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PHONE 96

ALBANY, OREGON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

THOUGHT SHOULD BRING ACTION

The week of Feb. 15-22 designated by the governor of Ohio as Teachers Week. Public, press, pulpit, clubs and all social and educational bodies in that state were urged to give serious thought during that week, to the "problem of the supply of teachers."

How serious a problem that is seems not to be so generally realized as it ought to be, though much has been said and written about it.

Last year, according to the U. S. Commissioner of Education, there were 50,000 vacancies in teaching positions in the country. This shortage existed after 120,000 inexperienced, untrained teachers had been given positions that would otherwise have been vacant. That brought up the actual shortage of teachers with ordinary qualifications to 170,000. The shortage is higher this year.

There are two almost equally bad results. One is the overcrowding of such schools as are open. The other is the complete closing of many schools. One county in Pennsylvania reported 53 rural schools closed. Maine, New York and Ohio all have schools closed for lack of teachers. Normal schools are in imminent danger of closing because so few persons seek training as teachers. The conditions reported from these eastern sections may be duplicated all over the country.

In the meantime, a hod carrier earns on the average \$394 a year more than a teacher does. The baker's income exceeds the teacher's by \$363; the blacksmith's by 890. And usually when the hod carrier, the baker, the blacksmith, or any of the other trade workers, asks for an increase in pay and shorter hours, he gets it. When the teacher asks for adequate pay and decent working conditions, the answer is a closer grip on the tax-payer's purse and a hopeless shrug of the shoulders on the part of the board of education.

Is a week of thought necessary to show up plainly cause, effect and remedy?

A TEST OF PRIVATE CONTROL

"The return of the railways to the owners," says Herbert Hoover, "places predominantly private operation upon its final trial. If instant energy, courage and large vision in the owners should prove lacking in meeting the immediate situation, we will be faced with a reaction that will drive the country to some other form of control."

It is a timely warning. There seems to be, lately, an impression that the formal transfer of the railroads back to their owners, with such guarantees and assistances as appear to meet the situation is all that is necessary—that all our railroad problems will soon be straightened out. This very thing may happen, if the new railroad legislation is wise, and the governmental machinery provided by it functions properly. But it will not be true necessarily.

Private operation, as well as public operation, has had its defects in the past. They have not been, in the main, the same kind of defects, but they have been bad enough. It is to be seen now whether the present generation of transportation men is capable of raising to the height of business statesmanship required for the proper control and development of our vast railroad system.

The nation is expecting much of them—perhaps too much. If they disappoint, there may soon be a swing back from "predominantly private" operation to a demand for operation, or even ownership, that is "predominantly public."

Ludwig, erstwhile king of Bavaria, says the allied de-

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mand for the Kaiser is "impertinent and impudent." Perfectly natural for him to be mad about it—madness always was the characteristic of the royal house of Bavaria.

Senator New of Indiana proposes to establish a Department of Aeronautics, with a Director of Aircraft responsible directly to the President. Wants the government to take a flier in aviation.

It's easier to rob a bank or perpotrate any other crime in broad daylight than it ever was before. Spectators don't do anything, because they generally think it's a movie rehearsal.

TODAY'S EVENTS

Tuesday, February 24, 1920

Rt. Rev. Charles P. Anderson, Episcopal bishop of Chicago, today celebrates the 20th anniversary of his consecration.

The national committee of auxiliaries of the American Legion is to hold an important meeting in Washington today.

Many agricultural workers are expected in Winnipeg today for the opening of the National Soil Products Exhibition and the annual meetings of a number of agricultural bodies.

An international conference of teachers' organizations of the allied and associated nations will meet in Cleveland today under the auspices of the National Education Association.

Aldermanic primaries will be held in Chicago today for the nomination of candidates for the April election, which will be the first to be conducted on a non-partisan basis.

The entire subject of packer legislation conditions connected with the packing industry will be reopened at hearings to begin today before the Agricultural Committee of the U. S. House of Representatives.

Today's Calendar of Sports

Racing

Winter meeting of Cuba-American Jockey Club, at Havana.

Winter meeting of Business Men's Racing Assn., at New Orleans.

Automobile

Opening of annual show at Columbus, O.

Golf

Coronado amateur championship tournament opens at Coronado, Cal.

Boxing

"Wild Burt" Kenny vs. Roy McCormick, 10 rounds, at Calgary.

Mrs. Wynne Home—

Mrs. L. S. Wynne returned to Albany yesterday from Eugene where she accompanied the body of her late husband, who was laid to rest in the mausoleum in that city Friday.

Comments of the State Press

Driest Month—

February, so the United States weather bureau informs us, has been the driest month in the history of the state since 1889. From what can be gathered by general discussion and reading it has also been the driest month in the history of the United States.—Oregon Journal.

Missionaries—

Baptist missionaries are to carry the gospel to heathens of Borneo in automobiles. We shudder to think of the possibilities for backsliding if the gasoline runs out.—Oregonian.

Too Many Red—

Senator Sherman may get away with his denunciation of Henry Ford but when he carries his spleen to the point of damning the cars which Henry makes, the American people won't agree. Too many ride in them.—Astoria Budget.

American Legion—

The American Legion already has more members than the Grand Army of the Republic ever had. When the service man considers what the G. A. R. accomplished and what the legion can accomplish, he has all to gain and nothing to lose in becoming a member.—East Oregonian.

Tools of the Family—

There was a time in the not distant past when Oregon was derisively referred to in other states as "the fool of the family." It is a name that has been lived down. Oregon has proved time and again that it is sane and level-headed and businesslike. Yet it is well to remind ourselves that living down a bad name is not enough. We must keep on living it down. We must demonstrate that it was never justified in the first place.—Eugene Register.

More To The Point—

Congressman Pat McArthur has introduced a bill to oust sick presidents, thus making use of the experience gained in the Oregon legislature of amending the constitution by statute. But a bill to oust lazy

congressmen, who have not the excuse of illness for inattention to public business, would be more to the point.—Capitol Journal.

SALARIES AVERAGE \$1.87 A YEAR SAYS BAPTIST CLERGYMAN

The average salary paid the Baptist clergymen in the Northern Baptist church is \$1.87 a year, with a few exceptions, according to the statement of Dr. A. A. Protzman, in charge of the drive for the "New World Move-

ment" of the Northern Baptist Church of America for the eight Western states on the Pacific coast.

"One of the important results of the drive," says Dr. Protzman, "will be the raise in salaries of the Baptist clergy, probably the poorest paid of any Christian denomination.

Bro. Victor Whitmer and wife of Curlew, Iowa arrived in Albany Saturday evening and are staying at the home of E. W. Pratt on East 8th St. they expect to make their home in Albany, working with the local church of the Brethren.

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