THE INTEREST IS GREAT

SESSIONS OF THE STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION IN SALEM.

Questions of Great Importance Discussed by Leading Educators—Plans for Rural School Libraries.

(From Daily, Dec. 29th.)

The State Teachers' Association held its first morning session yesterday in the house of representatives' hall and was called to order at 9:45.

Superintendent Ackerman, in his opening remarks, said: "No good time can be had unless that good time and good cheer are brought with the teachers. This usually comes from participation in exercises."

The chorus, "America," led by Superintendent E. D. Ressler, of Eugene, opened the forenoon session.

The first topic presented for consideration was "Some Lines of Progress in Our Educational Work," by Principal D. A. Grout, of Portland. In part he said: "Home reading is one of the best means of continuing education after school days are over. There should always be a few chosen books to supplement the school texts, especially in the subjects of history, geography and literature. Another matter is the power of the teacher to develop in the child habits of originality. Too much of the originality of children is educated away. Too highly seasoned food makes many mental dyspeptics in our boys and girls. Children should be told as little as possible and led to discover as much as possible. Self activity must be, else there is no movement. The highest responsibility of teachers is to see to the development of the child's self activity. Another point, and a somewhat neglected one, is the development of the child's art activity. The drawings pupils put on paper are of no importance in themselves. A dirty set of sheets they are; but they are a development of the joy in an original creation. It is the spirit of the work and not the medium that is most important. It is hard to properly estimate the value of learning by doing. Manual training unfortunately did not continue long enough for most of us. Manual schools should not be merely trade schools. The use of materials in schools are not for the mere purpose of making artisans, but to reveal new knowledge to the child. A thing in which we are all more or less interested is that of gradation and promotion. A slow but radical change along this line is rapidly taking place in the minds of thinkers. The boiling and baking of pupils by means of examinations on the plea of discovering fitness for promotion, is deplorable. It may be eliminated in part, at least, by a teacher's daily estimate of pupil's recitations." The discussion was continued by Prof. L. B. Horner, Pres. P. L. Campbell, Prof. J. M. Martindale, Prof. J. C. C. Lewis, Miss Burks and Prof. W. W. Bristow, Prof. W. I. Reynolds, W. J. Crawford, and C. W. Durrette.

Superintendent J. M. Martindale, of Albany, introduced the following resolution: "Resolved by the Oregon State Teachers' Association, now assembled, that we designate, as our official organ of publication, the Oregon Teachers' Monthly. And that the minutes, papers and notes of general comment be submitted to its columns." This resolution, upon a duly seconded motion of Superintendent E. D. Ressler, was referred to a committee on resolutions, which committee was to be appointed at a later date by State Superintendent Ackerman.

At the close of the discussion which hinged largely upon the methods of avoiding written examinations, exercises were given by the pupils of the "Oregon School for the Deaf," introduced by Superintendent C. C. Wentz. The superintendent reviewed the condition of the school under his charge, the number of pupils in school, the percentage of deaf mutes represented in the school, the methods used, and correction of popular impressions that the mental ability of deaf-mutes is not so strong as those of persons who can hear.

A young lady was brought upon the rostrum and delivered in pantomime the song, "Jesus Lover of My Soul." This was well done and elicted much commendation from the audience. Superintendent Wentz carried on a purely extemporaneous conversation with the young lady, following which she was called upon to answer many questions propounded by various teachers. To these she gave clear and audible answers. All these things were subjects for the wonder of those unacquainted with the possibilities of a human mind behind irresponsive ear-drums.

Superintendent E. D. Ressler here introduced "Public School Savings Bank." He traced the origin, history and benefits already derived from these banks in this and other countries. He believed in these banks. His reasons were in part the cultivation of habits of thrift, and its consequent result of the acquired knowledge of the value of money and habits of self-control. He said: "The question of finances will be the most important in the lives of all pupils in a few years. I have heard it said that children taught to save their pennies, will become selfish." This he denied and offered illustrations to support his position. The policy and methods used in the "Eugene Public Savings Bank"—a school bank ten months old, was taken up and details of operations explained. These were ably and interestingly presented, and of value to those desiring information upon the subject.

Afternoon Session.

