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PLAIN FACTS ABOUT EDUCATIONAL ISSUES IN THIS STATE

ANSWERING SOME MISREPRESENTATIONS ABOUT OREGON NORMAL SCHOOLS—WHAT A CALIFORNIA EDUCATOR SAYS ABOUT BACKWARD CONDITIONS IN OREGON.

The Oregonian would not knowingly misrepresent any matter affecting the educational interests of the state. But its recent report of the meeting of the board of regents of normal schools conveys wrong impressions in several instances.

That paper says of seven regents two favor abolishing all the present normal schools and having but one. The board consists of nine regents, and at the meeting referred to eight were in attendance. ALL BUT ONE FAVORED HAVING THREE NORMAL SCHOOLS, and one regent, W. B. Ayer, announced that he would bring a minority report before the legislature favoring one or two schools, he was not yet clear which he would favor.

THE REGENTS WHO FAVOR EQUIPPING AND MAINTAINING THE THREE SCHOOLS AT ASHLAND, MONMOUTH AND WESTON are Governor Chamberlain, Supt. Ackerman, Secy. of State Benson, and Regents Stephen Jewell of Grants Pass, H. J. Maler of The Dalles, County Supt. E. E. Bragg of La Grande and E. Hofer of Salem.

On the original vote at the annual meeting two regents favored four schools, and by a vote of five to four IT WAS DECIDED TO KEEP THREE SCHOOLS. Governor Chamberlain at once acquiesced in the decision of the majority and has since voted to equip the three schools in a creditable manner and put them on a high professional basis.

W. B. Ayer is a friend and champion of normal schools, but seems to be ENTIRELY DISSATISFIED WITH THE PRESENT LOCATION AND EQUIPMENT OF THE SCHOOLS, which brings up the whole question as a political proposition before the legislature, which would have to abandon all the present investment, dispose of the buildings, sell the sites, and buy a new site and erect new buildings at some new location on a larger scale.

The Oregonian report says: "The board recommends that an appropriation of \$350,000 be made to run the schools for the next two years," etc. The fact is the board recommended THAT THE SCHOOLS HAVE ABOUT \$30,000 EACH TO RUN UPON, and recommended that each school have a first class new dormitory building so that students could be decently housed, and for that purpose favors \$50,000 for each school. SUCH A DORMITORY WOULD BE A GOOD INVESTMENT as it would increase the attendance of the schools to about 200 each, and with that attendance each school would turn into the state treasury about \$7000 in fees and tuition, and that plan would go far toward making them self-supporting.

Following from the Oregonian report is misleading so far as it conveys the idea that anyone on the board fears the fullest publicity: Colonel Hofer also expressed his regrets over the determination of Mr. Ayer to file a minority report, because it will cause the newspapers to print the amount of appropriations asked and will lead to a hammering of normal schools by the press.

Col. Hofer did express regret that any Portland newspaper would jump at the opportunity to sow discord, foment strife, and advertise to the world that there was any serious normal school difficulty when such

was not the case. He did ask the reporters to say that there was A STRONG DESIRE TO SUPPORT THE NORMAL SCHOOLS PROPERLY IN THEIR LEGITIMATE WORK, and that other states all around us did not seek to breed trouble and cause uproar at the expense of their education institutions as some of the Portland newspapers did.

There is no occasion for hammering the normal schools. Washington just north of us is a rapidly growing progressive state and supports three normal schools, APPROPRIATING MORE MONEY FOR ONE OF THEM THAN THIS BOARD IS ASKING FOR THE SUPPORT OF ALL THREE IN OREGON. The big papers up there do not howl and sow discord and strife and commotion that cripples the work of the normal schools in Oregon worse than all else.

The Oregonian advocates admitting children who have completed what is called the eighth-year graduation in the graded country schools to the normal schools, AND A LIFE DIPLOMA TO TEACH AFTER THREE YEARS. That would be one less than a high school course for a teacher.

THE PRESENT BOARD HAS RAISED THE STANDARD OF ADMISSION TO NORMAL SCHOOLS ONE YEAR, has established a free one year teachers manual training course in high schools, and made all the normal schools earn revenues for their own support.

The teachers' normal training course in high schools is growing in popularity, DOES NOT COST THE STATE TREASURY ONE CENT, and will do the first year's work for all normal schools, and will this year have as many students enrolled as any one of the normal schools.

(From the Pendleton East Oregonian.)

In opposition to the vague and indefinite plan of one normal school or two normal schools, located no one knows where, and which would throw the whole controversy back into the legislature, Colonel E. Hofer, member of the board of regents, loudly champions the cause of three normal schools, located at Weston, Monmouth and Ashland.

