The Santiam News.

Politically Independent

Entered at the postoffice at Scio, Oregon, as second-class mail matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY
T. L. DUGGER,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

POLITICAL SCHOOLS.

By the term "Political schools," out readers are not to infer schools whose principle teaching is the science of politics; but schools that are controlled by politics. We have some half dozen of them in Oregon. Examine, if you will, the political principles of the teaching force at all of these colleges. So far as the NEWS is informed, not a Democrat is employed. All of the presidents, we understand, are republicans and some of them, at least, are trained politicians. Now a teacher's political preference ought not to figure, in any manner, with his teaching ability. He can be just as efficient and capable, no matter whether he is an adherent to the Republican, Democratic, Prohi. or Socialist parties. He is supposed to teach neither religion nor politics to his pupils, farther than the Science of Government and Moral Ethics. The pupil is supposed to be untrammeled and uninfluenced as to which church or to which political party he affiliates with, when he reaches the age of legal manhood Our state colleges are not "Political schools" in this sense.

Our state colleges are political for the reason that teachers, as a rule, obtain employment in them because of the political influence they can exert, rather than because of their known proficiency as teachers. There is just reason for this opinion. The NEWS has in mind several teachers of simply ordinary ability, that hold their positions with the comfortable salary attached, because of the political pull that they or their friends can bring to bear.

As a proof that our state colleges are controlled by politics, one has but to watch proceedings down at Salem among our legislators. The legislature, uninfluenced, would undoubtedly eliminate two or more of the four Normal schools. Bills have been introduced in both branches to eliminate two of them and, if the bills were allowed to rest entirely upon their respective merits, would be enacted into law. Because the two schools that are to be dropped are not specifically named, lobbies in the interests of each school are there exerting every possible influence to defeat the measures. These lobbies will probably be able to defeat any effort to drop either of the four. The principle political manager of these lobbies seems to be President Mulkey, of the Southern Oregon Normal of Ashland. Mr. Mulkey is a trained politician. Having served a term in the state senate and having participated in several Normal school campaigns at the legislatures of the past, he is especially well capacitated to bring about a combination sufficiently powerful to defeat any objectionable, from the Normal viewpoint, legislation; and to secure the appropriations of money from the state treasury, that the Normals desire. So the spectacle is presented to the tax payers, of a man who is drawing a fat salary from the state treasury, engaging his every effort to prevent the curtailment of an extravagant evil that has insiduouously been thrust upon the people. If such is not "Pernicious political activity" we would not know where else to look for it. It is such action, at the present and past sessions of the legislature, that stamps the Normals "Political schools."

It is unnecessary to recount how these Normal school cancers have been grafted upon the state. We have them. We know that the way they are managed and the amount of money they are costing, that they are evil and that they, or at least some of them must be eliminated. The legislature is now attempting to use the knife; but, from present indications, it will prove to be too chicken hearted to apply the heroic treatment demanded. In the end, it will be up to the people to cut away the Normal cancer.

There are several methods by which these insidious grafting institutions, that pose under the almost sacred name of education, can be removed: Kill them outright by naming those that are to survive; Deny them all any support from the state treasury and they will soon starve to death; Submit the question to the people at the next general election. Either of these methods will, probably, settle the matter, so that future legislatures will be free from the Normal lobby. If Presidest Mulkey was conducting the Ashland college upon a tuition from the students basis, he would have neither the time, money nor inclination, to lobby large appropriations through the legislature.

By the adoption of the Direct Primary law, we have gotten clear of the debauching effect upon our state legislature, of the election of United States senators. Will it be necessary to resort to some similar means to remove the debauchery of the Normal schools?

The fact of the matter is, the state made a grave mistake when it undertook to establish a system of free colleges. Unless a free college could be established in every locality—every school district, the neglected locality or district is sure to complain. And it has just cause of complaint. The state has no right to favor one locality at the expense of another. No tax payer will object if our public school system is made more efficient. If his taxes are increased for this reason, he will not murmur. But he has a right to complain when he is taxed to support educational institutions from which he can reap no benefit.

When the state has supplied a good common school education to all its boys and girls, it has fully discharged its duty in that regard. But when it undertakes to supply free college educations to the boys and girls of one locality at the expense of those of other localities, it establishes a class favoritism, that has no place in a just and free government. Also, it makes it possible to build up a political machine that, in the end, will debauch our entire state political system. Indeed, we are now combatting such a political machine, that our mistaken policy of free state colleges has made possible; to be created. The matter will probably never be righted until the entire question of free state colleges is submitted to the people for adjudication.

CONTSITUTION AND LAW ONLY COURSE

Whenever public officials, who are empowered by law to expend public moneys, expend them in the interests of any individual or any particular class of individuals, such acts are contrary to the spirit of the state constitution and, in the end, is sure to lead into trouble. Public money should not be appropriated for the benefit of any particular locality or for any particular class of people that would not apply for a similar purpose to all other locality. For this reason our fundmental law requires all public buildings erected and maintained by the state to be placed at or near the state capitol. Our constitution makers could wisely see that the placing of a state institution at any one particular city, town, or place, would create a jealous rivalry in cities, towns or places, not so favored. Hence, all private interests were made subordinate to the interests of the state. Consequently, all public institutions, that is to say institutions constructed with public tax money should be placed at the seat of government.