At the opening of the session, State Superintendent Ackerman announced the fact that for years there had been a growing sentiment among the teachers that the teachers should organize as an association and elect their officers.

Prof. J. T. Gregg moved that the teachers present proceed to organize the Western Division of the Oregon State Teachers' Association with the understanding that the state superintendent appoint the committee on constitution and by-laws. The motion was carried. The state superintendent appointed the following committee on constitution and by-laws: D. W. Yoder, J. T. Gregg and C. W. Durrette.

The following greetings were unanimously adopted:

"The Western Division of the Oregon State Teachers' Association, 250 strong, sends greeting to the Washington State Teachers' Association, now in session at Tacoma, Washington."

Similar greetings to the Idaho State Teachers' Association, now in session, were also adopted.

Prof. A. P. Armstrong, superintendent of Multnomah county, in a discussion upon the "Elimination of Unprofitable Work from the School Curriculum," commended the action of the state board of education in eliminating the advanced grammar, Steele's physiology and higher geography from the grammar school curriculum. The speaker expressed the opinion that at the present time there is too much time devoted to memory work in history, and too little time to reading; and entertained an objection to so many methods of calculating interest. He recommended one method and that well learned. Prof. Armstrong pointed out the danger common among teachers of trying new methods, thus making an experiment status of the common school. The judicious teacher can determine beforehand whether the change will be expedient, the teacher should operate along this line of the certain rather than the experimental.

W. W. Payne, principal of the Astoria high school, suggested that all those subjects that are non-essential to the pupils be eliminated from the common school; he placed considerable stress upon commercial arithmetic, which he regards of little or no value to the ordinary school girl. A non-essential to one pupil, however, would be an essential to another. His one question of moment was: "Can we ever teach all these things that will be of like use to individual pupils and only those things? If so, how? If not so, why?"

Prof. W. M. C. Miller supplemented with a short talk along the same line and the audience then listened to an instrumental trio by Lelo Nicklin, Nellie Brown, and Carrie Hurst, and encore, to which they graciously responded.

Pres. P. L. Campbell made a very pointed talk on "How Can the Normal Schools Best Aid the Rural Teachers?" He though a deficient secondary education the greatest evil with which educators had to contend. The greatest improvement was noted in the line of English. The work of the rural schools is in most instances defective because of the low grade of certificates held by those who teach there. At least 500 of the 600 third grade certificates go to rural districts. A good teacher at a high salary is much more economical than a cheap teacher with a longer term. The best class of work ought to be done in the country—but it is not now always the case. The surest remedy is to make the patrons of the district dissatisfied with anything short of the best teachers regardless of salary. Said he: "A closer attention to the preparation of teachers for this class of schools on the part of normal schools will do much to improve them directly. Other things being equal, there is no place a teacher can do better work than in the country schools; there the children are at their best. This means a special preparation for this work. Normal schools drill their teachers too much for graded work. The Monmouth normal has undertaken to prepare teachers for a high grade of work in ungraded schools and so far with gratifying results. This is, to the minds of many, the shortest and surest way to give the rural schools the best help from the normal schools."

At this point another instrumental trio was introduced.

John B. Horner, professor of rhetoric and literature in the State Agricultural college, in a paper on "School Libraries; How to Get and How to Use Them," suggested that some of the best school libraries of the state consist of books donated by the residents of the various school districts. A book has been on the shelf for a long time; and the teacher, or someone else, acting as a committeeman, asks for a donation and the book is cheerfully donated. It is not uncommon that some benefactor casts about and finds a box full of books which he contributes to the increasing number of the collection, and the library is gathered. Library funds are frequently secured by subscription; entertainments by home talent can be given; and local lecturers of merit can be secured at such rates that the proceeds will be practically net to the library committee. A small amount from the public school fund may be set aside from time to time; but too often the teacher's salary is diminished by this much, which means that the little library is purchased at the expense of the teacher. The speaker suggested that some day the legislature may see fit to set aside a small sum for every school district to be used as a library fund.

Superintendent J. M. Martindale thought libraries have but one use—the promotion of intellectual growth. At the close of his remarks he offered the following resolution, which was referred to the committee on resolutions:

"Be it resolved by the Oregon State Teachers' Association:

"That libraries for use in the rural districts within the state of Oregon should consist of: Text books, books of reference, and classical literature, and such books, papers and magazines as will tend to elevate the morals of the community.

