

FOUND A MARE'S NEST

AN OREGONIAN CORRESPONDENT MAKES SERIOUS CHARGES

Against Two Prominent Educators—Incl. nant Denials of the Charges Made.

(From Daily Statesman, July 14.)

Yesterday's Portland Oregonian contains a letter from that paper's Salem correspondent, which, if the facts as stated therein, existed, would reflect seriously on several gentlemen prominently known in educational circles of this state. The article in question tells of the preparation, by State Supt. J. H. Ackerman, of the questions for the state and county teachers' examinations to be held in August, and of the work of arranging them, to be sent out to the several county superintendents, and the rules of the State Board of Education are quoted to show the safeguards attempted to be thrown around the examinations of teachers. Continuing, the article in question says:

"But, rigid though the rules seem to be, developments concerning the preparation of the present set of questions indicate that there is still a serious flaw in the examination system. During the last few weeks Superintendent of Public Instruction Ackerman has been assisted frequently by George W. Jones, superintendent of the public schools of Marion county. The work performed by Professor Jones was principally in the tabulation of statistics regarding the public schools of all the counties of the state. However, when the examination questions had been printed, Mr. Jones assisted in distributing them in groups for mailing to the several counties, and in this work had access to the questions for a considerable time.

"Mr. Jones is not only county superintendent of schools, but is also a part owner and teacher in a summer school at which teachers are prepared for the regular examination. The school is conducted by Professor Jones and Professor Krapp, at the Capital Business College in this city, and is attended by about eighty teachers. It is conducted for the pecuniary benefit of the proprietors. Superintendent Ackerman has no financial interest in the school, but at the solicitation of the proprietors has arranged to deliver an address before the school on the subject of pedagogy, upon which subject the teachers will be examined in August.

"It has been the custom in this county for several years for county superintendents or members of the examining board to conduct summer schools for teachers who contemplate taking the next ensuing examination, and while there has been no open indication of unfairness in conducting the schools, there has been considerable murmuring among teachers who did not take the course of instruction or who paid the required tuition fee reluctantly. While no one who knows him will accuse Mr. Jones of taking undue advantage of his access to the examination questions to further his financial ends, many will question the propriety of the inconsistent positions he occupies."

The above base insinuations; that Supt. J. H. Ackerman or Prof. G. W. Jones may have taken advantage of their positions to further their financial ends, are entirely uncalled for, as it is well known by every one who calls in the State Superintendent's office, that the greatest care is observed to give no one access to the examination questions. Prof. Jones, it is true, was employed by the State Superintendent in arranging the new school register recently gotten out by that office. At the time this work was in progress, and during the absence of Superintendent Ackerman, Miss Ackerman, the private secretary, packed the questions for shipment to the several county superintendents, the sheets containing questions on one subject being placed in one envelope, and sealed. As this work was being done on the desk used by Mr. Jones, upon that gentleman's arrival, 24 1/2

afternoon, he assisted Miss Ackerman in the work of sealing the envelopes, containing the questions, and pasting thereon the directions to county superintendents, and the address. Mr. Jones had no thought of taking advantage, in any way, of the fact that the questions were handled in the same office where he worked, nor had he, at that time, any thought of teaching in the Summer schools; on the contrary, his plans were such that, had they been carried out, he would not have taught this school. Another fact regarding the August examination, that has escaped the author of the above article, is, that the examinations will not be conducted by Prof. Jones, but will come during the term of his successor, Prof. E. T. Moores.

It is not an unusual thing to hold summer schools in this county nor in other counties of this state. Supt. A. P. Armstrong, of Multnomah county, has held such a school every year for a number of years, and the propriety of this proceeding has never been questioned. In some states it is made a duty of the superintendent to hold a summer school for teachers which closes with an examination for certificates.

In order to protect Prof. Jones, and to make the matter absolutely safe, Prof. J. H. Ackerman decided yesterday, to issue a new set of questions for the county examinations for August, and the questions heretofore prepared will be destroyed.

Both gentlemen named in the article are indignant at the unjust accusations made, and they resent the charges as emanating from none to pure a fountain.

