

## SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

Managed by the Polk County Teacher's Association, and devoted to the advancement of the Public Schools.

EDITED BY PROF. T. A. HAYES, Independence, Oregon.

All communications relating to this work must be addressed to the editor of this department.

### Pensions for Chicago Teachers.

It is expected that the state legislature will pass the bill establishing a mutual fund for pensioning of retired school teachers in Chicago on half pay. A petition has been signed by over 3,000 Chicago teachers asking that the measure be adopted.

The pension fund is to be gathered from the following sources: All fines or parts of salaries deducted for absence of teachers; an assessment of one per cent. per annum on all salaries of those who are to be the beneficiaries of the law; all donations given by friends of the teachers for this special purpose; all legitimate increment from judicious investment of the unused portion of the fund from year to year. The fund will be in charge of the city treasurer, and will be controlled by the board of education, the city superintendent of schools, and two elected representatives of the teachers.

The bills give the board the right to retire any woman teacher who has taught or rendered other service in public schools for a period aggregating twenty years, and any man who has been in the school service for twenty-five years. Such teachers shall also have the right under this act to retire voluntarily and claim the pension, provided three-fifths of their period of service has been spent in Chicago. The pension in every case is to be one-half the pay received just previous to retirement, providing this does not make an amount larger than \$1,000 a year. The board is to have the right to reduce the pensions if necessary to make the payments conform with the funds in hand.

### "Just My Luck."

The expression, "Just my luck," is a favorite one with many boys and girls. It would be well to have them memorize the following proverbs by Mr. Cobden:

- Luck is waiting for something to turn up.
- Labor, like keen eyes and strong will, will turn up something.
- Luck lies in bed and wishes the postman would bring him news of a legacy.
- Labor turns out at six o'clock, and with a busy pen or ringing hammer lays the foundation of a competence.
- Luck whines.
- Labor whistles.
- Luck relies on chances.
- Labor, on character.
- Luck slips down to indigence.
- Labor strides upward to independence.

### A State Quiz.

1. What state once gave a "tea-party"?
2. Name the state that was once an independent republic?
3. What state is the child of the rebellion?
4. Name the "Mother of Presidents."

### Journal of Education.

The above will prove an interesting exercise for a class in geography. Such lessons given frequently will relieve the monotony of every day work. Why not have a similar quiz for the association meetings? The questions should be on educational topics—psychology or pedagogy. Question and answer should be brief. Law students in our schools have quizzes and the "quiz" is a part of their regular work. It might be made interesting and profitable to teachers. We suggest that Prof. Reynolds prepare a short list of questions for the next meeting.

### REPORTS.

POLK STATION PUBLIC SCHOOL.

For month ending March 1, 1895:

Number days attendance	404
" absence	71
" tardiness	2
" enrolled	24
Average number belonging	23
" daily attendance	20
Number neither absent nor tardy	11
" visits by board	3
Visits by others	26

ALICE BOYDSTON, Teacher.

### PROGRAM.

The following is the program for the teachers' association to be held at Monmouth April 6, 1895:

Song Exercise	led by Miss Sicker
Language and Grammar	Prof. P. L. Campbell
Discussion	led by Prof. Hart
Recitation	Irvine E. Vinloy
School Government	Prof. T. A. Hayes
Discussion	led by A. J. Shipley
Piano Duet	Misses Lammers and Butler
Arithmetic	Prof. McCauley
Discussion	led by Miss Mary M. Parker
NOON	
Natural Science	Prof. Balcomb
Discussion	led by Prof. Storms
Piano solo	Miss Maud Long
A Practical Lesson in Language	Miss Cassavant
Discussion	led by Miss Lottie Herbert
Novello Quartette	
Address	State Supt. G. W. Irwin

### THE POLK COUNTY PRESS.

#### News Items and Editorial Expressions.

(Transcript.)

Mr. J. Q. T. Sadler started for his home in the Siskiyou mountains last Friday morning.

Mr. Frank Griffith, the Independence cigar man, was in town last Thursday on business connected with his cigar manufactory.

The Rickreall mills are running right along on full time. Under the management of M. M. Ellis, they are turning out lots of flour.

We are very anxious to have a good doctor locate here. We have a good drug store and think a doctor would do well.—Perrydale Cor.

Notwithstanding the fact that the candidates for the legislature in every county in Oregon were pledged to abolish the railroad commission, that useless quartette is still on the boards with a \$20,000 appropriation behind them. But this is chargeable to the senate, where the bill that had passed the house with few dissenting votes, found its death in the committee room.

(Itemizer.)

At Crowley M. F. White has been chosen school director and Cass Riggs has been retained as school clerk for the twentieth successive year. Has any other man in the county served in that capacity so long?

Clyde Henry, of Zena, was awarded a free scholarship by the county court to the agricultural college.