Violations of this principle, has lead to much dissatisfaction on the part of the tax payers. Expending money in the erection of the six state colleges and the Soldier's Home, is a direct violation of this fundamental law. The building of the Portage railway was a violation of the spirit of the law. This same principle, i. e., the principle and intent of the law is being violated by our county court in the building of the Calipooia mountain wagon road.

Legislature and county courts have no authority under the law to appropriate public money for a private or semmi-private purpose. While the direct letter of the law is not violated in building the Portage railway by the state and the building of a road for Calipooia miners by the county, the spirit, as before stated, is violated and, besides, a dangerous and expensive precedent is established.

Some forty or fifty miles West of Albany is located the beautiful Aisea valley. Rich and productive, the residents over there need nothing to become rich and prosperous, save a means to get their products to market at reasonable cost. They could ask the state to furnish this means, with just as much propriety, as could the Eastern Oregon people ask for the Portage railroad, or the Calipooia miners for a wagon road, at public expense. Simply because it is good politics from a party or individual viewpoint, to do this or that thing, does not make the doing of the same right nor in keeping with the spirit of the law.

The only safe and legal rule for legislature or county court is never to deviate from the letter and spirit of the law. Had such been the controling rule of past legislatures we would not now have to wage war upon the appropriations of public money to maintain state colleges, etc.

What is past is beyond recall. Our only safe plan as a state or county is to get back into the old well-beaten track labeled "Constitution and Law" and not stray from it again. When the public officer makes oath that he will obey the letter and spirit of the law, he should remember his official oath in each and every public action. He will find that he will loose no friends by so doing; on the contrary he will gain friends by the thousand if he adheres strictly to the law as his rule of action.

Our Santiam Fair is now up to the people. With the start given of two-thirds of the amount of money required, it ought to be comparatively easy to obtain the rest. With the money provided the rest is a matter of detail, depending upon how well the various committees do the work required of them. A unison of effort is all that is required to make our efforts successful and of great benefit to our stock raisers, dairymen and the farmers generally.

The present legislature, as a rule, was elected upon pledges of retrenchment and reform. It bids fair to go down in history as the most expensive one since the state was organized. The members will have a good time explaining when they get home.

The Modesty of Women

Naturally makes them shrink from the indelicate questions, the obnoxious examinations, and unpleasant local treatments, which some physicians consider essential in the treatment of diseases of women. Yet, if help can be had, it is better to submit to this ordeal than let the disease grow and spread. The trouble is that so often the woman undergoes all the annoyance and shame for nothing. Thousands of women who have been cured by Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription write in appreciation of the cure which dispenses with the examinations and local treatments. There is no other medicine so sure and safe for delicate women as "Favorite Prescription." It cures debilitating drains, irregularity and female weakness. It always helps. It almost always cures. It is strictly non-alcoholic, non-secret, all its ingredients being printed on its bottle-wrapper; contains no deleterious or habit-forming drugs, and every native medicinal root entering into its composition has the full endorsement of those most eminent in the several schools of medical practice. Some of these numerous and strongest of professional endorsements of its ingredients, will be found in a pamphlet wrapped around the bottle, also in a booklet mailed free on request, by Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y. These professional endorsements should have far more weight than any amount of the ordinary lay, or non-professional testimonials.

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CONTEST NOTICE.

Department of the Interior,
United States Land Office,
at Portland Oregon, January 22, 1907.

A sufficient contest affidavit having been filed in this office by Johnson White contestant against Homestead entry No. [illegible], made Oct. [illegible], for [illegible] Section 12, Township 10 [illegible] Range 21 [illegible] by [illegible] W. [illegible] way Contestee, in which it is alleged that he is well acquainted with the tract of land embraced in the homestead entry and knows the present condition of the land of the same; that there are no improvements thereon, except the shell of an old delapidated log cabin, about 10 ft. by 12 ft. and uninhabitable; that no part of said land of said entry has been cultivated during the year [illegible], and there is nothing to indicate that any one has resided thereon. And [illegible] says, on information and belief, that there are no improvements on said quarter section of land except the said log cabin; that said cabin is of no value whatever; that said entryman never resided on said quarter section of land, never made any improvements thereon except said cabin, and never at any time cultivated any portion of said quarter section of land; and that the said alleged absence from the said land was not due to his employment in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States as a private soldier, officer, seaman or marine, during the war with Spain or during any other war in which the United States may be engaged.

Said parties are hereby notified to appear, respond and offer evidence touching said allegation at 10 o'clock a. m. on March 11 1907 before the Register and Receiver at the United States Land Office in Portland, Oregon.

The said contestant having, in a proper affidavit, filed January 1, 1907, set forth facts which show that after due diligence personal service of this notice can not be made, it is hereby ordered and directed that such notice be given by due and proper publication.

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