

THE HATCHET.

Entered at the post-office at Forest Grove, Or., as Second-class mail matter.

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Editor's address: Forest Grove, Ore., from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. of each week day and always glad to talk and be talked to.

ISSUED EVERY WEEK IN THE YEAR ON THURSDAY FROM THE HATCHET PRINTERY.

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AUSTIN CRAIG, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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The HATCHET has the Largest Circulation of any newspaper in Washington County.

THE SCHOOL LAWS.

Reform in the school laws is urgently needed and is being demanded by almost every one connected with the public schools. Most strongly urged is change in connection with teacher's certificates and of this there is greatest need.

As the law now is an inexperienced candidate need only reach the ridiculously low average of 60 per cent, and may fall to 40 in some branches, and still be licensed to teach. Even the dullest pupil, coming fresh from his books, cannot help passing. Having nothing to recommend him he offers to work at any price in order to get a start and some small district which desires to have as much school as possible employs him in the belief that his certificate is evidence of his ability to teach. This county now has teachers receiving \$12 and \$15 a month, hardly enough to pay board. The experiment may be a success, but it rarely is, and in a three month's term a poor teacher does more harm than a good teacher can correct in a year. In fact, wrong teaching can never be entirely corrected and will continue to hamper the pupil throughout his lifetime. Better no teacher than a poor one.

The first requirement of a teacher must be that he knows something himself. Afterwards, when he has had an opportunity of proving himself, it should be made a condition of his continuance in school work that he be able to impart his knowledge. The first certificate then should have the highest requirements in scholarship, 90 average, 70 lowest as now demanded for a first grade. In teaching one naturally becomes a little rusty on branches not actually taught so that an average of 85 accompanied by a recommendation from the county board of examiners (like the one now used for state certificate) would be a fair ground for advancement to a second grade certificate. In passing to a first grade, English composition might well be substituted for the examination in grammar. Instead of a state certificate coming upon recommendation, that license should be gained on an examination in higher arithmetic, civil government and book-keeping. The requirements for state diploma might properly be physical geography, algebra and English literature. For the final examination, for life diploma, elementary psychology, history of education, Oregon school law and general history. For all papers higher than the beginning certificate a recommendation from the board of examiners as to success in the school room also should be essential, the rights of candidates being guarded by the privilege of appeal to the state superintendent in case a recommendation should appear to have been unwarrantedly refused.

Such changes, though conservative, would be a long stride forward for our state. When we consider that these are requirements for the first certificate of those of no ex-

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perience, and for the higher papers of teachers who can have spent respectively one, three, six, ten and sixteen years in the work, the demands seem all too slight. Nor can it be objected that any of the studies are unessential.

In connection with these changes the present fee of one dollar should be made independent of the issuing of a certificate and be for the examination. State certificates, diplomas, and life diplomas, now four, six and ten dollars, respectively, should be cut down to a uniform charge of two dollars, thus efficiency and not money would be made the basis for advancement. Certificates gained in any county ought to be good in any other upon payment of a registration fee that the institute fund might not suffer. The act by which state diplomas are granted to graduates of schools of collegiate grade upon examinations conducted by the faculties needs to be repealed. Professional training or practical experience are as essential for a teacher as for lawyer, physician or clergyman. General culture cannot supply their lack.

The state teachers' association and the department of superintendence will be in session in Salem holiday week, and they will undoubtedly make some suggestions to the legislature along these lines—and their recommendations deserve to be heeded.

QUADRANT SETTLERS WIN.

The United States supreme court has decided in favor of the government's side of the famous quadrant case and as it is the court of last resort the matter is settled for all time. So at last after decisions, appeals and counter decisions, after tedious waiting and disheartening delay law has affirmed what was simple justice and apparent from the start.

It will be a merry Christmas for thousands, and comfortable homes whence uncertainty has banished cheerfulness for many a day will again be bright with radiant faces. To us in Washington county, familiar with the productive acres, the substantial buildings and the hard work which has made them out of the early forest, the decision means vastly more than to the lawyer who glances with professional interests at the outcome of a hard-fought suit. For those who have acquired titles from the railroad company it will be necessary only to make application at the proper office to receive their money back. The policy of the company has been to pay such claims promptly, not waiting to be sued.

The speedy settlement of the suit, and in some degree the favorable outcome, is due to the work of one man, Senator Mitchell. Had he not interested himself as he did in the matter the case would never have been advanced on the supreme court docket but would have had to have dragged along to its regular turn many years hence. As soon as Mr. Mitchell had satisfied himself, by personal observations, of the merits of the settlers' cause he went to work to help them and did not rest until he had accomplished it. There are many men who are willing to bear the title and draw the salary of United States senator but there are few who would work for their constituents as has John H. Mitchell.

FALL STATE ELECTIONS.