"That such libraries should be provided for by the general school funds of the several school districts.

"That a circulating library system be established by the co-operation of the several school districts, by the local board, under the general supervision of the county school superintendent."

Superintendent Gregory, of Jackson county, believed that there is great danger in crowding big dictionaries and libraries on children before they have assumed literary taste and accomplishments. The boy or girl who has not read "Robinson Crusoe," "Kingsley's Water Babies," "Pilgrim's Progress," "Kipling's Jungle Tales," and others of the best books, in biography, poetry, fiction, essays, travel, speeches, and the Bible, has failed to secure much that pertains to an education, and missed an opportunity of storing the mind with beautiful thoughts which would lead to noble aspirations, and go far toward making a better, happier life.

Professor Wakeman, of the Liberal University, of Silverton, thought literary culture to be the foundation of progress and the true university to be a collection of books. The teacher, parent and pupil should all join in the selection of books. These books must speak, and through some intelligent man or woman. The public school lecture system, as recently introduced into some of the schools of New York, was applauded and its methods detailed.

At the evening session, a program of exceptional merit was rendered, to the manifest pleasure of the large audience assembled. Prof Thomas Newlin, of Pacific College, Newberg, delivered an interesting address on "A New Life a Study in Education."

LATEST THINGS IN BICYCLES.

Wheels Are Now Made That Overcome All Obstacles.

A large number of people yesterday witnessed on the Horse guards parade the application of a series of severe tests to a new patent cycle, so designed that it may with safety be ridden over obstacles of considerable size and variety.

One of the main objects of the inventor was to produce a machine suitable for military purposes, and the military authorities sent a cycle orderly to participate in the tests, with a view, it is understood, of using the cycles in South Africa if they were found to be all that was claimed for them. Among those who were present were Schomberg K. McDonnell, Lord Salisbury's principal private secretary, and a number of military officers.

The machine has an absolutely rigid frame, hung on springs, much in the same manner as a locomotive and its tender, the hubs of the wheel sliding in grooves. It is claimed that an average amateur cyclist can ride along a thirty or forty-rung ladder lying on the ground without discomfort and that even an elderly rider can negotiate bricks, four or five-inch curbs, deep ruts and obstacles which would ruin an ordinary machine, and risk loss of life and limbs.

There were several machines under test. The weights varied from thirty-two to thirty-eight pounds, and there were solid, cushion and pneumatic tires. The objects used were blocks of timber nine inches wide by three inches thick, placed singly, and a pile of bricks about six inches high, with a three-inch take-off. Over all these obstacles numerous riders passed in safety, and although it appeared to onlookers that there was a tremendous jar in the case of the larger obstacles, there was no discomfort.

Mr. McDonnell tried a couple of machines and rode first at a great rate and then more slowly over all the obstacles. He expressed surprise that obstructions of such bulk could be negotiated without difficulty or danger, and said he regarded the invention as a very remarkable one. A number of the officers also applied practical tests with satisfactory results. The machine, it is claimed, is equally available for military and general purposes. In appearance it is very little different from an ordinary high-class cycle. The cycle orderly did his riding with a rifle tied to his machine.—London Leader.

BRIEF NORTHWEST NEWS.

Ex-County Clerk C. G. Coad, of Dallas, Polk county, has been appointed assistant sergeant-at-arms of the United States senate.

J. S. McDonald has been appointed postmaster at St. Paul, Or., vice R. E. Kirk, resigned.

Mrs. Olive Alexander died at her home in The Dalles, on Dec. 28th, after several years' illness with pulmonary consumption. She came from Lincoln, Cal., in 1885, and has made many warm friends here. Deceased was 49 years old.

The Tillamook bar is constantly shifting to the north, and is now two miles above where it formerly was.

The Northern Pacific railway has decided to build four additional wheat warehouses at Tacoma.

County Judge Fulton, of Sherman county, ordered that the January term of county court be held at Wasco instead of at Moro, on account of the smallpox scare.

CAN'T AFFORD IT.

