

DIVERSIFIED ACTIVITIES MARK SPRING DAYS IN CITY SCHOOLS

Wheat Harvested By Paper Farmer Living on Table

One of the interesting types of work at Englewood recently has been that in geography done by the pupils of the first grade through the medium of the sand table. Can you remember how much fun it was, "once upon a time", to make sand houses and mud pies? Children still use sand and mud under the direction of a skillful teacher it is marvelous how much can be done to develop this natural tendency along educational lines.

the tiny yellow chicks and gayly colored roosters, all molded from clay are some of the wonders he displays. Then of course there is a little brook and a duck pond. Fields of really growing wheat and well cared for gardens give promise that Oregon will do its share toward feeding the hungry millions.

GRANT SCHOOL NOTES

Last Monday the fifth and sixth grades were victorious over Lincoln in a game of playground ball. At Englewood on Wednesday they were beaten in a hotly contested game. Mrs. F. S. Francis of Lincoln was a visitor in the English department on Tuesday. Miss Mae Clemo, the fourth grade teacher, remained away from her classes Friday on account of a severe cold. Her work was carried on by Miss Elsie White. Mrs. Conner, wife of the janitor, is still quite seriously ill. Former students in the United States service who have recently returned to Salem are Clifford Crosson, Elmer Lunden and Luther D. Cook. Mr. Cooke and his wife were callers at the school Monday. An interesting study of punctuality is taken from the report of the last six weeks as follows: Tardy in 3A class, 18; 3B class, 4; 3A class, 4; 3B class, 4; 7A class, 1; 7B class, 0. Of 31 tardies the ninth grade gets credit for 22, of which 17 were made by six members of the class.

War Declared By Small Boy When Given Nickname

What would you do if you were quietly attending to your own affairs and someone should call you "the kaiser?" "You're the kaiser and your little brother is one of his sons," said one second grade boy to another last Monday in a Salem school. Friendly relations were broken off at once. "You take it back," said the boy addressed. A negative answer resulted in an immediate declaration of war and hostilities were opened. The coloring forces being of practically the same strength, the contest raged fast and furious until a friendly power offered mediation. Hostilities were suspended, but the offended party insisted, "He's got to take it back." "Do you blame him?" "Peace was declared the next day and at least one teacher feels that this child was justified in the course he pursued. Will the military note be observable in the spring fashions as it was a year ago? Possibly, however, the modistes have made up their minds that the armistice means peace.

EATING LIKE A CAMEL PART OF SCHOOL COURSE

Youngsters Who Are Studying Dramatization at Englewood Have Fun PLENTY OF VARIETY

Picture Study, Library Books and Play-Acting Make Period Pleasant

Crunch, crunch, crunch, went the camel. He was eating sugar cane. It grew beside the bank of a stream wherein dwelt a choice collection of crabs. A jackal was eating the crabs. Nobody knows where it was all supposed to take place, but the sugar cane patch strangely resembled a teachers desk and the river looked very much like the floor of a school room. The fact is that the whole scene was laid in an upstairs front room in the Englewood school building and the camel and the jackal were none other than two little boys, and as for crabs, they were purely imaginary. Each actor in the little scene carefully watched his book awaiting his turn to speak, while the remainder of the youngsters in the rooms sat on benches about the wall, an interested audience. For 20 minutes each day each class in the school is permitted to visit the library room on the second floor and enjoy the books there, being required upon completion of each volume to report upon it orally. A record is kept by Miss Helena Willett, who is in charge of the room, so that she knows exactly how each child was impressed by the volume he perused. On Mondays and Tuesdays the pupils have dramatization, acting out the stories they are reading and taking a keen interest in keeping up the "play" atmosphere. Usually a boy in the class manages the stage settings, placing a chair here or a desk there, for the scenery most resembles that in the Elizabethan theatre. Simple plays are chosen for the lower grades and are taken from a class book. By the time the youngsters reach the sixth grade they are handling elaborate tales, such as "The King of the Golden River." The results of this oral work are plainly evident, the expression given the regular reading lesson is much improved and the children have learned to look away from the book occasionally. There is much variety to the library period and it is a much anticipated part of the day. Once or twice a month improvised games teach the children facts they should know about the best of the world's paintings. They learn the artists' names, are familiar with their greatest works and know the stories concerning each. Small prints of famous pictures are shown them at this time. Books used in the school are sent out by the city library and every six weeks are passed on to another building. They mostly are collections of hero and history stories told in ways that appeal to the child. Once a book is taken out it must be completed before the holder is permitted to turn it back on the shelf. Englewood school has a light, airy library room with benches around the walls and plenty of shelves for the reading material. There are always clusters of reasonable flowers on the tables and to simply sit through a period amid the surroundings is enough to make the average adult wish lessons were taught that way when he learned his readin', 'ritin', and 'rithmetick.

