

## STATE BOARD REPORTS ON MORROW COUNTY SCHOOL CONDITIONS

By Supt. Notson.

The State Board of Health has made its report to me concerning the conditions found in the schools inspected by the State School Nurse who recently visited the schools of this county. The Board will provide the services of skilled men to aid in remedying the defective sight of pupils whose parents are not able to bear the expense themselves. The same offer applies to other defects which interfere with the school work of pupils.

In several districts the outhouses are not what they should be. Some need repairs, some need cleaning, some need new vaults, and some need a coat of paint or whitewash to obliterate the obscene writing and vile pictures. In two districts one of the outbuildings has been blown down. The Board insists upon a compliance with the law which requires two outbuildings, even if the school is small, unless the pupils are all of one sex. In two or three districts new outbuildings should replace the old.

In nearly all the districts, the water supply is properly taken care of, though a closed jar with a faucet would be a decided improvement over the present open pail used in some districts. The open pail, even when the pupils are provided with individual cups, is not the best means of caring for the water supply. Where the source of the water is near, a large jar fitted with a bubbling fountain, which can be purchased at a small cost, is better than the individual cups, for pupils neglect to take their cups home to be sealed.

The Board feel that the floors should be oiled. In this country the dust is one of the difficult things to contend with. The school boards would do well to provide some sort of sweeping compound for use on the floors, and floor brushes are better than brooms for sweeping, and in the end they are cheaper. The sweeping and dusting should be done in the evening. A sweeping compound can be made at a very small cost. Few people appreciate the dangers arising from dust.

While it is not mentioned in the report, the light in many of the schools is not the best. In District No. 34 the light is admitted only from the left side, almost the entire side of the building being windows. This is the correct method. The light is regulated by means of tan colored, adjustable shades, which are the same kind as those used in the school buildings of Spokane. These shades cost a little more in the beginning, but they are much cheaper in the end, for they will outlast a dozen of the ordinary shades. Then they are so much better. The light can be properly regulated at all times. When the sun is shining on the side having the windows, the shades may be drawn entirely over the windows, yet the texture and color enables a soft light of sufficient quantity to enter the room.

In several of the districts, the matters needing attention have already been attended to. In all they should be attended to without delay. State Superintendent Churchill has called upon me for a report in regard to the work of the parent-teacher organizations of this county. It is to be regretted that more of these organizations were not organized during the year. Where there have been such organizations, much good has been accomplished. Portland has led the entire country in this line. At the Spokane meeting, Mr. O. M. Plummer of the Portland Board of Education, told of the great benefits which had been secured by the organizations in that city. Similar reports were made from other cities. Some of the speakers making the reports said that at first some of the teachers, principals, and superintendents were afraid to encourage the work, thinking that the organization might be "meddlesome", but in every case they are now in hearty accord. The organization at Lexington, under the leadership of Prof. Doak, has done some most excellent things this year. If such an organization were formed in each district, many of the things criticised by the State Board of Health would be remedied without any difficulty. The purpose of the organizations is to secure intelligent co-operation between the homes and the schools and to secure the best equipment for school work which the district can afford. The school and the home are the two biggest factors in the education of the child, though not the only ones. Sometimes teachers forget the part the home has in the work, and think that the school is the only factor. Sometimes the parents want to put all the responsibility upon the school. Both positions are erroneous. The solution is found in the parent-teacher organizations.

## R. F. HYND WRITES OF HIS NATIVE LAND

Editor Gazette-Times:-

The town of Arbroath where we are spending our holiday, is located on the east coast of Scotland and has a population of 22,000. It is one of the oldest towns in Scotland, its history dating back to the Roman invasion of Britain in the sixth century, and parts of the wall built at that time to protect the Roman soldiers from the attacks of the Highlanders can still be seen at the foot of the Grampian Hills, the most southerly of the Scottish Highlands about ten miles north from town. The country for many miles around is dotted with ancient landmarks, and one can always find some old inhabitant who can entertain the visitor with the written and unwritten history of these early days. I met an old lady recently who told me she remembered her grandfather finding a high pile of bones on the shores of a lovely bay adjoining my father's farm, where the sea during a fierce storm had washed away the sandy beach exposing the gruesome pile, and as bones were in those days, as well as at the present time, in demand at the fertilizer factories this thrifty Scot began hauling them to the nearest factory. Needless to say the authorities soon called a halt, reverently covering up what the sea had exposed and on further investigation there was found a high trench of human bones well preserved in the sand where they had been for centuries, evidently the result of a battle where some foreign foe had landed on the beach, but as no written history or legend recorded such an incident the date would be prior to the Roman invasion.