The following acrostic, entitled "With the Average Christmas Gift," appears in the December issue of Truth:

I send a Christmas gift with this,
Kind friend, from me to thee. It is
Not much to send. A token mere
Of friendship for the coming year.
With love and joy and gladness free,
It goes today from me to thee.
Could I express the way I feel!
Alas! My pen will not reveal,
Nor seek to show how glad am I
To send this gift, though I might try.
And so it may be, doubtless best
For me to give my pen a rest
From this attempt to show my heart
Or write nice things. That is an art
Revealed not unto me. Just read
Down all these lines; and true, indeed,
In every word, they will reveal
The simple truth of how I feel.

Howard Rickertson, becoming intoxicated while in a little town near New York, was greatly attracted by the title of a play being presented in the local theatre, "Ten Nights in a Bar Room." When he went in to see the performance, however, he was deeply offeneded at what he considered the personalities of the actors and the way they made fun of him. He resented the affront by breaking the nose of the manager and the collar bone of the assistant manager. In the jail in which he was finally lodged for the night he smashed the partition between his cell and the corridor and upset the stove. He is still a prisoner, however, in the portion of the structure left intact.

ANNUAL PASS IS NOW RIPE

Chicago Railroads Will Send Out 100,000 Before Jan. 1st.

Many Applicants Sure to Be Disappointed—Each Road Limits Its Favors and Some Who Try to Get Them Fail—Two Millions in Use.

Within the next few days something like 100,000 annual passes will be sent out from the offices of the big railroads in Chicago. It will be the annual distribution of these fovars to officers, agents, and other employes of connecting and foreign roads, as well as their own men. The labor of getting out this free transportation is gigantic and will occupy the time of hundreds of clerks up to January 1st. In addition to the time of employes, the postage on the letters inclosing the passes will amount to $2,000 or $3,000, and the printing of the credentials will involve as much more.

The issue of free yearly passes will average 5,000 to each of the roads terminal here. The modus operandi for obtaining these passes is through applications. About the last of November of each year the different railroads of the country get together and agree on the number of passes and the persons to whom they will be given. Lists are printed and sent to the roads over which the favors are requested. It is optional with the receiving company whether it will issue any or all the passes asked for in the list. The requests of large and important systems are usually granted in full, while applications from small obscure railroads and boat lines are refused. This refusal never dismays the officers of the little lines, for they make up and send the same lists year after year in the hope of getting a percentage of the railroads to approve the applications.

High officers of railroads are not the only persons who receive annuals from other lines. In fact, the smallest percentage of the total issue goes to the executive officials. The traveling passenger and freight agents consume more of the passes than any other class.

Usually annual passes are extended to cover the month of January, so as not to embarrass traveling agents and others who may not receive the new annuals before New Year's day. This year, however, the Pennsylvania road gives notice that none of its 1899 annual passes will be honored after January 1st.

Though the annual pass, probably, is the easiest sort of transportation to manipulate, railroad officers say that few annuals are misused. Occasionally, one is lost or stolen, and somebody gets a ride or two before the transportation is bulletined. Recently an annual good over a Chicago-Buffalo line was lost. The loss was not discovered for nearly three months, the holder having no occasion to use it. When it was bulletined by the railroad company it was found that it had been used for twenty round trips between Chicago and Buffalo. The majority of annuals require no signature, which makes it difficult for a conductor to ascertain whether it is in the hands of the right person.

The recent agitation to do away with all annual passes evidently has had no effect on the crop for 1900, since officers of many of the local lines say that more applications for the coming year have been received than for many years past.

A rough estimate of the total number of annuals that will be in the hands of American railroad men ready for use on New Year's day is 2,000,000. And this will not represent all of the annuals that will be issued during the coming year. The before-New Year's distribution is about 75 per cent. of all the twelve month passes, the other 25 per cent. is sent out during the year. The changes in officers, agents and traveling men cause many passes to be canceled or "called in." Those who are appointed to fill the vacancies must be furnished with fresh annuals.

Much time and attention is given by railroad officers who have charge of the pass department to studying up new designs to be used for printing each crop of annuals. The same plate is never used two years. Many of these designs are things of art and beauty. All the annual passes are printed on the finest of heavy, colored cardboard, in lithograph. A few roads insist upon the recipient signing his name of the back of the yearly passes.