Superintendent Jones, in discussing the matter yesterday said:

"I was employed by Superintendent Ackerman to assist in making out his annual report, and at times, when I was not otherwise engaged, I worked in his office. One afternoon when I went up to work, I found the table I used covered with piles of questions, and in order to clear it off, I assisted Miss Ackerman in sealing up some of the questions, but in doing so I did not get any knowledge of a single question. At that time I had

no thought of teaching in the summer school, but knowing with what secrecy Mr. Ackerman guarded these questions, I did not feel like taking advantage of the opportunity I had."

China At The Present Day

How the Country Was Opened to the Foreigners—Manners and Customs of the Inhabitants.

There may be differences of opinion as to many matters among the Chinese, but all visitors to that country agree that hatred of foreigners exists in all classes of Chinese society, says the New York Tribune. The merchants and traders make strong efforts to conceal this characteristic, and like to throw the blame for the condition on the lower and uneducated classes, and the same attitude is assumed by the official class, but polite terms and assurances of respect do not deceive the visitor, and he usually learns shortly after his arrival in the country that the "foreign devil" is unpopular.

The Chinese ideas have undergone a remarkable change in the last 60 years, and the foreigner has advanced wonderfully in their estimation in that time. He is still looked upon with misgiving and suspicion, but he has access to many parts of the country which only 60 years ago were closed against him. "Foreign dogs" were not wanted, the outside nations were not recognized and foreign diplomats who wished to bring messages either of business or courtesy to the reigning monarch had to go through a long, tedious and humiliating process known as "kotow." This was to kneel three times before the emperor or his representative, and then bump his head upon the ground nine times in token of submission and subservience.

Since that time more than 20 cities and towns on the coast and in the interior have been opened, mining and manufacturing concessions have been extended to the world, and foreign business methods have come into use. Until 1843 any merchant or manufacturer who wanted to sell his wares in China had to do so through native merchants at certain ports. These go-betweens were known as "hong merchants." The word "hong" means warehouse, so these middlemen were really warehouse merchants. They were located for many years only at Canton, and were held responsible for the duties which were levied on the imported goods.

In 1784 the first American trading began and continued through "hong merchants" until 1843, when the "hong" system was abolished and the doors of China were partly opened for direct trade with other nations. The change was brought about by the opium war between Great Britain and China in 1840. The treaty of 1842 opened Shanghai for commerce and residence to British subjects, and a similar treaty was made by the United States in 1859. Other ports followed, and in 1862 there were 12 treaty ports. These treaty ports, which are now frequently spoken of, were simply the doors through which the goods from other countries entered the empire.

The treaties stipulated that foreigners should have the right to live at these ports, but the privilege covered only a certain part of the place. This it was stipulated should be under the control of the foreigners residing within it, and this rule has continued to the present time. In connection with the commercial development of China a recent edict as to the navigable streams of the empire plays an important part. Until February, 1898, no foreigner could travel in the empire except to certain named points—usually the treaty ports. But by this edict all foreigners who have passports may visit any part of the empire on pleasure or business, and other vessels may navigate the streams of the various provinces. Under the treaty of Shimoda, entered into with Japan in 1855, further concessions were made, and foreigners were permitted to establish manufacturing concerns at the treaty ports, and with that end in view to bring their own machinery.

All this would make it appear that China is a most desirable business country. But there is another side to the picture, aside from the part of the people. The taxes which one must pay makes business a precarious undertaking. The customs duties are not high and they are fairly collected, but the government requires each province to contribute its share toward the national expenditures, and allows its officials to devise the ways and means for collecting the required amounts.

The greatest source of revenues for the provinces is the duty on goods coming over their lines from the adjacent provinces. These duties are known as "likin" duties, and they must be paid not only for taking goods from one province to another, but from one sub-division to another. This makes the taxation extremely heavy. To get around this and to save the trouble and cost of frequent examination the Chinese government agreed to allow foreigners to send their goods to the interior free of "likin" taxes by paying an additional 50 per cent. on the customs tariff. The foreign merchants agreed to this willingly, but the provincial tax collectors frequently ignored the agreement and insisted on their revenues, and the 50 per cent. became much more before the goods reached the trader.