At the meeting of the state board he gave the following reasons:

1st. Because the state already has about \$250,000 invested in the three schools in land, buildings and equipment.

2. Because normal schools are maintained by nearly every state in the Union and are necessary to an efficient public school system.

3. The number of schools varies from one to over 100, as in New York and Pennsylvania. The tendency in the foremost states is to multiply normal schools.

4. The normal school is, strictly speaking, the foundation of the public school system and entitled to support just as much as the public schools are, because without trained teachers the public schools could not be carried on successfully.

5. The normal schools of Oregon are entitled to a decent equipment of dormitories, training departments, libraries, gymnasiums and athletic grounds.

The board recommends that each school be given a first-class modern dormitory to accommodate at least 200 students, with dining hall and laundry in basement to cost not to exceed \$50,000 furnished. With an attendance of 200 students each the three schools would earn in tuition and fees over \$20,000 towards support.

6. They should be kept absolutely out of politics and under a non-partisan board of control and all friends of education should sustain the recommendations of the board of regents, which includes the following for annual support of each school: Teachers' salaries.....\$20,000 Maintenance.....7,500 Library, etc.....1,000 The three schools turned into the state treasury for the past year nearly \$10,000.

7. The policy advocated by the present board of regents is to give the normal schools a proper equipment, a high class professional and business administration, make them as nearly self-sustaining as possible, and confine their work absolutely to the preparation of teachers for the public schools.

The Functions of a Normal School. I. That it shall inspire its students with the spirit of the true teacher. II. Its educational work must thoroughly cover the field of public school needs.

III. Its work must extend beyond this to the principles of education as applied to the unfolding of the mental activities, child study and school organization.

IV. Intelligent guidance in practice and training work of actual teaching and supervision, that leads to scientific imparting of instruction.

That normal schools shall perform their proper functions, and return to the state an equivalent for its investment, there must be higher standards for admission. There must be more maturity in the material we admit to the normals. It is manifestly an absurdity that high salaried specialists shall be employed to instruct classes in work already provided in graded and high schools.

Normal schools must be institutions of higher scope and equipment than high schools or even colleges, on the principle that teachers must be trained in an institution higher than what they are to teach. It includes teaching of subjects or sciences that they may in turn be taught, the creation of character and ideals to be transmitted to others. Powers must be given beyond ability as an administrator—powers that touch the soul and impress the heart and mind to future right actions.

We must not confound the purpose of the high school and college with the purpose of the normal school. In the former the end in view is the subject taught and its value to the student. In the normal school it is the value of the subject as an educational process and fitting the teacher to present it so that it shall produce the highest value to others.

The art of teaching is the finest of arts, as it deals with the spiritual materials that constitute life. The teacher deals constantly with the immortal, the imperishable, the real. For the greatest success is required natural aptitude, noble character, fullest knowledge, ripe experience, and a wide knowledge of humanity coupled with purity of thought, elevation of ideals, and skill in application.

What Supt. Hyatt of Sacramento Says of Oregon.

Following is taken from "A Trip Through Oregon" in the October Oregon Teachers Monthly and shows the impressions a stranger gets of educational conditions here:

Education in Oregon and particularly in higher public education has been in a curiously backward state all these years, although Washington to the north of it and California to the south are both singularly progressive. This backwardness is manifested by low salaries for teachers—\$30 to \$40 a month in rural schools—by short terms of school and by scanty, meager appropriations for high schools and colleges. It is not caused by lack of high spirited leaders or progressive school officers; but by an unsympathetic public opinion.

The people are prosperous and comfortable but do not believe much in higher education, particularly they combat higher education at public expense. So the yearly allowance for the state university has been only fifty or sixty thousand dollars; appropriations when made for this and for the four state normal schools are often withheld for a year or two and must be fought through at every point, by referendum and every other way possible. Even now some of the state normal schools are starving slowly to death. Without money, they are obliged to reduce expenses to zero point and live on nothing. The townspeople take up a subscription; the students pay a stipend; the teachers donate their imaginary salaries to the cause; and so they hang on by teeth and toe nails, hoping for better legislation. It is worthy of notice that the poorer and richer parts of the states were settled from the southern states away back in war times; it is jocularly said that Price's army was disbanded here. The south has always been backward in education—wherefore, this unfortunate island of public opinion away off in the continuous woods where rolls the Oregon. Interesting isn't it? And illustrates the great fact that we can only advance as fast as our people; that in all our educational progress we must take our people into our confidence and carry them with us—else the advance doesn't progress. Every one of us, even out in the smallest country district must be working on the minds of his people setting them to see the right things in the right way. That is the price of better things in a democracy.

