

## The Standard Schools

By L. Macken.

The "Standard School" is the latest and greatest step taken in this state for the advancement of the rural schools. Many states have "Model Rural Schools" located at various points within their bounds, but Oregon, through the efforts of the various county superintendents, is working out a system of "Standard Schools" which makes each school reaching the standard a "Model School" and a pattern for its neighbors.

This plan was first used in Polk county by Supt. H. C. Seymour in the school year 1911-12 and has since been taken up by the following counties: Coos, Marion, Linn, Lane, Douglas, Jackson, Klamath, Umatilla, and Yamhill. All counties have not used the same standard points but in all cases the purpose has been the same, and the results excellent.

Polk county has continued a leader in this movement and for the school year just closed used the following points:

- Flag—Must be flying in good weather.
- School house—Properly lighted and ventilated.
- Condition of school room—Attractive.
- One standard picture—One new picture during the year unless four good ones already in the room.
- Drinking water—Either fountain or tank and individual cups.
- Walks—From road to house, from house to outbuildings.
- Grounds—Drained, attractive, flowers on grounds or in rooms.
- Spelling contests—Every pupil entered.
- Discipline—Good order at all times.
- Satisfactory work—On part of both teacher and pupils.
- Attendance—Average 95 per cent for year.
- School Board—Teacher's monthly report must show at least one hour's visit by one or more members of the board each month.
- Teacher—Attending at least 50 per cent of teachers' institutes and subscribing to at least one educational paper.
- Library—Book case with lock and key, books in good condition and catalogued.
- Outbuildings—Sanitary at all times. It is necessary for a school to gain all of these points in order to be entitled to receive the standard school pennant.

A careful study of these points will show that they require the interest that they create in the community, a much greater school spirit is awakened. The climax of which is reached when the pennant for the year is presented to the school, which should be at a general gathering of the people of the neighborhood.

Last week the county superintendents of the state, in session at Salem, agreed upon a set of rules for the standardization of rural and village schools which is ample proof that the Standard School movement has brought about only good results where used.

Should you visit the schools of any of the counties using the Standard points you would find: (1) a spirit of interest in the work being done and you would probably be shown the set of standard points posted on the wall with the stars placed opposite the points gained and informed very carefully as to how they were going to win the remaining points; (2) that the pupils feel that any unnecessary absence is a black mark for their school; (3) that the room is properly lighted and heated, neat and attractive, and has potted plants carefully arranged; (4) that the grounds and road are free from waste paper, sticks, etc.; (5) that the outbuildings are clean and sanitary; (6) that the school board has made regular visits to the school and are taking a great interest in the condition of their school and the work being done; (7) that the people are proud of their school and on being asked, while on a visit to the county seat, where they live will not answer, "Out northwest about fourteen miles," but will proudly answer, "I'm from the Goose-neck School District."

### DEMAND FOR HOUSES LARGE.

Which Make the Building Outlook for Next Season Somewhat Brighter.

While the 1914 building season in Dallas has been unusually quiet, contractors and builders see a brighter outlook for the succeeding year. Several new residences are already in contemplation, and the present dearth of dwelling houses will make others necessary. There are many calls for residences at this time, with no unoccupied houses to supply the demand. "I could easily rent a half dozen houses within a week were they available," said a leading real estate man.

to The Observer on Saturday. "There is quite a demand for houses, and if Dallas expects to house its newcomers comfortably additional buildings that will rent for from \$10 to \$18 per month must be erected."

The Observer is visited almost daily by persons in search of dwelling places, most of the seekers being newcomers to the city. The demand for houses is a certain indication of growth.

### WAR HAS EFFECT HERE.

Contracts for Prunes Held Up Awaiting Outcome of Pending Trouble.

The Armsby packing plant will resume operations about the middle of September. As yet few prunes have been contracted for on account of the uncertainty of the market and the small crops. Last year the company shipped over a hundred carloads of prunes, but this year it expects much less than half that amount.

The number of prunes contracted will be influenced greatly by the outcome of the present European crisis, as most of the product is sold in Germany and other foreign countries. Despite this fact, however, the Armsby people expect to do better than most of the plants throughout the valley.

### SLAYER NOTIFIES OFFICERS.

Homesteader Near Tillamook Is Victim of Shooting.

