

The Public Schools

Report of the schools of Polk County for the school month ending Feb. 25, 1916.

Number of schools reporting correctly and on time	69
Number of schools not reporting on time	731
Number of pupils remaining at last report	2850
Number of pupils registered new during month	34
Number of pupils registered secondary during month	43
Number of pupils readmitted during month	773
Total number pupils on register during month	3665
Number of pupils dropped during month	731
Total number on register at this report	2934
Number of days taught during month	19.1
Whole number of days attendance	54,804.2
Whole number of days absence	2469.2
Whole number of times late	418
Number of pupils neither absent or late	1598
Average number of pupils belonging	299.6
Average daily attendance	2869.3
Per cent of attendance	96.7
Number of visits by parents	173
Number of visits by members of school board	53

The following schools have been placed on the roll of honor for having made 95 per cent in attendance or over: Zena, Dallas, Smithfield, Eoalo, Pedee, Lewisville, Ballston, Parker, Monmouth High School, Orchards, Airlie, Bethel, Polk Station, Perrydale, Fairview, Gooseneck, Rickreall, Oakpoint, Elkins, Independence, Antioch, Brush College, West Salem, Buena Vista, Spring Valley, Popcorn, Montgomery, Lincoln, North Dallas, Crowley, McTimmons Valley, Fir Grove, Concord, Oakdale, Lone Star, Liberty, Falls City, Pioneer, Cherry Grove, Oakhurst, Mountainview, Rock Creek, Highland, Maple-grove, Broadmead, Fern, Orchardsview, Rose Garden.

The following schools have been placed on the roll of honor for having made no tardies during the month: Parker, Orchards, Oakgrove, Fairview, Gooseneck, Harmony, Montgomery, Lincoln, Crowley, McTimmons Valley, Fir Grove, Sunny Slope, Concord, Oakdale, Liberty, Cherry Grove, Oakhurst, Hopville, Highland, Mistletoe, Fern, Orchardsview.

The following schools have been made standard since the last report: Zena, Smithfield, Salt Creek, Parker, Oak Grove, Popcorn, Montgomery, Greenwood, Falls City, Highland, Valley Junction.

The following schools have been visited by Supt. Reynolds during the past month: Buena Vista, Hopville, Falls City, Black Rock, Salt Creek, Orchard, North Dallas, Upper Salt Creek, and thirteen rooms in the Dallas Public School. Attended a Parent-Teachers Meeting at Orchardview and held Rallies at the following points.

On Tuesday, March 2nd, in spite of rain and snow we had a good attendance of patrons at Upper Salt Creek. A good program by the children and a round table discussion in which all took part, even the pupils.

Friday the weather was worse but with a good livery team we drove out to Montgomery for an all day meeting. Here the people turned out well and a good dinner was served. Somehow the discussion of the various round table topics was left largely to the superintendent. However, taking it altogether, it was a good meeting.

On Monday, March 6th, Supt. Duncan, an old friend, wrote that he was going to hold a rally at Grande Ronde on March 10th, and asking that Valley Junction and Rogue River schools take part. So, cancelling my rally at Crowley on the same date, I wrote our teachers, Miss Schreiber at Valley Junction and Miss Jacobsen at Rogue River to go if they could.

Friday morning with Mr.

Himes as chauffeur we started for Grande Ronde. We found the roads fairly good in Polk County, but after leaving Willamina for a mile they were simply awful, but the Ford made it. At Flannery's store we left the auto and trudged afoot to Grande Ronde. Supt. Duncan had already started the meeting. The Grande Ronde band rendered several pieces of music and an animated discussion of the round table topics lasted until noon. At one o'clock we had more band music and singing, a talk by myself, principally to the children, and then Prof. Kilpatrick of Eugene delivered a fine address. The large school room was jammed, one-third of the audience standing. There were three Yamhill County Schools present and two from Polk County. I wish here to thank Misses Schreiber and Jacobsen for their grit in bringing many of their pupils over the muddiest roads I ever saw, without exception, to attend the rally.

W. I. REYNOLDS,
County School Supt.

"Four Gateways to the Pacific Coast," New Company Folder

An illustrated folder, "Four Gateways to the Pacific Coast," has just been issued by the Passenger Department of the Southern Pacific Company. The new publication gives a description of the Southern Pacific routes through New Orleans, Ogden, Portland and El Paso, and the text is set off by no less than eighty fine engravings. A prominent feature of the folder, and an innovation in this field of advertising, is a graphic two-color map which shows at a glance the scenic and other attractions of the Western country, bearing out the slogan, "All the Pacific Coast Is a Show Place." This map is illustrated with eighty-three inset pictures.

Representation is given to all of the States traversed by the Sunset, Ogden, Shasta and El Paso routes of the Southern Pacific, and a special section displays the varied charms of California. Space is devoted to the Panama-California International Exposition, San Diego, 1916, with views of the buildings and grounds.

The new folder is attractively printed in orange and black. Its whole design and arrangement is calculated to appeal to the tourist, and the publication is to be given wide distribution throughout the East.

Airlie News

March 15, 1916.

Miss Gusta Baker is teaching this week in place of Miss Carlyle—resigned.

Mrs. C. V. Johnson is a business visitor to Portland this week.

There will be an entertainment at Artisan's Hall under the auspices of the High School Friday night, March 24, for the benefit of the play shed.

Miss Jeffries was a business visitor to Independence Saturday.

The Joint Parent-Teacher's Association between Elkins and Airlie will be held at Airlie April 1st.

Mrs. C. V. Johnson was a business caller at Mrs. Loughary's Monday afternoon.

AN ANCIENT TRAGIC FEUD.

Historic Combat That Gave Us the Game of Blindman's Buff.

It is hard to realize that the innocent childish game of blindman's buff owes its origin to a tragic feud

between two warriors of the rival cities of Liege and Louvain as long ago as the year 999.

Jean Colin of Liege was a mighty fighter of gigantic stature and strength, whose chosen weapon was neither sword nor spear, but a heavy mallet, which he wielded with such terrific effect that it soon earned him the nickname of Maillard, or the mallet man. Throughout his own and all the neighboring provinces he became known and dreaded as Colin Maillard. Everywhere he was victorious until only one chieftain, the Count of Louvain, still held the field against him.

At length they met in a final battle. At the first onset, before the terrible mallet could reach him, the Count of Louvain, with his long spear, thrust straight for the giant's face and destroyed the sight of both his eyes. With the leader of his foes thus disabled he had no doubt of putting them to flight. He counted the victory as good as won.

But the blinded giant rallied presently from the shock, ordered his esquire to take him into the thickest of the fight and dashed raging against his enemies, brandishing his mallet on either hand as he rode. He slew many a man he could not see, and the terror inspired by his dreadful aspect, the execution done by the swinging mallet and the renewed courage of his followers, charging close at his heels, first dismayed and then destroyed the men of Louvain. Not one survived to tell the tale.

Robert the Devout, then king of France, was an ardent admirer of deeds of valor. Such an exploit as Colin Maillard's was entirely to his taste. He not only showered gifts and honors upon the hero, but caused the players of the court to produce a pantomime representing his achievements on the stage. They made, as may easily be imagined, an exciting melodrama, which soon became so popular that it was played everywhere and imitated even by the children on the streets. The great scene was, of course, the blind man seeking for his enemies, and the lad who played Colin was blindfolded and given a stick, while his playmates dodged and ran as he pursued and struck or clutched at them.

Today the drama, the chieftains and the king are forgotten. They are relegated to dry and dusty chronicles. But the game still lives. To English and American children it is blindman's buff. In Europe it is still called colin maillard—Youth's Companion.

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