I received a telephone message stating that the board had decided to dismiss me and spring it upon me when the school term opened. I investigated and found that Superintendent Alderman and Director Plummer had gone east. I then saw Principal D. A. Grout and asked him regarding any criticisms he may have heard about me. He replied that he could not answer me, as he was not my superior or my employer."

Alice, who told me I would have to get the story from Mr. Alderman. When Mr. Alderman returned from the east, I visited him. He received me most cordially and went over to my home, approving all that I had done. He added, however, that 'we are both on a tight place, that he had telephoned Superintendent Alderman to come and take my place; that insistence was being brought to have me removed."

"Alderman Advises Other Duties." "Was anything said about your taking up any other kind of work in the schools?" asked her attorney.

"Mr. Alderman advised me to take any other place," Mrs. Alexander said, "or get fired from the system. He added, however, that my work always had been satisfactory and that I had done well. He laid it all upon the number of the company appearing on the paper. I then called on the members of the board to ascertain if they were against me. Directors Plummer and Smith declared that they would stand by Mr. Alderman and that they would follow his recommendations in the matter."

Subsequent inquiries about the signed paper which I found that only one member of the board had signed it, and that man was the very person I had been told had nothing to do with it. Mr. Alderman never showed me that paper."

Referring to the home making course, about which the witness said that Mr. Alderman had said he "knew nothing," the witness said:

"Mr. Alderman positively attended three of the graduating exercises of this class. The list of graduates was always before the superintendent in advance and the names were printed only in the school paper but in the newspapers, as well. Diplomas were furnished for this course. Superintendent Alderman always signed these diplomas."

Sister of Director is Placed. The witness related the incidents of the employment at the school of Mrs. Mary Graham, a sister of Director Plummer, who she alleged, had been placed at that school at the insistence of the superintendent.

The personal clash with Mr. Alderman came when Mrs. Alexander was discussing the employment of Besse Duncan of the night school shift.

"I advised the witness that she had better discontinue," said "Miss Duncan did quit. Her mail accumulated at the school and I readdressed it. E. Frothingham, her neighbor, complained to the board and an inspector was sent to the school. I was accused of willfully delaying the woman's mail. I spoke to Mr. Alderman about it. He said: 'Never mind; that man is a crazy old fool.'"

At this point Superintendent Alderman virtually called her a liar and she to the witness. Hisses and handclapping interrupted among the scores in the audience, and the chairman was compelled to rap for order.

The hearing will be resumed next Tuesday night.

A Poor Companion.

Mother: Johnny, stop using such dreadful language.

Johnny: Well, mother, Shakespeare uses it.

Mother: Then don't play with him; he's no fit companion for you.

ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE DOES IT.

When your shoes pinch or your corns and bunions ache, so that you are tired all over, get Allen's Foot-Ease. It is a certain powder to be shaken into the shoe and sprinkled on the foot-bath. It will take the sting out of corns and bunions and give instant relief to tired aching, swollen, tender feet. Over 100,000 packages are being used by the German and Allied troops. It costs 50c every where.

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Bill for Emergency Conditions Proposed

Measure Being Drafted at Request of Senator Pierce Would Permit Issuance of Certificates of Indebtedness.

Salem, Or., Jan. 13.—At the request of Senator Walter M. Pierce of Union county, Attorney General Brown is drafting a measure intended to meet some of the existing situations that might arise under the operation of the 6 per cent tax limitation amendment to the constitution.

It is generally recognized that emergency conditions might arise, such as the burning of a courthouse or other public building, as the result of which there would be need for a speedy method of raising money.

To meet this situation, it is probable the bill will contain provisions authorizing, under certain restrictions, the issuance of certificates of indebtedness when approved by the emergency board. These certificates of indebtedness would be charged up against the 6 per cent limitation for the succeeding biennium.

The bill also will provide a method for calling a special election when it is necessary to vote on the question of providing more funds that may be required to carry out the provisions of the bill for the benefit of road districts particularly.

State Senator Dimick Likes Way Legislative Work Looms in Salem

Returns to Home in Oregon City for Week-End Pleas'd With Preliminary Progress

Oregon City, Or., Jan. 13.—The legislature adjourning Friday over Sunday, Clackamas county's representatives have come home to spend a couple of days.

State Senator Walter A. Dimick reached home last evening and in speaking of the situation at the senate said he was particularly well pleased with the beginning, for much work was accomplished this week that is usually not finished until the second week of the session.

According to the report of the Oregon Bureau of Mines and Geology commission, including the non-metallics, the amount is about \$5,500,000.

The resolution passed the senate and is now in the house. Representative Brown has a bill before the house also providing for consolidation of the senate and commission on this having been one of his campaign arguments.

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Attorney Would Be Two Places at Once

Physical Impossibility of Being in Washington and Salem Simultaneously Is Great Burden to Brown.

Salem, Or., Jan. 13.—Attorney General Brown greatly desires to be in two places at once, he is told by those who are wondering what to do. He wants to go to Washington, D. C., to present a brief in a case in which the state is interested, and he wants to stay in Salem to act as advisor to members of the legislature.

He visited the senate Friday afternoon to see what the legislators thought about it. Only six senators, Pierce, Steiwer, Lenevander, Von der Heilen, Wilbur and I. S. Smith were present and they vigorously insisted that the attorney general is needed badly at home to think of leaving. He said he probably will follow the advice and stay at home.

Several parties will start in machines on Wednesday, and over the road will leave at night. The trip this year will be by way of Palmer on the "back" side of the mountain. The climbing starts from Bridal Veil, and the plank road up to the top of the mountain is now being repaired. The route then lies by trail and railroad tracks to the summit.

Last Sunday there was about five feet of snow on the summit, and the warm weather of the past week is thought to have lessened that depth materially. Many will go on snowshoes and skis, but many will be equipped for those who choose to hike through in the ordinary way. W. P. Hardy, president of the club, has requested that all hikers have a rope and every precaution must be made to withstand keen, high-altitude winds. The men are fishermen, and J. C. Bush are the leaders.

Bill Revolutionizes Affairs of Counties

Senator Smith Will Father Measure Making It Possible for People to Find Out About Public Business.

Salem, Or., Jan. 13.—County business in all counties except Multnomah will be revolutionized, if a bill which Senator I. S. Smith will introduce early next week should become a law.

It will provide that the county judge shall devote all his time to county business, that he shall act as financial or purchasing agent for the county, and that the other two members of the board of commissioners will be one elective commissioner and the county clerk.

Provision is to be made that all purchases in amounts of \$25 or more must be made on contract. I suppose we will submit at the first meeting in January a complete inventory of all county property, of which he will be custodian, and at each meeting of the county court he will be required to furnish a complete list of the county property, which is to be kept on file and be subject to public inspection.

This ought to make it possible for the public to find out something about county business," said Senator Smith.

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