Daly, Sibley & Eakin are to correct the present ownership maps up to date for \$100.

Wonder how many of our readers know that the state librarian, J. B. Putnam, is a Polk countian, he hailing from near Eola.

Andrew, son of Hardy Holman, has been a law student in Salem. He was married to a Miss Taylor there.

Cass Riggs tells us that he has found lots of grain aphids in the stubble ground he has recently been plowing. It looks like a white mould, but close inspection shows the enemy to be there in strong force. What danger they will do is only a matter of conjecture.

The sheriff is now receiving taxes for 1894. Cornelia Hughes being the first one to pay last Saturday. Grandma Woodward is 85 years old and almost blind. She lives with her son, Newton, and is in iraly good health.

As to Lawrence Keyt and the eighty-nine other republicans who sadly refused to support Mr. Dolph being retired to the rear ranks of their party for it, nothing of the kind will occur. Most politicians were against them, but they represented the bulk of public sentiment throughout the state. Party leaders cannot always lead the people nor their representatives.

(Observer.)

A number of Falls City people attending county court, Wednesday, in the matter of changing a county road.

T. L. Butler and family have moved to their Salt Creek farm.

J. H. Baker, of The Dalles, was in Dallas last Saturday, doing business with the county. He will probably locate at Monmouth.

Mr. B. Morrison, of Elkton, is at the bedside of his mother, M. Morrison who is quite sick.

Sheriff Plummer now has the assessment books for the year 1894 in his hands, and is collecting taxes at quite a lively rate. They were turned over to him on last Saturday.

J. J. Fowler, mine host of the Holman House, leaves next week for Gaston and the hotel will be reopened by Mr. Wm. Brown, of Salem, its former landlord.

The bicycle craze has struck Dallas, and, in fact, the entire state. Although it is but March, more wheels can be seen on the streets and all through the country than ever before.

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

Gathered from our Various Exchanges Throughout the State.

The salary system has saved Baker City \$3,638.28 in two months. So far as known Corvallis has the only ladies brass band in the state.

Diphtheria still prevails in the vicinity of Phoenix, Jackson county.

G. C. Elliff struck a rich placer strike near Glendale and took out \$112 in one day.

Florence is jubilant at the presence there of three contractors who are figuring on the \$20,000 for improving Siuslaw harbor.

The school census of Salem, just completed, shows a gain over last year of nearly 400 children of school age in the district.

Mr. Kay, of the Waterloo woolen mill, is reported as saying that he has assurances the Southern Pacific will be extended to that place.

Wm. Galloway, member of the board of trustees of the Soldier's Home, is the only appointment given to Yamhill county by the new governor.

The Job bank of Corvallis is paying off its second ten per cent dividend. It failed at the same time with the Linn County National bank, which has paid off 75 per cent.

Hon. Clarence Cole, representative from Multnomah, is going to sue the Oregonian for libel in the sum of \$25,000. It will be a long time before the fruits of the late session are fully picked.

Ashland still leads the towns of Southern Oregon in the number of school children, but Grants Pass makes her look pretty close to her laurels, having 760 reported by the school clerk to 761 reported by the Ashland school clerk this year. Medford is not far behind with 650 children of school age.

The Sparta murderer, George E. Chamberlain, is still at large, and the latest report from Sparta is that there is no clew whatever to his whereabouts. In fact, no one seems inclined to try to effect his capture, since there is no encouragement offered by the county court of Union county.

On Thursday last, Dr. Callbreath was thrown out of his buggy near Amity, and sustained a hard fall on his head. His team continued on about two miles and smashed the buggy to kindlingwood. The doctor was taken to his destination by a farmer. He got home by train, the wreck coming in soon after, trailing another buggy.

A large amount of beet seed for experimental purposes was distributed among Union county farmers last season. The results are satisfactory, the percentage of sugar being about 18. Some amounts raised were: C. E. Davis 47 tons and 60 pounds per acre; C. C. Bidwell, 57 1-3 tons; A. J. Goodbread, 75 tons; and John Frazer, 51 tons and 480 pounds.

Corvallis has her sensations, and a life-sized scandal now stalks about, while the gentler sex rattle the spoons in their teacups and roll the sweet morsel under their tongues. But Eugene takes the cake with a prominent society lady under arrest for sending obscene matter to other prominent Eugene ladies through the mails. What will the women do next?—Times.

It having been customary for Coos county prisoners to take "French leave" when they did not relish their treatment, the following statement of the Marshfield Mail may be understood: "While work is progressing on the jail, the prisoners have been placed in the town jail, where they have had a reception every evening. Good music is furnished by Canning's string band, and songs and dances make night hideous. It looks as if the prisoners are held in high esteem by the county officials and everything is being done to make their stay as delightful as possible."

Thomas James, manager of the O. & C. mine below Henley, has

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