In the face of the above opinion of an outsider it is not folly for this state to abandon any of the schools it now has for training teachers, ON THE THEORY OF SUPPORTING ONE LARGER INSTITUTION, when it has never decently equipped or supported those it now has?

Where could our larger normal school be located that would accommodate 600 students as the three will accommodate WITH A DECENT EQUIPMENT?

Why has the one large normal school not showed up before, and is it not hoisted now just before the legislature organizes to help capture that organization FOR OTHER PURPOSES, MORE OR LESS POLITICAL?

Oregon needs the three normal schools RIGHT WHERE THEY ARE. Oregon needs a big well-equipped teachers college at the state university. Oregon needs the one-year normal course at the high schools.

Oregon should get out of the backwoods condition in the preparation of school teachers.

The people should not be stampeded into warfare upon educational institutions FOR ANY BUT REAL REASONS. OUR WARFARE SHOULD BE FOR BETTER RESULTS, BETTER CONDITIONS, AND BETTER SCHOOLS.

This cannot be accomplished by tearing down what we have but by improving the service and developing a system that is the outgrowth of environments.

We are positive it will benefit every old person who will give it a trial. If it don't we will refund their money. G. W. PUTNAM Co., Salem, Oregon.

General Debility

Day in and day out there is that feeling of weakness that makes a burden of itself. Food does not strengthen. Sleep does not refresh.

It is hard to do, hard to bear, what should be easy,—vitality is on the ebb, and the whole system suffers. For this condition take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

It vitalizes the blood and gives vigor and tone to all the organs and functions. In usual liquid form or in chocolate tablets known as Sarsatabs, 100 doses \$1.

BORING FOR OIL

OUT ABOUT PRATUM

At a meeting held at the Pratum school house Saturday by the farmers in that vicinity, C. W. Taylor and W. A. Leet, two eastern capitalists, were leased 1500 acres of land. Pratum is about eight miles north of this city, and from indications found by several local men who are acquainted with oil, the prospects are favorable for a strike there if worked. The two capitalists will begin operations at once to erect the necessary buildings and install machinery for the purpose of drilling for oil.

More Than Enough Is Too Much.

To maintain health, a mature man or woman needs just enough food to repair the waste and supply energy and body heat. The habitual consumption of more food than is necessary for these purposes is the prime cause of stomach troubles, rheumatism and disorders of the kidneys. If troubled with indigestion, revise your diet, let reason and not appetite control and take a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will soon be all right again. For sale at Dr. Stone's drug store.

Minister Plenipotentiary John Barrett will talk while his salary lasts.

Do not let anyone tell you that something else is just as good as DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills because there isn't anything just as good. Sold by all druggists.

Portland has had a horse show and has no need for normal schools.

\$100.00 Reward.

would gladly be paid for a cure by many people who are crippled with rheumatism, yet if they only knew it, they can be cured by a few bottles of Ballard's Snow Liniment, and the price is only 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by all dealers.

To show that their new constitution is not yet in effect the Turks have been killing Armenian women.

Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup drives the cold out of the system through its laxative principle by assuring a free and gentle action of the bowels. Sold by all druggists.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

"Jeff" Scriber was a pet of the political push until he was found out. Now they disown him.

DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the famous little liver pills. Sold by all druggists.

Gompers who wears diamonds is shown to be close to Standard Oil.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

Many a man would belong to some other political party if he were out of office.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

As usual the big newspapers have grafted and got away with the big campaign funds. The little newspapers are the beasts of burden but get none of the spoils.

A big beef baron was fined \$500 at Frisco Saturday. Awful hard on the trusts.

Old People



NEED VINOL

it strengthens and vitalizes. Vinol tones up the digestive organs, aids assimilation, enriches the blood, and rejuvenates every organ in the body. In this natural manner Vinol replaces weakness with strength.

We are positive it will benefit every old person who will give it a trial. If it don't we will refund their money. G. W. PUTNAM Co., Salem, Oregon.

HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES FOR THE WHOLE COUNTY

EVERY CHILD CAN STAY AT HIS OWN HOME AND TAKE A COMPLETE COURSE

SECTION 3434 OF THE COUNTY SCHOOL LAW

If the majority of all votes cast on the proposition to establish a county high school are in the affirmative, it shall be the duty of the county court, within 30 days after canvassing said vote, to locate said school in some suitable and convenient place in said county. The county court shall also estimate the cost of purchasing a suitable lot, erecting a building and furnishing the same for the accommodation of such school with the cost of conducting such school for the next 12 months. Provided, that the county court or the high school board, as herein constituted, may rent suitable rooms for the accommodation of the school. If rooms can be obtained in the public school buildings in the place in which said school may be located, they shall be given the preference.

