

Local and Personal.

Miss Elma Harris from Dallas visited Kathryn Hughes last week leaving for home Sunday.

Mr. E. C. Cole, manager of the V. F. Daniel Store, accompanied by his wife and children went to Aumsville to spend the 4th and visit his mother. He returned home yesterday.

Report of Public Schools

Annual Report of the Schools of Polk County, Oregon, for the School Year 1909-10, Ending June 17, 1910.

No. of school districts in county	68
No. of dists. maintaining school	66
No. of children in the county between the ages of 4 and 20 years:	
Male	2142
Female	2020
Total	4162
No. of teachers employed during the year:	
Male	25
Female	107
Total	132
No. of teachers' certificates issued:	
Male	14
Female	56
Total	70
No. eighth grade diplomas issued:	
Male	61
Female	82
Total	143
Average number of days public school taught	141
Whole number days attendance	336897
Whole number of days absence	21346
Whole number of times late	3858
Average No. of pupils belonging	2540.6
Average daily attendance	2389.2
Percent of attendance	94.4
No. of pupils neither absent nor tardy during the year	171
No. of visits by parents	750
No. of visits by members of school boards	289

The following schools have been placed on the roll of honor for the county for having made a per cent of attendance of 95 or more during the entire year:—Dallas, Red Prairie, Lewisville, Ballston, Monmouth, Scroggins, Gooseneck, Oak Point, Elkins, Buell, Spring Valley, Harmony, Lincoln, North Dallas, Enterprise, Etna, McTimmonds' Valley, McCoy, Teals', Falls City, Pioneer, Rock Creek, Mistletoe.

The following schools have not any tardies during the entire school year;—Lincoln, McTimmonds' Valley, Rock Creek.

While our per cent of attendance this year has not reached the 95 percent we were striving for, we have made a very large gain and I believe that with the same co-operation next year in the matter of attendance we will be able to reach that 95 per cent we have been working for.

In the beginning of the school year we asked that all school houses be fitted with window-boards if they did not have other means of ventilation, and we have been working along this line all the year and now out of the 66 schools in the county 61 have the window-boards or some other way of proper ventilation, and 59 schools have the individual drinking cups or the fountain, so that we have along the lines of health made great advancement, also nearly all out-buildings in the county have been placed in a sanitary condition and many school grounds improved and drained.

Respectfully,

H. C. SEYMOUR,
School Supt., Polk County, Ore.

INFLUENCE OF COLOR

By ARCHIBALD SPOFFARD.

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"Doctor, I have a problem for you to solve. I am aware that you study the science of your profession rather than practice that profession; that your investigations have pertained to the different conditions wherein mind dominates matter and other kindred questions. I have heard that you have

even analyzed love between the sexes and are prepared to place men and women in positions where they will love and other positions wherein they will hate one another. Am I right?"

"Partly. We are all affected by our environment. Bad weather, for instance, makes us quarrelsome."

"But we cannot control the weather, and the problem I have for you is to produce love. As you know, I am immensely wealthy. My wealth must all go in time to Isabel, my only child. She is now trying to decide between two men. One of them I wish her to marry; to the other I have serious objections. She will not be influenced by me. Can you instruct me how to influence her by natural causes?"

"I can suggest a method for you to try," the doctor replied, "if you can bring about the necessary conditions. Arrange, if possible, that your daughter, when the man you prefer is with her, shall receive him in rooms decorated with soft colors harmoniously blended. Let some of the apartments be entirely of green. Arrange also that when she is with the man you oppose the rooms shall be all hung in red."

"Do you really think?"

"I have observed," the doctor continued, interrupting, "that people with green surroundings are likely to be amiable, whereas when shut up together in red they are predisposed to quarrel."

Mr. Percival Smythe resolved to try the experiment. He sent decorators to his country house with orders to decorate certain suits in red, others in predominant green. His daughter had determined to invite both the men she was to choose from to spend the winter holidays at this country house. They were Dwight Williams, whom her father favored, and Russell Barnes, whom she slightly preferred.

Mr. Smythe intended to be at the house continuously and see that the doctor's instructions were carried out. Nevertheless he was detained in the city for a few days, and Mr. Barnes arrived before both him and his rival. The result was that the young lady passed several days with her favorite in whatever rooms she liked. He naturally selected the green rooms.

When her father arrived she told him that it was useless for Williams to put in an appearance since she had about decided to accept the other man. Mr. Smythe begged her to wait a week, wrote Mr. Williams to delay his coming and put decorators in the green rooms, ostensibly to make changes. This forced his daughter to pass the time spent with Mr. Barnes in the red rooms.

After three days she told her father he might send for his favorite. She had discovered certain disagreeable traits in Mr. Barnes that she had not looked for. Mr. Smythe telegraphed his friend to come at once, changed the decorators from the green to the red room and invited Mr. Barnes to go a-hunting with him.

Mr. Williams was thus left free to press his suit with the lady, using the green room. Mr. Smythe kept Mr. Barnes with him for a week, and when they returned he was informed by his daughter that she had been surprised to find Mr. Williams far more amiable than Mr. Barnes.

Meanwhile Mr. Smythe had determined to unite his fortune with that of another multimillionaire. He shut up the green rooms, thus forcing his daughter and her two lovers into those hung with red. Within a few hours a triangular quarrel occurred. It was natural that the rivals should be at swords' points, but in this case the antagonism extended to the lady. After being very abusive to both she went to her father and told him to send them both away since she would have neither.

Mr. Smythe did not need to be so discourteous since both his guests made excuses to leave before the expected time. The new man, Mr. Oswald Ream, came soon afterward. The red rooms were now locked and bolted, and the newcomer was turned into the green suit with the young lady.

The father watched anxiously for the result he desired. It did not come. The couple seemed to be fairly well pleased with each other, but made no visible headway toward a betrothal. The period of their intended stay in the country was approaching an end, and Mr. Smythe became impatient. He wrote to the author of the color plan giving a statement of the results of his treatment up to date and received the following reply:

Put them occasionally, for short periods, into the red suit.

Mr. Smythe did not understand the object of the doctor's change of treatment, but had great confidence in him and carried out his instructions. Three doses of the new medicine were required before results were obtained. Then Mr. Smythe noticed an estrangement which gave signs of being a lovers' quarrel. Mr. Ream announced his intended departure. Mr. Smythe detained him and soon after turned the couple again into the green suit.

When the party returned to the city the medical scientist who had suggested the experiment received a check for \$5,000 accompanied by a note stating that his prescription had worked admirably and the lady was engaged to a suitor who would add \$5,000,000 to what she would possess.



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