

COIN FOR NORMALS.

Law Puts on Same Basis as the Reform School.

Salem Or., March 10.—An examination of the laws creating the State Normal schools seems to show that these schools are as much state institutions as are the Reform School, Mute School and Blind School and that there is authority for their continuance even though the appropriation bill should be held up by a referendum petition.

Advocates of the referendum movement expect to cut off the Normal School expense along with some others, by filing the petitions, but there seems to be as much authority for continuing the Normal School as there is for the Blind School or Mute School.

Under the statutes and the decisions of the courts, the Secretary of State is bound to audit claims wherever there is a law in existence authorizing the expense to be incurred. An examination of the law on that subject therefore becomes important.

The authority for the maintenance of the Blind School is contained in section 3564 of the code, which says:

"The State Board of Education are hereby constituted the Board of Trustees of said institute, and it shall be their duty as such trustees to take charge of the funds of said institute, to provide for the proper care of the pupils, to appoint all officers and teachers, and define the duties of the same, to fix and regulate the salaries of all persons employed by them, and to make a full statement of the expenses, management and condition of the institute at each regular session of the Legislative Assembly."

The law creating the Drain and Ashland Normal Schools is contained in sections 3591 to 3597 of the code. The act provides for a Board of Regents, consisting of the State Board of Education and nine members appointed by the Governor on each Board. Section 2505 defines the powers and duties of the boards, among which are the following:

"To appoint and employ a president and vice-president of said school and such professors, teachers and employees as may be necessary and to prescribe their duties, compensation and tenure of office or employment."

The Western Normal is governed by sections 3490 to 3500 of the code. Section 3500 gives the Board of Regents power similar to that quoted regarding the Drain and Ashland schools, and it is also provided that the board shall have power "to purchase any needful and proper apparatus, books or articles, and to provide for all necessary fuel and other supplies for use in the school."

The same power to employ teachers, fix their compensation and tenure of employment is conferred upon the Board of Regents of the Monmouth Normal.

In the case of the Monmouth, Drain and Ashland schools, authority is given to expend any money belonging to or appropriated for such schools, and in the case of the Monmouth Normal, it is specified that the expenditure shall be "according to the terms of such gift or appropriation," but these provisions do not appear to be a limitation upon the power to employ teachers and fix salaries.

The acts governing the Reform School and Mute School are a little more particular in terms than that governing the Blind School. The acts authorized the boards of trustees to make any contracts for the purchase of supplies, etc., necessary for the maintenance of the schools.

The acts governing the Normal schools authorize the employment of teachers, which means the making of contracts, and there seems to be no essential difference between the Normal School acts and those governing the Reform, Mute and Blind Schools.

It is stated that 34,000 deaths have occurred in India during the past 10 days. The percentage of deaths is about 96.

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RICE—Best head rice 10c per pound; next grade 6½ cents per pound.
SUGAR—Cane granulated, best \$6 85 per sack; do 13 pounds \$1.
SALT—Coarse 75c per 100; \$15 00 ton.
FLOUR—\$4 45@5 00 per barrel.
BACON—15@20c per pound.
HAMS—16@18c per pound.
COAL OIL—\$1 25@1 75 for 5 gallons; \$3 50 per case.
VEGETABLES.
POTATOES—1c per pound.
CABBAGE—4c per pound.
ONIONS—3c per pound.
FRUITS.
APPLES—Green 2c per pound.
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Located in the Columbia river valley, and skirted on the South with a spur of the Blue mountains, with the boundaries of Morrow county is a territory 75 miles in length by 35 miles in width, and containing 1,313,280 acres of land. Formerly stockraising was the principal industry, but lately the fertility of the land is bringing agriculture to the front. Immense wheat crops are grown with little cultivation, the soil being mixed with a volcanic ash which is very rich in wheat-producing qualities. The 1904 crop will aggregate 1,400,000 bushels, much of it from virgin soil.

Morrow county has thousands of head of sheep, horses and cattle. The wool production for 1904 was 2,500,000 pounds. Alfalfa and fruit growing are profitable industries, rapidly growing in importance. The county has also a great coal field, soon to be developed.

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