The dynasty of Ming was overthrown in 1644 by the Manchus and the present emperor is the ninth of the dynasty of Tsing. There is no law of heredity in China, and the sovereign has the power to name his successor, but he must select him from his own family, and from a generation younger than his own. The emperor who preceded the present sovereign died suddenly when he was only 18 years old, and it is generally believed that he was murdered before he named his successor. Then the emperor, press-downer, with Prince Chun, had an arrangement perfected by which the latter's infant son was named nominal occupant of the throne. He came into office in 1899, and in February, 1899, of age in 1887, and in February, 1899, he assumed full control of the government, but within a few months an edict appeared announcing the resignation of the emperor in favor of the empress dowager. Since that time the empress dowager of the emperor Hien

Feng has directed the affairs of the country. The ta-tsing-hwei-tien, or "collected regulations of the Tsing dynasty," is the law of the empire. It prescribes the government of the state. The privy, or grand council, is called the chun-chi-chu, and is vested with the direction of the empire. The administration is under the direction of the cabinet, known as nei-ko. This consists of two Manchus and two Chinese members and two assistants from the ban-lin, the great college. The office of these assistants is to see that the ta-tsing-hwei-tien is strictly observed, and that nothing is enacted contrary to the teachings of Confucius. These members are known as ta-shou-shih, or ministers of state. They control the 7 boards of state known as ch'i-pu, which are double headed, a Manchu and a Chinese being at the head of each. They are the board of civil appointments, the board of revenues, the board of rites and ceremonies, the military board, the board of public works, the board of criminal jurisdiction and the admiralty board, which was established at Tientsin in 1885.

The ta-chia-yuen is a board of censors, consisting of 40 members under two presidents, a Manchu and a Chinese. The Tsung li yamen is the foreign office, which was created in 1861. It comprises among its members all the council of state and six other high officials, and it controls all foreign matters and all the institutions in which foreigners are interested, such as the Peking university, maritime customs, etc.

This is a governor for each of the 18 provinces, and when two provinces are united they are called a tau, and the ruler is called tautai. Confucianism is the state religion, but Buddhism and Taoism are recognized by the authorities. There is no ecclesiastical hierarchy and there are no paid priests of the Confucian religion. The religion is really nothing more than profound respect paid to the memory of the great teacher. There is also the worship of Heaven (called Tien). This is a ceremony at which the emperor, as the sole high priest, worships and makes sacrifice once every year.

The ceremony took place for centuries at the great Temple of Heaven, at Peking, which, with its courtyards and approaches, was one of the architectural masterpieces of the land. The central edifice, with its great porcelain dome, was of bright blue color. It was guarded jealously by the custodians, and only a favored few foreigners were permitted to enter the edifice, which was destroyed by fire a few years ago.

Confucianism as practiced by the Chinese is little more than ancestral worship, with little outward ceremony, while the Chinese Buddhists have an elaborate and gorgeous ritual. The Chinese Taoists are the philosophers. There are many inhabitants of the empire, especially in the middle and southern parts, who profess and practice all three religions. The Roman Catholic missionaries have worked with much success in China, and it is estimated that there are no less than 1,000,000 of that faith in the empire.

The roads of China are poor. Only a few are paved, and for that reason the greater part of the trade is carried on by means of the numerous canals and other waterways. The country is irrigated by great rivers and intersected by a system of canals which is more than 600 years old. But these canals, like the roads, the army, and everything of a public character, are badly managed and in a state of decay. The Grand canal, the longest artificial waterway in the world, starts from Tientsin and runs south to Hang Chow, a distance of 600 miles.

Lord Charles Beresford in speaking of it said that when he saw it in 1898 there was no water in it, pigs were wallowing in the bed, which was actually dry, and it was silted up where it should join the Yang-tse, simply from want of care.

The Yang-tse river, nearly 3500 miles long, is navigable in the summer, which is the flood season, for a distance of 680 miles, from the sea to Hankow, for ocean going vessels, and ordinary steamboats can go 370 miles further upstream.

The whole empire has only 317 miles of railroad. The longest line is from Peking to Tientsin, and thence to Shan-Haik-Wan, 300 miles, and the other is from Woosung to Shanghai. Russia is now building 1400 miles of road; Belgium, 700 miles, and China is building on her own account a line of 170 miles. Ground has been surveyed for 2507 miles additional. Of these projected roads the Chinese will own 97 miles, Germany 430 miles, France 420 miles, England 130 miles, Russia with China will own 130 miles, and 700 miles have been projected by an Anglo-American syndicate. The locomotives in use now were made in England and America.