The town owes much of its place in history to its Abbey, the ruins of which are still much admired by visitors. The original building was founded in 1178 and completed in 1233, and from the time of its completion till 1400 was very often used as a royal residence and seat of Scotch government, the surrounding country being at that time, as it is today, one of the best agricultural districts in Scotland. The church building alone covered an area of 276 feet by 68 feet and the walls are 67 feet high, and in many places from four to six feet thick, with secret passages leading through them, this part of the Abbey being taken care of by 40 monks and their retinue of servants. In addition to the church were residences, banquet halls, defense towers, dungeons, etc. forming a pile of masonry, much of it finely carved, and the ruins of which are still well preserved. It was in this Abbey that in 1320 the Scottish "Declaration of Independence" was written, a copy of which is still preserved and which ends with the words: "It is not for glory, riches or honor, that we fight but for that liberty which no man will consent to lose but with his life." The blood of the framers of this document has flowed through the veins of Patrick Henry.

The old part of the town has very narrow crooked streets, in many places just room enough for two vehicles to pass, while the sidewalks are only wide enough for two people to walk on. At every curve or angle the street takes another name and altogether the arrangement of the old town is most confusing to visitors. This condition is characteristic of all the old towns in Europe, and even in small towns one can readily lose their way at night. The new part is quite modern and up-to-date, many of the residences being superior to those of an American city of equal population, all being built of stone with slate roofs. In fact these materials are used in all buildings here and a lumber structure would be a curiosity. The streets and sidewalks are wide and well paved, and the public parks are large and beautifully located overlooking the sea. The harbor, factories, etc., occupy about one mile of the water front, while north and south for about a mile in each direction lie the recreation parks, the level ground being utilized by the younger members for football, cricket, etc., while the higher ground at the back is well furnished with benches where lovers and old people can pass a quiet hour. South from town in front of the park lies a beautiful bathing beach well patronized during the summer months, while just north from the other park the high, rocky cliffs extend for several miles, rising almost perpendicular out of the ocean. The land is cultivated up to the edge of these cliffs, leaving only a foot path, which is dangerous to tread on stormy days, but from which a beautiful

view can be attained of the ocean in all moods. Twelve miles out at sea on a lonely rock stands the Bell Rock light house, 115 feet high, built in 1810 at a cost of over \$300,000, and which sends its alternate flashes of red and white light from sunset to sunrise lighting up the sea for many miles around.

During the summer months the town is full of visitors and tourists, many attracted by the dry bracing air, for this is the driest district in Scotland, the rainfall being only about 25 inches, and many by the antiquarian relics of the town and district, for in addition to the ruins of the Abbey, there are many old ruins and haunted castles in the country adjoining, most of them dating back to the 12th century, and in a day's journey one can be entertained with enough ghost stories and tales of battles and bloodshed around these ancient ruins to keep one's nerves on edge for some time. The fishing community, consisting of about 100 families, appears to be a great attraction for visitors. These people occupy a district along the water front, living apart from the other residents of the town, and never mixing with them in a social or business way. Their general appearance and dress is altogether different and one could readily believe they were a different race of people. Every town along the coast has its "fisher folks," and most interesting they are. Every day when the weather permits they go out in their small boats, three to five men in a boat according to size, and seldom do they return empty handed. When landed the catch of each boat is sold separately at auction on the wharf, the fish merchants and peddlars being active bidders. Sometimes a storm comes up when they are out at sea and several times during the past winter the life boat has been launched to stand by and render assistance if any accident occurred. No lives have been lost this winter, but few seasons pass without some wreck when making the landing. During the summer months thousands of tons of herring are landed and these are cleaned and packed in barrels by the women when the men are out after "another load," and exported to Russia and Germany. The herring season is the fisherman's harvest.