Provided further that said board may contract with the board of directors of any district in the county that now maintains or may hereafter maintain a school of high school grade to teach all county high school pupils at such a rate per capita, or in the aggregate, as they may deem right and just, and shall pay for the same out of the high school fund. (L. 1901, p. 145, section 7.)

County Superintendent W. M. Smith and others who travel about over the county and take the trouble to observe the sentiment of the people, state that there is a widespread interest being taken, in the county high school plan, which is to be put up to the voters for a decision at the November election. However, according to Mr. Smith, there are many people who do not understand the scope and intent of the law.

The county high school law was passed in 1899, but so far only five counties in the state have taken advantage of its provisions. Four of these are over in sparsely settled sections of eastern Oregon. The other is Lane county, which decided by a decisive vote at the June election to try the plan. The eastern Oregon counties have county high schools and it may be news to many to know that there is any other method of procedure under the law. One section of the law states that the county court shall have authority to contract with existing schools for the education of pupils desiring to take a high school course. This means that children may attend any high school in the county instead of being forced to go to some central point at some distance from home as would be the case if a county high school were established.

Any school having the facilities for teaching the high school branches may, if it has 15 or more pupils who desire to take the work, arrange for a teacher to handle the high school branches. This will divorce the high school branches from the grammar studies in many of these graded schools where a partial high school course is already taught, and give both grade scholars and high school pupils a better chance.

Also, it keeps the young folks of the farms and small villages at home, which would not be the case in a county like Marion with a county high school. In the sparsely settled counties of the eastern part of the state a county high school is the most feasible plan.

In discussing the matter recently Superintendent Smith said: "The people are demanding that high schools be established in rural communities. Every district cannot maintain a high school, but every group of six or seven districts can do so. The district is not the proper unit for taxation for school purposes as the valuation varies from a few thousand dollars to several thousand. The property of the whole county should be taxed for supporting the education of children attending the high schools as well as those attending the grammar grades. Statistics show that every community that has a high school must levy a special tax for that purpose. Therefore county districts do not establish and maintain union high schools.

"The county high school law was passed by the legislature of 1899. This law contemplates the establishment of but one or two high schools within a county.

"It can be readily seen that this is not feasible in a county which is thickly settled like Marion. It is unnecessary to have many high schools so the boys and girls may be home of night, Saturdays and Sundays.

"The third section of Article 1, paragraph 21 of the Oregon school law provides that the county high school board may contract with the school board of directors of any district in the county which now maintains or may hereafter maintain a school of high school grade to teach all county high school pupils at such a rate per capita or in the aggregate as they deem right and just and shall pay for the same out of the high school fund.

"By this plan the tuition of all high school pupils in the county would be paid from the county high school fund and a student could enter school in any district that maintained a high school with at least one teacher doing high school work only.

"Any wide-awake district having 10 or 15 high school pupils, which is a common center for several districts, may form a high school and the surrounding districts may send to this central school having their tuition paid and the district in turn receiving from the county fund that much more for the maintenance of the school.

"The plan as worked in Lane county is to allow each high school 20 cents per day for schools having an attendance of less than 20 pupils and 15 cents per day for those having more than that number. This difference is made to encourage rural high schools. A school of 15 pupils would get \$60 a month, a school of 25 pupils would get \$75 per month.

"The law provides for a high school board consisting of the county court, the county treasurer and the school superintendent. The school fund and make rules governing its distribution to the schools.

"The question on the ballot at the November election will be County High School, Yes; County High School, No.

"This does not mean that one county high school will be established, but that a fund will be created which will be distributed to high schools in the county already existing or that may hereafter be established."

Lame Back. This ailment is usually caused by rheumatism of the muscles of the small of the back, and is quickly cured by applying Chamberlain's Liniment two or three times a day, and massaging the parts at each application. For sale at Dr. Stone's drug store.

How did you like the Saturday Capital Journal for a booster number? Kodol is a combination of the natural digestive juices and it digests all classes of food and every kind of food, so you see it will do the work that the stomach itself does. Sold by all druggists.

A good slogan for Oregon—good roads and good schools. You take Kodol just for a little while when you have slight attacks of indigestion, and you take it just a little longer in order to get relief from severe attacks of indigestion or Nervous Dyspepsia. Try Kodol today. Sold by all druggists.

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