

The Herald

W. T. FOGLE, Editor.

Entered as second-class matter September 8, 1908, at the post office at Monmouth, Oregon, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY, BY

The Acorn Press, Publishers
Monmouth, Oregon.

Subscription Rates

One year - - - \$1
Six months - - - 50 cts

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1909

BY WAY OF COMPARISON.

Were the normal school question alone to be considered—were there no mistake to rectify with regard to appropriations for necessary improvements at state institutions—it would still be the duty of the legislature to meet in special session.

Common business honor toward the normals demands that their affairs be wound up in a legitimate manner. No school can arrange for its contracts and obligations to end in the middle of the school year. No teacher would teach, no pupil would consent to be taught, under such conditions. The honest debts of the normals must be paid if Oregon would save itself from shame. Graduates of eastern normal schools and colleges teaching in Weston are positively aghast at Oregon's seeming disregard of ordinary decency toward its schools. They are or have been state institutions, yet, are abandoned without a dollar with every obligation to their teachers and students unfulfilled.

The Leader has an interesting document on file in its office in proof that they are state institutions. It was sent by Mr. Dunbar, former secretary of state, who curtly informed this paper of the decision of the attorney-general to the effect that the constitution forbade that we should be paid for any job printing done for the Weston school, since it was a state institution and its work should be done at the state office. At this very time Mr. Dunbar was quietly adding to his personal account illegal fees that amounted, it is charged, to \$100,000 during his term of office.

This reminds us that the normal schools are the scapegoats for every dollar appropriated by the state, and suffer vicarious atonement for every alleged graft.

The \$500,000 given to the Portland fair did not bring a dollar into Umatilla county and took thousands out of the pockets of our citizens; yet the fair was hailed as a blessing while Umatilla county's normal school is stigmatized as a graft.

The Crater lake road, useful only to bug-buzzing tourists, gets \$100,000 without a protest from a single Portland newspaper, yet each tries to see who can club the normal schools the hardest.

The portage railway at Celilo gets \$75,000 in addition to \$175,000 formerly appropriated. At the same time it shows receipts of about \$3000 annually and expenditures of about \$9000. This road is undoubtedly of value as a regulator of freight rates, yet it costs the state a pretty penny to "regulate," counting the interest on that quarter of a million in-

vested.

It is quite likely a good thing for somebody. We do not know and are not here to criticise. Yet so is the training of teachers of undoubted value to the state, and its physical divisions are such that it positively needs three normals. Massachusetts has eight we believe and the man who would condemn them as grafts would be sought for by the museums.

The Agricultural college got \$370,000 and very likely was entitled to every dollar. It is doing a great work. Yet at this rate its 1425 students cost the state about \$125 annually each. The Eastern Oregon State Normal has had \$17,500 annually for the past two years—the largest amount it ever received. Just before its recent troubles it had 172 actual attendance in its normal department, aside from 100 in the training school, which we do not count. At this rate its students cost about \$100 annually each; and more than 60 per cent come from counties outside of Umatilla. It is a bona fide Eastern Oregon institution, and the legislature will find that it has lots of friends. It only becomes a local institution when Weston has to help it out, which the town is doing right now with a fund that has reached \$3000 with the aid of other contributions from outside towns. Ten acres of land and a brick building were among Weston's gifts in the past.

And the University also, which has a handsome permanent maintenance that we did all in our power to aid in securing. Oregon needs this institution, but the normals are no more a graft than it is, and their graduates, we warrant, do not cost the state as much "per head." In fact, the graduates of the devoted and gallant Monmouth Normal, whose history has been one of struggle and sacrifice, are not at present costing the state a dollar. Call the Monmouth Normal a graft and then call the Angel Gabriel a thief for the larceny of his golden trumpet.

The district fairs get money, the experiment station gets money, the asylum, pen, reform schools, etc., get more money; the coyote counties get bounty funds—money goes out in streams from the state treasury for every conceivable purpose—and only the normal schools are "grafts." Oh, but this is a tiresome word to those of us who have time and again gone into our personal pockets for the aid of these state schools.

The normal school question ought to be submitted to the people for final decision as to whether they want one, two, three or none. And if the legislature wants to be fair it will do more than run the schools until June; it will give them a chance to live until the real arbiter of their fate—the sovereign people of the state of Oregon—have had a chance to speak. The legislature would be assuming too much to abolish them arbitrarily—and the heaviest tax payers of Umatilla county, represented in the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union have protested against such action by resolution addressed to Governor Benson.—Weston Leader.

The White Front Furniture Store

Keeps constantly on hand

A full line of

HOUSE FURNISHINGS

Sole Agency for

Hygienic Kalsomine

The best thing ever. Works over wall paper as well as any other surface.

Absolutely Guaranteed

Picture Framing a Specialty

BOGERT & SON
Monmouth Oregon

Phone 331

You will be satisfied with the products of

Burpee's "Seeds that Grow"

Shall we mail you our New Complete Catalog?
W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO., Burpee Building, Philadelphia.

V. O. Boots

FIRE LIFE AND CASUALTY

INSURANCE

LOSSES PROMPTLY PAID

A. N. Poole

Contractor and
Builder.

Blue prints made to scale
from original drawings.

General Carpenter Work

Phone 187

Real Estate For Sale.

330 acres on C. E. R. R. 1½ miles from station and school house. Good small house and two barns, and other out buildings and a good young orchard. Good stock and dairy ranch at a bargain.

80 acres, 60 under cultivation; good house, barn and other out-buildings; 2¼ miles from railroad station. Will sell for cash, or half cash, balance one years time. 5 springs and running water on place.

Dwelling of ten rooms with large grounds, fruit, berries and shrubbery \$1350.

Fine large dwelling with acre of land \$2500.

Business chances.

2½ lots with a good 5 room, basement cottage, with a good pantry and closet. Apples, pears, cherries, plums and other small fruit. A bargain. Inquire of Polk County Realty Co.

Perkins Pharmacy

Carries

A full line of Perfumes,
Toilet Articles

AND

Druggists Sundries

Paints and Oils

Prescriptions a Specialty

Security Chronic Cough and Distemper
Remedy. Security Stock Food and Poultry Food.

Perkins Pharmacy

Spring is Here

You need a new Watch

Come in and let us sell you a

SOUTH BEND

A Watch that is Guaranteed in every respect

P. E. CHASE