The principal industry of the town is the manufacture of twine and canvas, the raw material, flax, coming by ship from the Baltic Sea in Russia. There are eight such factories as well as two large shoe factories employing approximately 3000 workers, the greater part being girls and women, men being employed only as mechanics and overseers. The wages paid these factory workers is very low, from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per week according to age and experience for the girls and women, and from \$5.00 to \$8.00 for the men. There are also three engineering concerns employing approximately 800 men whose wages will run from \$6.00 to \$10.00 per week, the latter being considered a high wage for the best class of workmen in any of the trades. The painters, carpenters and other artisans get from 16c. to 20c. per hour working ten hours per day except Saturday when all work in factories and shops closes at noon, the weekly half-holiday being universal here. All retail stores, and other places not observing the Saturday half-holiday close on Wednesday afternoon, and the law is strictly enforced. A great number of the retail stores are conducted by women, a large percentage of whom are "bachelor maids," and when clerks are employed in the larger stores they are mostly women and girls whose pay is no better than the factory workers. These conditions drive the young men to foreign lands or to a "life on the rolling wave," and the proportion of women in the town is yearly increasing. There are hundreds of women working in stores and factories for \$2.00 per week or less and hundreds of men-laborers, teamsters, etc., working for less than \$6 per week, and bringing up a family. Rents and clothing are cheaper, flour, meats and fruit are higher, while groceries are about the same price as in Oregon. How the poor beggars live is more than I can gure out, but they seem to be happy and have evidently found out that "Blessed are those who expect nothing for they shall not be disappointed."

Scotland has always been known as a good Sunday observer and here the old customs are pretty well kept up. Not only are all the stores closed, but the blinds on the windows are drawn and no games of any kind are allowed in the public parks or anywhere else for that matter. During the winter the public skating pond was frozen over once or twice, each time for three days. One Saturday the ice was in fine condition and the pond was crowded till midnight when the police whistle was blown and the pond cleared. All day on Sunday a policeman stood guard and no one was allowed on the ice till Monday morning. The three "movie" theaters are not allowed to open and where twenty-five trains pass through town each way during week days, there are only two through mail trains on Sunday, not a local train being taken out. There is not the church attendance one would expect with all these restrictions, the seashore, the parks and the country roads being more attractive than the churches to those who spend their time during the week inside the factories and shops.

R. F. HYND.

(To be continued)

## REPUBLICAN VOTERS SHOULD BEWARE

Party Should Be Represented on National Committee By a Republican

The Republicans of Oregon are entitled to have a Republican named as the National Republican Committeeman from this State. C. W. Ackerson, who claims to be a Republican, is a candidate. He registered as a Progressive National Committeeman. Then cancelled his registration as a Progressive and registered as a Republican and immediately filed his candidacy for membership on Republican National Committee. Has been an intimate and convenient understudy of the Progressive National Committeeman and seems now to be in combination with him in an attempt to shanghai the Republican organization. His candidacy is being actively backed by parties hostile to the Republican party and having personal interests and private personal grudges to serve. His erratic and excitable temperament has frequently led him to flood the columns of the press with violent attacks upon the Republican party and vicious personal abuse of prominent Republicans and life-long residents of the State.

It is a grave abuse for parties who are not Republican to register as such. It is a graver abuse for outsiders to attempt the capture of a political party to gratify a personal grudge and to promote party discord. It is an abuse against which fair-minded men of all parties will rise in protest. We can never have a reunited party by pushing to the front political hotheads and men who are political reformers simply for the sake of office. Having been a Republican only twenty-four hours when he announced his candidacy for the highest honorary position in the gift of the party, is some indication of what Mr. Ackerson's motive was in registering as a Republican. As Hon. Ralph E. Williams is the only Republican who is a candidate for Republican National Committeeman, we feel warranted in urging all loyal Republicans in the state to give him their earnest and enthusiastic support.

CHAS. B. MOORES,  
(Chairman of Republican State Central Committee.)  
M. B. McFAUL,  
(President Lincoln Republican Club.)  
McKINLEY MITCHELL,  
(President of Portland Republican Club.)  
C. M. IDLEMAN,  
(President Multnomah Republican Club.)

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I stand by my record as State Senator at the last session of the legislature. I worked and voted against the new tax law, and favor a law making taxes payable semi-annually, without penalty.