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SUPERINTENDENT EXPLAINS LAWS

J. A. Churchill Delivers Address Before Highland Parent-Teachers Circle

Members of the Parent-Teacher circle of the Highland school held a "live wire" meeting at the building Wednesday night. Pupils from the several grades, under the supervision of Miss Mildred Cox, gave an exhibition of the folk games being taught as a part of the physical training course. J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction, was the speaker of the evening, devoting his address to a detailed explanation of the recently passed educational school laws and the one now pending in congress. H. L. Clark, chairman of the school board was called upon for a short talk, as also Rev. I. G. Lee, pastor of the North Salem Friends church. The flag contest for attendance was won by Miss Wilson's pupils, as 83.33 percent of their parents were at the meeting. To fill the vacancy caused the resignation of A. B. Cook, the circle elected Superintendent Tillinghast of the Deaf school vice-president. Mr. Cook is in the government service in Washington. After the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" the meeting was adjourned and punch and cake were served by the women. **ENGLEWOOD IS VICTOR** A ball game between Grant and Englewood was played Wednesday, April 16 on the Englewood grounds. Englewood won, the score being 27 to 6.

LINCOLN SCHOOL NOTES

Awarding a colored flag placed on the black board of each room having the children in their seats promptly has proved an effective method in lessening the amount of tardiness in the Lincoln grades. In the past month the figures were reduced by three-tenths. During the past week the art department has been busy working on Easter baskets, cleverly constructed by the children. These they were permitted to take home and do with as they pleased. At a meeting of five representative women from the Lincoln district Monday afternoon it was decided to send a committee to the school board meeting tomorrow to present the needs of that building as they concern the erection of a gymnasium. The women are in favor of backing up the movement begun at Grant school.

LETTERS GIVEN BALL PLAYERS

Lincoln Student Body Holds Assembly—Harold Cook Is Speaker

Long delayed letters for the members of the football and basketball teams at the Lincoln school arrived and were presented to the boys at a student body assembly Friday afternoon. The regular business session was followed by a program including recitations, piano solos, biographies and a talk by Harold Cook, general executive for the Boy Scout troops of this city. Mrs. Von Esche, principal of the school, made a short address in which she encouraged the students to promote better programs for their assemblies, advising that they introduce some of the solid subjects as well as the ornamental ones such as music and athletics. Those who were awarded football letters were Frank Patterson, Lester Taylor, Herbert Feamster, Owen Lyntheom, Lloyd Bohannon, Glenn Morris, Glenn Ringo, Francis Smith, Herman Schieusner and Kermit Thompson. Members of the basketball team receiving the "L" were Frank Patterson, Lloyd Bohannon, Ditner Huddleson, Webster Taylor, Ivan Nelson, Edwin Armstrong, Owen Lyntheom and Philip Falk.

HIGHLAND GROUNDS ATTRACT

A prominent state official who recently visited the Highland school said he had not seen in all of Oregon a better kept building or lawn and that strangers remarked upon the size of the attractive playgrounds and the thrifty, well cared for rose hedges. To the janitor, S. Drake, is due much of the credit for the appearance of the school, as the caretaker undoubtedly has an eye for beauty.

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GYMNASTICS NO LONGER APPEAR DULL TO PUPILS

Children in Physical Training Classes Learn to Play by Rules of Game

ALWAYS GOOD LOSERS

Special Stress Put on Recreation Work in Grades During Present Year

During no previous year has the physical welfare of the boys and girls in the elementary grades of the Salem schools been given so much consideration as during the past winter. Special periods for recreation and play are set apart during school hours and definite instruction is being given in special forms of exercise which are considered as essential as any other subject taught in the schools today. The system of physical training arranged, provides for the health, strength and grace of the boys and girls and a love for the exercise period is manifest. A uniform program is carried out in all buildings and a competent teacher is in charge. The instructor at the Richmond school is to be credited with the following description of the work: At all times the children are encouraged to assume a good carriage of the body whether sitting, standing, walking or running, and in plays and games. Breathing exercises are emphasized in each lesson and all classes are held in the open air, weather permitting, but at no time with closed windows. Three periods of the week are given to formal gymnastics. During these periods a progressive order of exercise is given tending towards correct posture which assures the proper functioning of the organs of the body. Each month a posture test which consists of standing, marching and taking exercises is given. When a correct posture is taken and held for three minutes in each of the above mentioned exercises for three consecutive tests the pupil is awarded a posture pin given by the American Posture League at the end of the school year. The most attractive and wholesome of the forms of exercise is the folk dance or rhythmic game which is given on three other periods of the week. This is a real form of play and not only brings about a happy feeling but sets in motion the muscles of the body, producing grace and freedom of movement. The dance is taught to characteristic music and expresses a beautiful form of art. All other recreation periods are given to supervised play. There is nothing in the whole range of schooling that is as educational as play. Every game and competition has its own purpose and method of reaching the result sought. To learn to play by the rules of the game, to be a courteous winner and a good loser are the teachings of the playground. If the child has played well he will do his work well and to passersby the Salem school grounds have become scenes of happy, orderly play. Although the subject of physical training is still regarded with indifference by many parents it has proved a necessity, an essential part of the child's education and as now being carried out in the Salem schools is developing normal, healthy, happy children.

Imaginative Child Has New Blue Bird Theory

The sixth grade at Englewood has been doing some interesting language work in connection with bird study. The following original story by Oliver Kupper shows touches of real imagination. "One day the All Ruler missed a little piece of the sky. Looking down He saw it gently floating on the breeze. 'It looks very peaceful there,' thought He. 'I will let it stay. But it has no life. It cannot enjoy its position.' So saying He floated down and changed it into a beautiful bird which you now call the bluebird."

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