The line from Peking to Shan-Haik-Wan is laid with 85 pound rails part of the way, but most of the iron is of the 70 and 60 pound type. All the principal cities in the empire have telegraph service.

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WILL HANDLE PRUNES

A SALEM COMPANY ENGAGES IN THE FRUIT BUSINESS.

Incorporation of the New Firm, Was Perfected Yesterday—Has a Capital of \$5,000.

(From Daily Statesman, July 15.)

C. O. Constable, R. J. Spencer and John Pemberton yesterday incorporated the Willamette Valley Prune Association, with headquarters in Salem. The company will interest itself principally in the handling of Oregon prunes, and create a market for the greatest of Oregon products. The articles of incorporation, as filed in the State Department and at the court house, are as follows:

"First—The name, assumed by said corporation and by which name and title it shall be known, is 'Willamette Valley Prune Association', and the duration of said corporation shall be unlimited.

"Second—The object, enterprise, business, pursuit and occupation of said corporation, and the purpose for which the same is formed, is and shall be to acquire, by lease, purchase or otherwise, real estate and to hold and dispose of all kinds of personal property, goods, wares and merchandise, to erect, maintain, equip and operate warehouses and store-rooms and to conduct a general warehouse business, to buy, sell and handle all kinds of green and dried fruits and all other farm products and all kinds of goods, wares and merchandise, to issue negotiable paper and other evidence of indebtedness and the securities therefor and to take and accept the same, to act as agent for others in the transaction of all the business and enterprises hereinbefore enumerated and to act generally in accordance with such constitution, by-laws and regulations as said corporation may adopt.

"Third—The principal office and place of business of said corporation is and shall be at the City of Salem, in Marion county, Oregon, but the business of said corporation may be transacted in all the states and territories of the United States and in any foreign country.

"Fourth—The capital stock of said corporation shall be \$5,000, divided into 200 equal shares of \$25 each."

MUCH IMPROVED.—Hon. L. C. Griffith, who was seriously injured on the 5th inst., was last night reported very much improved, his condition being so much better that hopes are now entertained for his ultimate recovery. He had a bad half hour yesterday morning, but he soon rallied, and regained strength steadily all day. The friends of the sick gentleman will doubtless be gratified to hear of his improved condition.

AN OPERATION.—Herbert Tichenor, a son of Mrs. Jacob Tichenor, of North Salem, who has been employed in a boarding house in Portland for some time past, suffered an attack of appendicitis last week, and he yesterday submitted to an operation at the Good Samaritan hospital. The operation was entirely successful and the young man is in a fair way to recovery.

HIS NERVES GONE.

A big fat man, panting like a steam engine, entered the editorial rooms without asking permission to interrupt inspirations, says the Detroit Free Press.

"Where is the power of the press?" he shouted in a voice like a steamboat in distress.

"Downstairs in the pressroom, but where they usually keep it," responded the sunny weather reporter.

"Well, young fellow, you know what I mean—the force that controls destinies, that unmask villains, that calls attention to public nuisances, that suppresses evil, that—that well, I want it to rise in its power and suppress the phonographs and megaphones and hill-slogographs that give all night concerts over in my neighborhood. Now, I can stand the street cars, and ordinary night disturbances, but these blasted machines have a peculiar insomnia producing effect that is simply maddening. There is a megaphone as big as a barrel trained right in my chamber window and a phonograph with a funnel like a war boat projectile reads the midnight air with its wheezy, asthmatic notes. It played 'Just One Giel' for a month straight until I had the phlegm thing by heart against my will, and now its on the 'Green Fields of Virginia,' the notes of which I find in chunks around my room. There is a law against selling beer in places of amusement, and why shouldn't there be one playing music in saloons? Street cars, dogs and cats don't bother

A TIMELY DISCOVERY

FAMILY OF T. A. LIVESLEY POISONED BY ROUGH ON RATS.

An Antidote Was Promptly Administered and the Patients Are Thought to Be Out of Danger.

(From Daily Statesman, July 15.)

