

NEWBERG GRAPHIC.

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A local option measure simply provides for a question to be settled by a majority vote of the people. Surely no loyal American citizen will object to such a procedure.

Under our form of government the majority vote is supposed to rule, but the wholesale and retail liquor dealers of Portland have already announced that they are not willing to leave the question of whiskey selling to a vote of the people.

People generally had hoped that war between Russia and Japan would be averted, but since hostilities have been begun everybody seems to be lining up in sympathy with the Japs, and the hope is freely expressed that they may be able to make short work of their opponents.

The sympathy of the entire civilized world ought to go out to the war correspondents, reporters and telegraph operators who will be compelled to write and transmit the names of Russian and Japanese towns, army officers, battleships, etc. Physical endurance will be taxed to the limit.

F. S. Harding has bought an interest in a newspaper plant at Weiser, Idaho. Mr. Harding pushed the quill too long in Yamhill to remain out of the harness and be satisfied. Beside being a good newspaper man he is an all round good fellow and the Graphic wishes him abundant success in his new field.

In times past the Graphic has used very plain language in speaking of men who have sold whiskey in violation of law in Newberg and evidence is not wanting to show that the guilty parties have felt the effects of it. It begins to look like it might become necessary to open up the subject again at no distant day.

The whiskey men are up in arms against the local option measure and have already announced that they will put up plenty of money to defeat it. Glad to hear them announce their intentions early in the campaign for it will have a tendency to arouse those to action who favor the passage of the law. The campaign promises to be both "interesting and instructive."

The death of Senator Hanna removes one of the most prominent and forceful characters from the arena of American politics, and the words of commendation that have been spoken of him are good proof that he was not regarded, by those most able to pass judgement, as the creature as painted by Davenport. The longer he remained in politics, and the better he became known, the stronger he grew in the estimation of the public.

Can't Stand the Pressure.

The call issued for a school meeting, held Saturday afternoon, to get the sentiment of the district regarding the matter of providing facilities for taking care of the public school children next year, was either not well advertised or else it did not appeal to the people, as there were

only about thirty voters present, and probably half of this number have no children attending school.

J. C. Colcord, chairman of the board of directors, made the statement that all the rooms in the school building were crowded beyond the proper limit this year, and he was unable to see how the increase in the enrollment for next year could be provided for without an additional building. He stated, further, that the board had tried hard to rent a room this year with a view of putting in another teacher, but after exhausting every effort had failed to find any room that would be available. The old Armory Hall building had been suggested, but they were promptly met with the assertion from patrons of the school that they would not allow their children to attend school in that building. General discussion followed.

J. C. McCrea, director: Think it possible to get along somehow without going to the expense of erecting a new building. Taxes are already high and the people can't stand it; may be able to rent a building in town. Possibly arrangements could be made with the college to provide for teaching those in the ninth grade.

J. W. Forsyth, director: Our school is already crowded with about ten more to the room than any other school in the county. While we have one building and are employing eight teachers, McMinnville, with only about fifty more pupils, has two large buildings and employs eleven teachers. Can't see how we can get along another year without a building. Have failed to get a room in town this year. All the rooms in the building are overcrowded this year.

J. C. Hodson: Taxes already too high. Think we might dispense with the ninth grade. Don't want my children to go to Armory Hall building. Up to the time they are ten years old, would prefer to have them in school only half the day. Shorten the school to eight months and cut the teachers' salaries to \$40 a month, and thereby save considerable money to the district.

Jesse Edwards: It is a hard question, considering the indebtedness of the district and high taxes, but we have gained a reputation for good school privileges and we can't afford to lower the standard. Poor policy to cut down the efficiency of our teaching force and take a poorer grade of teachers to save money. Have a full school now and more are coming in, and we ought to provide for them.

D. Tallman: Our high taxes are scaring people, and they will stay away from Newberg if we make them any higher. Think we had better get along some way.

Clarence Butt: District is already heavily in debt. A big mistake has been made in the past in making the levy too low to meet expenses, thus letting the debt increase. No greater drawback than the cry of high taxes. No encouragement to a man if he must pay out all he makes in taxes. Don't think it wise to build now. Might get a room somewhere.

C. K. Spaulding: Points well stated by Butt and Tallman, but we must provide school privileges for the children. Would not favor issuing bonds, but would rather favor raising the money by popular subscription.

Believe it can be done.

Remarks were also made by C. J. Edwards, Lucas, Craven and others.

J. C. Hodson indicated in a further talk that he thought the principal should do full teaching and let each teacher manage their own room. Thought if they were efficient teachers they could do it.

The question was put to Assistant Principal F. H. Buchanan, who said a graded school was much like any business concern where a number of people were employed. It must have a man who has the time and ability to give it general oversight.

Hodson then asked what the result would be if the business would not justify a man for this place, and Buchanan promptly responded that the business would simply go to the wall.

A resolution was introduced instructing the board to procure a site and arrange plans for a new building, the statement being made that in case the resolution was adopted, another meeting would be called for the purpose of voting bonds.

The motion to adopt the resolution was lost by a good majority, those voting in the affirmative being Jesse Edwards, M. H. Pinney, J. W. Forsyth, C. J. Edwards, J. C. Colcord, E. H. Woodward. Voting no: Clarence Butt, J. C. Hodson, John Bristow and others.

The bonded indebtedness of the district is \$3000 and at the end of the school year other indebtedness will amount to \$2500 more.

The enrollment for this year has reached about 425, the highest attendance at any one time being 392. Of this number twenty are in the principal's room, leaving an average of fifty-three for all the other rooms. If the number increases next year as it has this year over last year it will add ten to each room. The fact is, everything points to a much greater increase next year, and just what will be done with the youngsters remains to be seen. Those who opposed building said they thought "something" could be done to relieve the congested condition of the school next year but beyond this they never got. It looks a little like school district No. 29 needed a Moses to lead it out of the wilderness.

Health Notice.

A student returning from the Christmas vacation to the college broke out with a contagious disease and fourteen other students, four in the boarding hall and ten living at their homes in Newberg and vicinity have taken it. It is not yet known how many have been infected from these fourteen persons, but every one who has been exposed to infection from them should remain at their homes unless they are complying with quarantine regulations, as they are a menace to the community.

H. J. MINTHORN,
Health Officer.

For Voters.

Mr. Editor:—For the information of all who may want to know, I wish to say through your valuable paper that it will be necessary for all voter to register, no matter if they have registered in past years. That in order to register it is necessary to have two witnesses who are freeholders. Naturalized citizens should bring their papers. Those who reside in the county should be prepared to give the number of the section, township and range on which they reside. Respectfully, R. B. LINNVILLE.

Mysterious Circumstance.

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