

# Two Thousand School Children Publicly Dismissed Yesterday

Attended By State Militia, An Automobile Parade, Three Bands of Music, the Civic Officials and Commercial Bodies—Greatest Wave of Enthusiasm In History of Capital City

## TEN BLOCKS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTHUSIASM

### Snow Storm of Little White Dresses Covers Wilson Avenue and Schools March Under Flag of the Nation—Parade of Children and Exercises the Most Beautiful in the History of the City

The most beautiful demonstration of educational enthusiasm ever witnessed in this state was seen on the streets of Salem Friday, when the 2000 children enrolled in the public schools of this city paraded the streets and were publicly dismissed.

The new president of Willamette University who arrived from the east in the midst of the demonstration was carried clear off his feet and declared he had never witnessed as beautiful a sight in 40 years of experience as a citizen interested in education.

The parade was a surprise to even the most conservative and reflects great credit on the school officers and teachers, on the commercial bodies and public spirited business men who made it a success.

Salem Public School Day has come and passed, and the success of the much-heralded event has far surpassed the expectations of even its most enthusiastic promoters. Nothing like it was ever seen in our city, and that the celebration will be repeated at the close of the next school year and all the other school years in the future, goes without saying.

Hundreds of people from the surrounding country and nearby towns began pouring into the city at an early hour, and before noon the streets were jammed with eager and expectant crowds. They were not disappointed. The people of Salem turned out en masse, and it is estimated that 15,000 saw the parade of the school children.

**Public School Enthusiasm.**  
A wave of public school enthusiasm was witnessed on the occasion of this public dismissal of the Salem public schools that will extend to all parts of the state.

It was a great big demonstration entirely of our own home people, and it was beautiful because it pleased the parents, the teachers, children and everybody.

**Got Up On Short Notice.**  
The demonstration was not undertaken until Monday morning at 10 o'clock when the committee met with City Superintendent Powers and his principals. Then the work was planned and its great success is due to the loyal support which the city superintendent was able to secure from his principals and teachers. They all gave it their most hearty and enthusiastic support.

To get up a parade and a musical and speaking program and a field meet of athletic exercises on five days' notice, that surpassed any Fourth of July celebration held in years, and with almost no expense whatever—with the bands, with the decorated automobiles, mounted marshals and militia escorts—breaks all records. The children gathered at the schools at 1 o'clock and formed for the march, a girl and a boy marching together. The girls all wore white dresses, went bareheaded, bore floral wreaths or bouquets, and many of the schools had adopted colors, or carried banners

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work with great skill and there was not the slightest accident. Soldiers were stationed on each side of the street with rifles and protected the marching columns of children from harm.

In front of the grand stand at Marion square the militia men had to push back the crowds to make room for the columns of school children as they poured in with steady ramp and filled the spaces solidly, the little ones having seats immediately in front, and when Miss Magers waved her baton all sang "Old Glory," to the accompaniment of Bandmaster Stoudenmeyer.

The autos were as fine as almost any thing in the Portland rose show parade and were driven in the following order: J. H. Albert, C. B. Moores, Jos. H. Albert and George Pearce. There were many beautiful

the letters of their school. The Park school children then followed behind a large banner with the name "Park" set in flowers. The Woodmen band preceded the student body of the Grant school. Then came the Lincoln school children. They also bore a flower banner displaying the letters, "L. S.," in red roses.

**Schools Had Escorts.**  
Every one of the 2000 boys and girls in the parade carried a flag or a bouquet of flowers. They were dressed in their Sunday best, and looked as if there were nothing in the world to do but to march and to be admired. Each school was escorted by a detail of the National Guard.

**Speeches at the Square.**  
The procession then marched to Marion square, where after brief speeches by Mayor Rodgers, C. B.

**What It Was For.**  
Col. Hofer was greeted with a broadside of roars as he began his five-minute address. "Which do you want to hear," he said, "a bear story or a speech?" "A bear story," shouted a thousand young Americans.

"Well, I'll tell you a bear story later. I want to talk now about this great celebration. What is all this for? It is to let people know that we have the finest public schools in Oregon. We want to boost not only for the public schools but for all the schools in Salem. We have the champion high school baseball team of the state, and next fall we will have the championship in football, basketball and every thing else."

Col. Hofer finished his boosting speech amidst a shower of flowers. C. B. Moores got the interest of the children from the start. "Across the street," he said, "where you see that beautiful new house, the first school in Oregon was built more than 50 years ago. The contractor is still living, and is an honored pioneer of Salem." Mr. Moores then told of the splendid schools of the city, and complimented the children on their great success in the day's exercises. Moores also waded to his seat through a storm of roses.

**The Athletic Contests.**  
After the children had been formally dismissed by Superintendent Powers, the crowd adjourned to Willamette field, where probably the most unique field meet ever witnessed was held. Considering the age of the contestants, the records they made in the athletic events were surprising. The East school took first place with 55 points to its credit. Park school 8, and Grant school 5. East school is the largest ward school in the city.