A measure which has everything in its favor, to which no valid objection can be urged, and which will be opposed only because of an inborn disinclination to change that exists in some people, is the effort to fix the time of the state election so that it will come in November. In

presidential years from March until December, politics predominate to the disaster of business and the disadvantage of the public generally. The voice of the people would be heard just as well if the state and national elections were to come together, and the time of excitement would be cut short at least three months. This would be the great saving but another economy, reaching into thousands of dollars, would be that the cost of one election with its judges, clerks and other expenses would be cut out.

A LITERARY AUTHORITY.

The Oregonian while catching its breath on politics has been devoting a little attention to literature. Unfortunately the campaign has had a demoralizing effect and its reliability must be questioned. A short time ago it credited to a Western exchange Mark Twain's patent for raising turkeys, viz: putting the heated end of a pole against their chilled toes as they roosted high in the trees on the frosty nights before Christmas. Feeling the grateful warmth the birds would with a pleased chuck step onto the pole and be lowered down into the sack. This method was confided by him to the members of the Western New York Poultry association in a letter of acknowledgment when, several years ago, he was elected by them to honorary membership.

REFORM SALARIES.

The present legislature has a glorious opportunity to prove the sincerity of its promised reforms. The people expect of it that not one cent shall be devoted to any institution that is not completely under public control and of general benefit, that useless commissions shall be abolished, that extravagant salaries shall be cut down to rates in keeping with what men are paid in private positions, and that the people's money shall not be wasted by a useless prolonging of the legislative session.

CONSISTENT.

The treacherous assassination by the Spanish of General Maceo, leader of the Cuban insurgents, while he was under protection of a flag of truce, is but following out the barbarous brutality of their course in the unhappy inland. Disregarding all rules of civilized warfare, the Spanish have marked their campaign with the torture of defenceless prisoners, the slaughter of children and the dishonoring of women, not in solitary and exceptional instances, but generally and as characteristic.

Fitting indeed it is that the gentry of England should present Ambassador Bayard with a Christmas gift in token of their appreciation of his grovelling un-American subservience to them. No doubt the esteem of the British aristocracy will console him for the loss of the respect of his countrymen which was evidenced by the formal censure of congress for his unbecoming reflections upon the country he was supposed to represent.

President Cleveland's message, whatever may be thought of its subject matter, is certainly a model in its wording. Precision in language has characterized all his public utterances, and in these days of careless writing and speaking it is refreshing to find a man who so exactly fits the word to the thought.

Catarrh Cured.

Health and sweet breath secured by Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy. Price 50 cents. Nasal Injector free. For sale at Clark's drug store.

County School Notes.

Joint districts in Washington county will be benefited by a recent apportionment of school funds in Multnomah as follows: No. 23, J. M. Burroughs, Tigardville, clerk, 6 children \$7.20; 42, C. E. Hedge, Sylvan, 87, \$104.40; 62, D. C. Burton, Cedar Mill, 11, \$13.20; 67, John A. Johnson, (Swedeville) Portland, 11, \$13.20.

Report of district No. 12 for the month ending December 4, 1896. No. enrolled 40. Average daily attendance 28. Per cent. 95. No. of visitors 5. No. of pupils belonging at end of month 28. Those neither absent nor tardy were: Bessie Ritchey, Delores Dickens, Mary Herb, Nora Vogt, Celia Vogt, Rosa Vohs, Lucy Bradley, Ruth Bradley, Ida Vohs, Dora V. hs, Harry Ritchey, Lester Ireland, Charles Vanderwal, Wilson Bradley and Jacob Vohs.—M. C. Case, teacher.

The following is a report of school in district No. 77 for month ending December 11th. No. days taught 19. No. days attendance 653. Average days absence 96. Average daily attendance 34. Average No. belonging 39. Total No. enrolled 41. The following named pupils were present each day: Fred Hergert, Bennie Paul, Johnnie Beerman, Charley Rockstroh, Emma Krause, Lela Reece, Emma Pritchard, Maud Keckley, Mary Paul, Minnie Paul and Elma Paul.—Harry C. Baker, teacher.

Report of school district No. 72, in Buxton, Oregon, for a term of three and one-half months beginning Sept. 7, and ending Dec. 11, 1896. Total number enrolled during the term, 45. First month: No. of days taught, 18; days attendance, 522; days absence, 84; No. of boys enrolled, 25; girls, 20; average attendance, 31. Second month: No. of days taught, 20; days attendance, 596; days absence, 76; average daily attendance, 31. Third month: No. of days taught, 19; days attendance, 538; absence, 103; average daily attendance, 33.—L. W. Traver, Teacher.

LABOR THE PRICE OF SUCCESS.