Lee Cooper shot and killed a man by the name of Ether, nine miles above Blaine, in Tillamook county, and then went to the telephone and asked to have the sheriff and coroner sent out. In talking to Sheriff Crenshaw over the telephone, Cooper said he had killed a man in self-defense, and would remain at the Blaine store until the officer arrived. It seems that they had some trouble over chittim bark. The man who is killed was a homesteader. Cooper is a young man.

### Ready for Crushed Rock.

On account of the lateness of the season the preparatory work of grading and rolling those streets which are to be macadamized is being rushed as rapidly as possible. Two blocks are practically ready to receive the crushed rock.

### Big Strike Due Friday.

Unless the railroads accept the proposals of the arbitration board, a general strike of 55,000 firemen and engineers on ninety-eight railroads west of Chicago will be called Friday, August 7, it has been announced officially.

## WOMEN WILL ORGANIZE

### AUXILIARY TO REPUBLICAN COUNTY COMMITTEE TO BE FORMED.

Meeting Will Be Called in Near Future, When Polk Ladies Elect Officers and Arrange Campaign.

The Republican County Central committee, of which D. H. Hampton is chairman and Lew A. Cates secretary, has a movement under process of consummation for the organization of a Woman's Auxiliary committee, selecting one member thereof from each of the forty precincts in the county, and is meeting with good success, inasmuch as the ladies are becoming interested in the approaching campaign and purpose doing their part for republican victory at the polls in November. Already appointments have been made, and accepted, in some twenty-five precincts, and the committee is only awaiting recommendations from precinct committeemen to complete the list.

When the list of appointments shall have been completed, a meeting will be called in Dallas and a Woman's auxiliary will be organized exclusive of the existing committee, by the election of officers. Plans will then be made for some effective work during the campaign, and that results will be attained there can be no doubt. The secretary of the Central committee urges precinct committeemen who have not already done so to name a woman in their respective halliwicks that the proposed organization may be perfected at an early date.

The outlook for republican success in Polk county this fall is the brightest for years, and there is no reason why, with effective work all along the line, that it should not roll up a big majority for every nominee on the ticket. Information from various sections of the county indicates that the party is gaining strength, and that numerous progressives are returning to the fold.

### INDEPENDENCE NEWSLETS.

Gleanings From The Observer's Newspaper Exchanges.

M. A. Baker, for over twenty years a resident of Independence, and an old soldier, died at his home in this city Wednesday. He is survived by a wife, five sons and four daughters. The funeral services were held at the house yesterday afternoon under the auspices of the G. A. R. and he was buried in the Odd Fellow's cemetery.

With the completion of Siletz Valley railroad it has been proposed that a train service be established between Independence and Hoskins. The Independence and Monmouth railroad to furnish the service which ought to be quite profitable for them and very convenient for the public.

Dr. D. V. Poling, who was pastor of a church here at one time and is related to some Independence people, has resigned the pastorate of a church in Portland and will take up work for the prohibitionists as a singer.

Last July while the county was building the bridge and walk on east C street, George H. Poersel, a traveling salesman, fell off the half-completed bridge to the ditch below. He now has commenced suit in the circuit court against the county alleging that he sustained temporary injuries which have damaged him to the extent of \$2000.

Dean J. Butler and wife, who have been in the Philippine Islands for several years, returned home this week and are with Mr. Butler's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orval Butler. Mr. Butler has been in the employ of one of the largest law firms of the Philippine Islands and has been over a great part of the country as a result of his work.—Monitor.

The Thomas Brinkley cigar store on C street was sold this week to Robert Mills and Candance Endsley. James S. Ready brought suit in Justice Winn's court this week against Mrs. Amanda Rexford, who conducts the candy kitchen stand on C street, alleging \$75 due him for labor. The court allowed him just six bones, which we learn was attached by another party to satisfy a debt Ready owed him. It was a case of "presto change."

The feed and sale barn conducted by O. T. Murphy, was leased by him Monday to Dick Crowley, who formerly had charge of it prior to Mr. Murphy's management.

Considerable petty thieving is reported going on in various parts of the city. Milk bottles left on the porches by the milk dealers to their customers is being stolen by culprits during the night.

While in the act of cranking an auto last Friday morning, Jeff Krebs broke his left arm near the wrist.—Enterprise.

Here's a Chance for Polk. President L. C. Gilman of the Oregon Electric railway has authorized the presentation of a chiming clock to the winner of a special contest on grains and grasses at the state fair at Salem. The award will be based upon quality and quantity. The winning exhibit is to be turned over to the railroad company for exhibition purposes after the fair.