The athletic events and their winners are as follows:

50-yard dash—Carl Hinges, East school, first; Logan Stinson, East school, second; Cecil Abbott, Park school, third. Time, 6.1.

100-yard dash—Clifford Farmer, East, first; Logan Stinson, East, second; Asher Utter, Park, third. Time, 12 flat.

220-yard dash—Clarence Shaw, East, first; Lewis McLaren, East, second; Newton Martin, Grant, third. Time, 22 flat.

440-yard dash—Clarence Shaw, East, first; Lee Kaiser, East, second; Asher Ransome, Park, third. Time 1.1.

High jump—William Cary, East, first; Wilbur McCracken, Grant, and Cecil Abbott, Park, tied for second. Height, 4 feet, 5 inches.

Broad jump—Merrill Pen, East, first; Asher Ransome, Park, second; Wilbur McCracken, Grant, third. 15 feet, 7 inches.

Pole vault—William Cary, East, first; Clifford Farmer, East, second; Lester McCracken, Grant, third. Height, 8 feet.

Mile relay, won by East school; Park second, Grant third. The East school team was composed of Walter Hill (1), Karl Hinges (2), Lee Kaiser (3), and Lewis McLaren (4).

The field meet was finished with an exhibition mile by Minton, the crack high school miler, making the phenomenal time of 4.38.4. This time, while it will not count as a record because it was not made in competition with other contestants, breaks all scholastic records in the Northwest.

**New Corporations.**

Oakland creamery Company; principal office, Oakland, Oregon; capital stock, \$3000; incorporators, J. L. Hunt, A. G. Young, A. J. Dear, C. B. Guinn and Phil Backley.

Valley Presbyterian Church; principal office, Milton, Oregon; incorporator, Ed. Hoon, R. H. Wellman and W. W. Philippi.



GEORGIA HARPER IN CAMILLE

vehicles out, horses decorated with flowers and ribbons. The courthouse and many stores and private residences had handsome decorations.

**Dr. Eppley Lead.**  
Promptly at 2 o'clock the great procession that, punctual to the minute, had formed in Willson avenue, began to move. Grand Marshal Dr. H. C. Eppley, mounted upon a spirited white charger, with an escort of ten National Guardsmen headed the parade down Court street, while the three bands blared forth their martial music, flags waved, and the crowds that packed the sidewalks to the curbs, cheered.

**Order of March.**  
Behind the grand marshal and the guard came the Salem militia band. Then the decorated autos carrying the speakers of the day and the dignitaries of the school and city. The school board followed, and then the student body of the high school, headed by the champion scholastic baseball team of the state. Next came the pupils of the Central school the little tots in the front ranks keeping step proudly to the music. Then came the Chemawa band, and then the East school pupils, those in front bearing pennants displaying

Moores and E. Hofer, the children were dismissed by City Superintendent Powers. Mayor Rodgers was the first speaker, and he, like the rest, spoke to the children and not to their elders.

"This is the greatest day of the school year," said the mayor. It is letting out day. You are glad, aren't you?"

A shout from the 2000 children told in no uncertain terms that they were glad vacation had come.

"You marched fine. You all looked fine—especially the girls." The boys tried to be chivalrous, and only a few mumblings were heard at this remark.

"You kept step fine, but the girls kept step better than the boys did." This was too much, and the young male contingents set up a roar, that made the mayor change his course.

"When you marched down the street keeping step to the brass band you beat any kind of a parade, soldier parades or even circus parades."

This squared the mayor, and throughout the rest of his speech he was showered with dozens of bouquets from the children; not bouquets metaphorically speaking, but the real article that the children carried in the parade.

## Peculiar to Itself

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## STOCK COMPANY COMING

There are plays and plays, and actors and actors, and there are plays that live and actors that leave a lasting memory behind them. Among the plays that must live forever is Camille. Among the actors and actresses that will leave a lasting memory is Miss Georgia Harper. She was necessarily become interlinked with the play of Camille. She has been pronounced by eminent authority the greatest interpreter of this sad and interesting character. Every actor has a choice of plays and is better adapted to some special character than others. Miss Harper is great in all of her work, but in Camille she is especially adapted. She carries the audience to the home of the unfortunate woman, there shows it the inner life, the trials, the temptations and disappointments of a life of the world, and then the penalty of such a life is paid in the saddest manner ever depicted. The hearts of the audience throb with the heartbroken Camille as Miss Harper leads on in the work, and in the final death scene there is not a dry eye in the audience, and many gasp with the dying woman in the sympathy created for her by the wonderful work of Miss Harper. Mr. Detrick as Armand Duval ranks high in the work, and Mr. J. G. Harper is especially well placed as the senior Duval. In fact, every member of the company has been chosen with a view of especial adaption to the character presented.

Other plays to be presented during Miss Harper's engagement here will be "Nell Gwynne," "Tribble," "Mysterious Mr. Bugle," "The Little Minister," and "Quo Vadis" all these plays will be mounted in first class style which will make the productions one of the best ever seen in this city by any traveling stock company.

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