Men are continually seeking short cuts to fortune, fame or other kind of success in life, but seldom, if ever, succeed in their quest. Fortune, indeed, may be won by some lucky turn of the wheel, but without the preparatory training involved in earning it the supposedly "lucky" gambler is not fitted to use or retain it. So that, even in the matter of fortune-hunting, labor is in the long run the price of success. For success in other fields, labor is indispensable. Easy roads to learning are prepared by educational quacks, but they all prove delusive, and in the nature of things must be so, for an art or calling that can easily be acquired must be of little value. The economic law of supply and demand applies even to learning, and where the supply of any kind of knowledge exceeds the demand, as is sure to be the case when it can be acquired by anybody in a few weeks, the knowledge itself becomes of little commercial value. Moreover, knowledge easily acquired is easily lost, like the winnings of a gambler. There must be a certain amount of labor devoted to study if that which is acquired is to remain in the mind and be of service. This is perhaps the reason that the brilliant pupils in school are seldom heard of in after life and why the supposed dullards become famous. The brilliant fellows do not study. They manage to get through examinations almost by intuition or with the merest hint from the books, and forget a lesson as soon as it has been recited. Not so with the dull fellow, who has to tax his brain to acquire knowledge. He may be slow, but he is sure. Having fixed a thing in his mind by hard labor, it becomes a part of himself; he never loses it. And by constant accretion he builds up a fund of knowledge sufficient to make him successful if not famous. It is the labor, however, that has brought success. Young people who do not see the value of training try to find some means of avoiding study or plodding exercise. Their only aim is to "get through" the present task, and this they may do by some short cut, such as a key to mathematical problems, or a translation from a foreign language, but it is at the expense of knowledge. They have expended little labor on their studies and they achieve little success. It is as though the principles governing physical forces extended to the mental processes, so that man should be limited to getting out of his mind only that amount of energy which he had applied in storing it. Without taking such a radical view of the subject, it would be well for young people to recognize the general truth of the proposition that labor is the price of success, and the other fact that anything which can be easily acquired must be of little value. Substantial knowledge of the kind that the world pays for liberally is acquired only by long study, and it is the purpose of education not merely to impart information, but chiefly to train the faculties so that they may acquire and use knowledge. The mental exercise is as necessary as the scale exercise which young musicians seek to avoid. But without labor of this kind real success in life can never be attained.

The old way of delivering messages by post-boys compared with the modern telephone, illustrates the old tedious methods of "breaking" colds compared with their almost instantaneous cure by One Minute Cough Cure. J. C. Clark, Druggist.

HILLSBORO.

A. G. Lucas and family, of Cornelius, were visiting friends here last Sunday.

Judge Caples, of Portland, was here Monday as a witness in the Steeves case.

Revs. Pratt and Polling are holding a series of meetings at the Evangelical church.

J. I. Knight has been laid up with an attack of rheumatism, but is now convalescent.

Ed. Foudray has returned home from California where he has been sojourning for some months past.

The new city council held its first meeting Tuesday evening. The standing committees were announced, and A. J. Lane appointed city marshal, and L. K. Adams city attorney.

An educated Chinese is to give an entertainment consisting of stereopticon views, etc., of principal places of interest in the Celestial Kingdom, at the M. E. church, Friday night of this week.

Viola Tent No. 18, K. O. T. M., elected officers at the regular review last week. Following is the list: Com., L. E. Wilkes; Lieut. Com., C. Jack, Jr.; R. K., B. Bowman; F. K., J. F. Carstens; Phys., W. D. Wood; Chap., E. L. McCormick; Serg., J. B. Wilkes; M. at A., A. M. Carille; first M. of G., U. G. Gardner; second M. of G., W. J. Wall; Sent., G. H. Wilcox; Pick., W. D. Bradford.

L. L. Williams, one of our most esteemed citizens, died Sunday morning after an illness of one week with pneumonia. The funeral occurred on Tuesday at 2 p. m. at the M. E. church, where deceased had long been a faithful attendant. Rev. Cline preached the funeral discourse, and the I. O. O. F. conducted the ceremonies. A large concourse followed the remains to the last resting place in Odd Fellows' cemetery west of the city. Deceased leaves a wife and two young children, an aged mother, a married daughter residing in Salem, besides a sister living here and a brother in Eastern Oregon.

The Grandest Remedy.

Mr. R. B. Greeve, merchant, of Chilhowie, Va., certifies that he had consumption, was given up to die, sought all medical treatment that money could procure, tried all cough remedies he could hear of, but got no relief; spent many nights sitting up in a chair; was induced to try Dr. King's New Discovery, and was cured by the use of two bottles. For past three years has been attending to business, and says Dr. King's New Discovery is the grandest remedy ever made, as it has done so much for him and also for others in his community. Dr. King's New Discovery is guaranteed for Coughs, Colds and Consumption. It don't fail. Trial bottles free at the Miller Pharmacy.

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