Mrs. T. A. Livesley, Mrs. Chas. Livesley and son, and the domestic employed at the Livesley home, are lying very seriously ill at the family home in this city from the effects of a dose of Rough on Rats accidentally administered in their food Friday morning for breakfast. The timely discovery by Mrs. Livesley of the cause for the sudden and violent sickness of the family, and the prompt and vigorous administering of a powerful antidote, unquestionably saved the lives of the party. The quartet remains very seriously ill but they are thought to be out of danger. Dr. J. A. Richardson the attending physician, making this announcement yesterday afternoon.

Only a few days ago, Mrs. Livesley engaged a new domestic, who not being acquainted with the place and the arrangement of the victuals and supplies in the cupboard, accidentally mixed in the morning dish of German, the contents of a vessel containing a preparation of Rough on Rats with which it was proposed to exterminate all quadrupeds from the house. The vessel was located in close proximity to the package of German and the mixture quite closely resembled the mush food and the girl quite naturally made the mistake. Before the meal had been concluded, the members of the party, experienced a dizzy sensation attended by evidences of unnatural conditions in the stomach. In discussing the cause of the sudden indisposition of the party, Master Livesley, a mere lad of five years suggested that the hired girl might have used the contents of the dish of Rough on Rats in preparing the dish of German. An inspection of the cupboard revealed the fact that the lad's presumption was well founded for the dish containing the poisonous drug, had been emptied. Mrs. Livesley promptly prepared a quantity of mustard which was administered in liberal doses to the sufferers, the preparation serving as an antidote to the deadly poison. Dr. Richardson was also summoned and the party received the best of medical attention.

T. A. Livesley, who was in Seattle on a business visit, was notified by telegraph and returned home hurriedly, reaching Salem Friday evening, when he was gratified to find the condition of his family considerably improved and practically out of danger. While the members of the party will be seriously sick for several days, they are thought to be out of danger and their complete recovery is assured.

The new motor fire engine of the Paris municipality is doing excellent work. It carries six men and travels at the rate of 12 miles an hour.

Dr. Williams' Indian Pills (patent) will cure Biliousness, Headache, and itching Piles. It absorbs the tumors, always the itching at once, acts as a cathartic, gives instant relief. Dr. Williams' Indian Pills (patent) is prepared for Piles and itching of the private parts. Every box is warranted. Its drugstore, by mail on receipt of ten 50 cents and \$1.00. WILLIAMS MANUFACTURING CO., Props., Cleveland, Ohio. For sale by all Druggists.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

(New York Press.)

A woman's idea of a skillful doctor is one that will tell you every once in awhile that her soul is wearing out her body.

Women always can get along together, because if they haven't anything else in common, they can always compare their neighbors.

Half the time when you hear a man calling another man a "hog" it is only because the second man has got what the first man would get if he could.

When you are eating a dinner what a woman has cooked, she expects you to spend half the time it takes to eat it talking about how good it is.

SWEETS FROM TAR.

(New York World.)

Saccharine obtained from tar is 220 times sweeter than cane sugar, and is used in sweetening and preserving jams, fruit preserves and jellies. Unlike ordinary cane sugar when so used it is not liable to mold or ferment.

On the other hand, it does not fatten or nourish the body, and in certain ailments is therefore recommended by doctors for sweetening coffee, tea and other beverages in place of the ordinary cane sugar.

PECULIAR AND PERTINENT.

The dangerous work of coal mining is approximately a third as fatal as the battlefield, for of every 1000 miners 232 are killed every year in the performance of their work.

Germany has built up her foreign commerce at England's expense; and the United States, which is just entering the field, is building up a great foreign trade at the expense of both.

It is one of the risks of a soldier's career that, while in time of peace his profession is the healthiest of all, when war comes it is transformed at once into the deadliest of all callings.

BASIS FOR EXCLUSION.

Summer Boarder—You advised that no children under 8 years of age were received here. What means all that noise?

Landlord—O, we have five lovely little boys and girls of our own.—Indiana Journal.

DIME MUSEUM GOSSIP.

"The tattooed man says he gets so despondent at times that he thinks of committing suicide."

"He ought to be watched. One can easily see that he has designs upon his own person."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

"If a woman can bake good bread," a contentporaneous writer observes, "she has as much right to the word artist as a woman who paints a bad sunset."

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