Only five of the laws passed at that session were referred to the people by referendum petitions; four of these the people approved by overwhelming majorities, and I voted for them; the fifth was almost as badly defeated, and I voted against it in the legislature.

I worked and voted for Senator Malarkey's minimum wage bill for women, providing for an impartial commission to fix the maximum hours of labor and the minimum amount of pay.

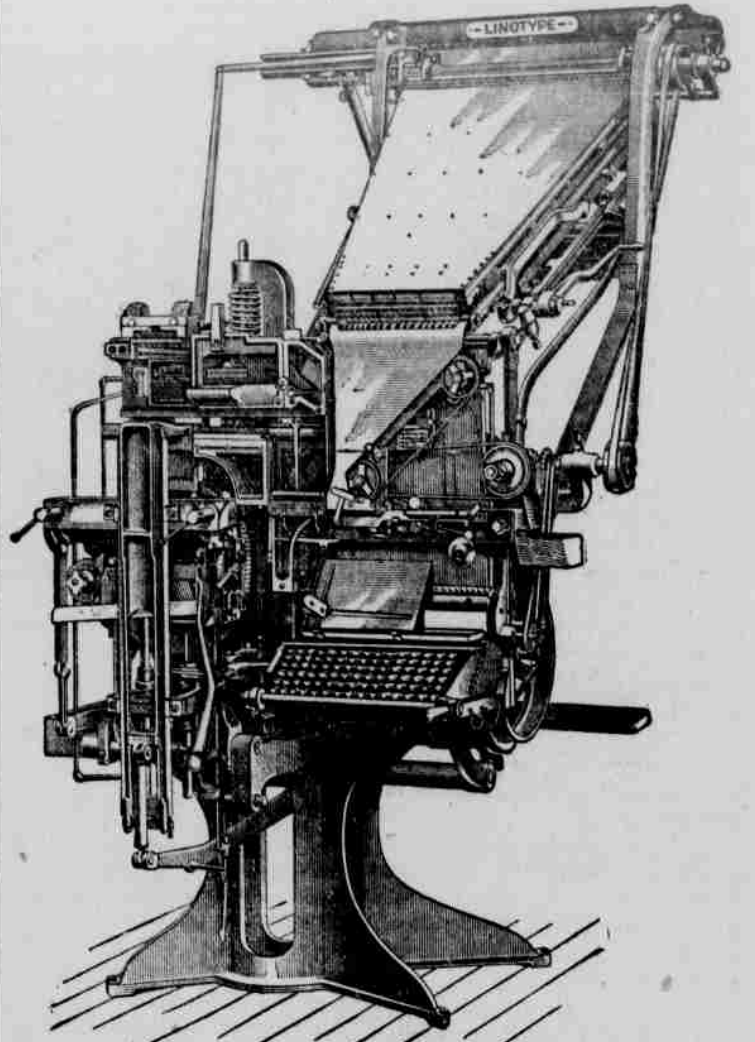
I favor a similar law providing for an impartial commission without compensation, to fix the maximum hours of labor for men in the various industrial occupations; this in preference to a flat eight hour law.

I favor further good roads legislation with state aid, so that we may have cheaper transportation from the farms and producers in every direction.

I favor the reduction of taxes by consolidation of various commissions, or the abolishment thereof, and placing their duties into the hands of the State Board, and by the reduction of the expense of conducting the various departments of the State.

I favor suitable appropriations for our State Educational Institutions, and the continued improvement of our great bulwark—the public school system.

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### Funeral Held at Cleveland.

Funeral services for Mrs. Pearl McLain, youngest daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Hinton, 802 Patton avenue, who died April 16 in Cleveland, Ohio, were held in that city. Her husband was making arrangements to bring her to Portland when her death occurred. She was born August 27, 1889, near Heppner, Ore.—Portland Journal.

### Building Part of Cutoff.

H. R. Newport of the Newport Construction company returned to Hermiston on the morning train after spending the night here. The Newport has one of the subcontracts for building a portion of the Coyote cutoff. Already they have five camps established and will establish two more next week. They are building 13 miles of track near Hermiston and three miles near Coyote. They are also putting in about seven miles of passing track.—Pendleton E. O.



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