During the last two or three years there has been a sort of revolution in the wording of annual passes. Formerly many of the coveted free passes were made out to include the holder and his or her family. For example, the wording would read: "Pass John Jones and family between all stations." This form was found to be too broad. Possessed with such a credential, a holder, if he or she were so disposed, might carry half the universe as members of the family. Few passes are now made out this way. If passes are sent for members of an officer's family, one is sent to each member. The only exception to this is in the passes given to roadmasters and other officials, who are required to go over the road a great deal, accompanied by workmen. As a new gang may be used each trip, adherence to the name principle would cause much unnecessary delay.

Comparatively few annuals are now issued to other than railroad men. As president has it in his power to send one to whom he may see fit—friend, relative, or whoever he may be. But this is seldom done. The one class, outside of employes, that is still quite generally favored with annuals, is politicians; and railroad officers say that no other persons abuse the pass privilege as much as the men with "pulls." A member of a state legislature will loan his annual right and left to his constituents. One member of the Illinois house, from the southwestern part of the state, has had his pass presented on one road several times every week for six months, each time by a different person.

There is a class of "workers" whose members appear to make a life task of trying to obtain annual passes. This class must not be confused with the class which seeks occasional trip passes without any ground to stand upon. The annual pass fiend is a semi-legitimate applicant for favor who is usually remotely connected with a railroad. For example, a head of some local secret society or other organization the members of which hold annual conventions. These heads or leaders offer to trade their influence in getting their delegations to go over a certain line for an annual pass. They always ask for an annual first. If this is refused they are willing to accept a free trip ticket.

Several years ago there was a custom in vogue among railroads of issuing passes engraved on gold and silver plates. The Denver & Rio Grande railroad one year issued a large number on silver plates. The only recent instance of the kind was the action of the president of the Pennsylvania in ordering life passes on silver plates sent to the widows and children of all ex-presidents of that road. A like courtesy is to be extended to each member of the board of directors of this company.

Life passes are rarely issued. They are most commonly issued to employes who have been permanently injured on the railroad for which they have been working and who have settled their claims without resort to the law.

Regarding the trains on which annual passes are accepted. As this is the highest form of free railroad transportation that is issued, usually there are no restrictions surrounding its use; it is generally good on all trains of the road. There are, however, a few trains in the country in which even annual passes are barred, unless the president of the line expressly makes them good on these trains by having written across their face "good on the flyers." Two of the trains referred to are the twenty-four hour extra fare limiteds of the Pennsylvania and Lake Shore roads between Chicago and New York. Few annual passes are made good on these trains. No trip passes are ever honored on them. It is said that the late Frank Thomas, when president of the Pennsylvania system, always paid full cash fare and the extra fare exacted for the twenty-four hour privilege he rode on one of the limited trains. But it is said, on the other hand, that President Thomson did this more for effect than anything else, and that the money he paid for riding over his own road was regularly returned to him in the shape of vouchers for personal expenses.

Without doubt the hardest road in the United States from which to get a pass—trip or annual—is the New York, New Hampshire & Hartford system, the principal operations of which are between Boston and New York. The company has an air-tight monopoly of the railroad business, particularly passenger traffic, between the two cities, and is in a position to "turn down" the pass fiend. The company asks few favors from connecting or foreign lines, and does about as it pleases in every way.

If you want to travel all rail between the Hub and Gotham you must go over the New York, New Haven & Hartford. If you want to go via the Fall River steamer line you must go via the New York, New Haven & Hartford, as the latter owns the former. If you want to go over the New England line and the Norwich steamers you must go via New York, New Haven & Hartford, for both are parts of the consolidated system. If you are in Boston and want to get a pass over the New Haven to New York you must pay your fare to New Haven, half way to Gotham, where are located the general offices of the road. Then, if you are unsuccessful in obtaining free transportation for the balance of the trip, you must pay your fare for the rest of the journey to New York. Railroad men are familiar with the rules of the New Haven line, and they make few applications to it for passes.