Will Move Away. Monmouth is going to lose one of her good citizens, or rather a small family of citizens, as J. K. P. Carson has traded his four-acre tract here

for H. W. Willard's place adjoining the southern part of Independence, paying the difference in price between the two properties, there being about 29 acres in the Willard property. Mr. Willard in turn sold the Monmouth tract to W. F. Darnmouth of Mitchell, South Dakota, whom report says will move here soon. Mr. Carson expects to move to his new possession next week.—Monmouth Herald.

### BELT'S OUTLOOK BRIGHT.

Makes Good Impression Among Voters of Tillamook While Outing.

While on a recent pleasure trip in Tillamook county, Mr. Harry H. Belt, republican nominee for circuit judge, came in contact with a large number of representative people of that section, and from personal advices it is known that he made an excellent impression with them. While this is the home county of his democratic opponent, Judge Holmes, it is predicted that Mr. Belt will receive a surprisingly large vote there in the November election. There is a combination of circumstances in Tillamook, and especially in the city, that do not augur well for the success of the democratic candidate for the judgeship. In Polk county Mr. Belt will receive the solid republican vote, besides which a considerable number of democrats who appreciate his worth will not only champion his claims, but will cast their ballot for him. Yamhill may be counted upon for a large majority for the Polk county man, and thus sizing up the situation The Observer can see no good reason why he should not be elected by a healthy majority.

### Some Sanitary Outfit, This.

At Sydney, in Polk county, the Krebs Brothers, formerly in the hop business, are constructing an immense dairy barn which will be up-to-date in every respect. It will have cement floors, brass rails, modern ventilation, running water, and will cost about \$2,000. The employees will wear white suits, and at milking time the cows will be washed, milked by machinery and only the final "stripping" will be done by hand. Fifty graded Holsteins will be handled at first and 100 head additional will be purchased in the near future. Amity Standard.

### Pins His Faith in Dallas.

Henry Serr returned to Dallas last Friday, after having spent ten days at The Dalles and other Eastern Oregon towns. He investigated business conditions in that section of the state and is firm in the belief that Polk county is enjoying greater prosperity than any place he visited. "Dallas looks good to me," he said to a representative of The Observer with some emphasis. "It is the ideal spot in a great state, and one of which we have just cause to be proud."

### Bridges About Completed.

The two large wagon road bridges over the Siletz river, one at the Upper Ford, built largely through the endeavors of Mr. Raddant and at his private expense, and the bridge at the Rock Creek Ford will be completed and formally opened for travel within a week. It is understood that quite a celebration will be held at that time by the people of Siletz and other parts of the county. The two bridges will cost about \$20,000.—Newport Signal.

### Evangelical Camp Meeting.

The United Evangelical camp-meeting began last Friday with a large attendance, and it promises to be the best of those held at Quinaby. On Saturday morning M. J. Ballantyne, D. M. Metzger and A. A. Winter began a course of lessons or lectures on "The Sunday School Teacher's Course," "The Mind of the Messiah" and "The Social Aspect of Home Missions."

### Find Trout in Abundance.

Dr. Starbuck and party returned on Friday last from a week's outing in Benton county, enthusiastic over his catch of trout. The party went to Rose Lodge by automobile, making the trip from Dallas in four hours, and from that point hiked over a mountain trail some seven miles to a secluded stream that empties into Siletz bay. The limit was taken in short order without effort.

### Shows Big Net Profit.

According to figures prepared by Corporation Commissioner Watson for his annual report, the receipts of his office from June 3, last, to June 30, this year, totaled \$310,613.09, and the disbursements \$24,496.79. The balance of \$286,116.31 was turned into the general fund, as required by law. This year it was necessary to purchase all the equipment, and next year he estimates the expenditures will not exceed \$17,000.

### Injured by Automobile.

Tom Jones of McMinnville was run over by an automobile driven by Joe Williams, who lives near Yamhill, leaving him with three broken ribs, a broken collar-bone and a severe gash in the head.

### New Store at Newport.

Joe Justin, formerly of the Price Bros.' clothing house of this city, and Phillip Price of Oregon City have opened a clothing store at Newport.

### Prune Growers, Attention.

See the latest in prune stoves. No better made. See them at the Dallas Iron Works. July 21—Sept. 1.

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