Perhaps there is but one kind of transportation for which railroad officers act as a unit in refusing passes. This is the suburban business. Railroad companies hold their suburban transportation sacred, and will give a suburban pass to none but employes of their own roads. Officers of railroads in Chicago who live in suburbs reached by other roads pay their monthly fares the same as other persons. As an example of the ironclad rules surrounding suburban tickets, President Ripley, of the Santa Fe, lives in Riverside, the pretty suburb twelve miles out on the Burlington road. Nearly every day Mr. Ripley may be seen on one o fthe Burlington trains, and if you watch him when the collector comes along you will see him hand a regular paid-for form of twenty-five-ride or monthly ticket.

Railroad men generally are familiar with the rules surrounding suburban tickets, and few of them ever attempt nowadays to break through them, but others do. The suburban lines furnish their own employes with 100-ride tickets.—Chicago Tribune.

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought has borne the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher, and has been made under his personal supervision for over 30 years. Allow no one to deceive you in this. Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments, and endanger the health of Children—Experience against Experiment.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher.

In Use For Over 30 Years.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

CARBOLINEUM AVENARIUS.

The most radical remedy against chicken lice and the best wood-preserving paint is Carbolineum Avenarius, manufactured in Germany only. The farmers all over the country count amongst their heaviest expenses to run the farm, the lumber bill. All are undoubtedly interested to learn of a medium to reduce the same at least to half its former cost. This medium is Carbolineum Avenarius, a wood-preserving paint, based on 25 years' experience. Many are of the opinion that paint, tar and linseed oil will preserve the wood against rot and decay. These coatings only form an air-tight cover, but do not destroy the albuminum parts of the wood, which always start the rot. The coatings with above mentioned materials prevent the evaporation of the wood and the consequence is dry rot. Carbolineum Avenarius, on the contrary, penetrates deeply into the wood and destroys all present decay matters. The Carbolineum Avenarius is applied with a brush and imparts a nice nut brown color to the wood. It is used on the farm for painting barns, granaries, shingles, silos posts, bridges, chicken coops etc., and all woodwork above and below the ground. Carbolineum Avenarius is also the most radical remedy against chicken lice. If you want plenty of eggs and healthy chickens, the chickens must be free from lice and mites. Carbolineum Avenarius will keep your henhouse free from this plague. One coat applied to the inside of the chicken coop will keep it clean from vermin. Kerosening and whitewashing, which has to be repeated every month, is done away with and expenses for sulphur and insect powder are saved. Whoever disires further information about Carbolineum Avenarius should write to

R. M. WADE & CO., Agents.
tf. Salem, Oregon.

Raymond G. Keeney, a Yale student, ordered a florist to send some flowers to a chorus girl in the "Geisha" company last year. This year long after the flowers had faded and the chorus girl had flitted the florist brought suit for his bill. The defense was that young Keeney was legally an infant and that flowers for chorus girls were a luxury for which his father could not be compelled to pay. The judge refused to admit this point and found a verdict of $10 and costs for the plaintiff. The chorus girls are incensed at the verdict, regarding it as a discourager of horticulture and art.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

VISIT DR. JORDAN'S GREAT MUSEUM OF ANATOMY

1051 MARKET ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

The Largest Anatomical Museum in the World. Weaknesses or any contracted disease positively cured by the oldest Specialist on the Coast. Est. 36 years.

DR. JORDAN—DISEASES OF MEN

SYPHILIS thoroughly eradicated from system without the use of Mercury. Trusses fitted by an Expert. Radical cure for Rupture. A quick and radical cure for Piles, Fissure and Fistulas, by Dr. Jordan's special painless methods.

Consultation free and strictly private. Treatment personally or by letter. A Positive Cure in every case undertaken. Write for Book, PHILOSOPHY of MARRIAGE, MAILED FREE. (A valuable book for men.) Call or write

DR. JORDAN & CO., 1051 Market St., S. F.

NERVITA Restores VITALITY, LOST VIGOR AND MANHOOD

Cures Impotency, Night Emissions and wasting diseases, all effects of self-abuse, or excess and indiscretion. A nerve tonic and blood builder. Brings the pink glow to pale cheeks and restores the fire of youth. By mail 50c per box; 6 boxes for $2.50; with a written guarantee to cure or refund the money.

NERVITA MEDICAL CO.

Clinton & Jackson Sts., CHICAGO, ILL.

For sale by D. J. Fry, druggist, Salem, Oregon.