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The Covington School Improvement League

School improvement is founded on the recognition of the close connection which exists between the physical and mental conditions of the child and the whole proceeds of education. With this end in view, and to better equip our poor school building the Covington School Improvement League was organized in the year 1906.

During its seven years of active work it has faced many discouragements and much encouragement, and it now stands out as one of the best working organizations in the State, composed of sixty-nine members and almost the entire community sharing the responsibility of effective development.

With the election of its first president, Mrs. Chas. Smith, a foundation for a library was laid, many sanitary methods introduced, and even now the question of a special tax is urged.

Mrs. H. Mayeur, president of 1907 and 1908, began her work with all the ardor of a woman who had worked on the same work in the schools of New Orleans. An active campaign was waged for sanitary conditions, and more comforts for teacher and child, such as individual drinking cups, coolers, large heaters, heating janitor service, marked the closing of that year; and when in 1909 Mrs. S. Prague, a bright and forward woman was elected president, the school league had become a great necessity. The school population was increasing, more rooms were added to the old building, repairs of every description made, such as putting in broken panes of glass, new steps and partitions, new stove, and paying janitor fee of \$12.00 per month. It was Mrs. Prague who engineered an excursion to New Orleans that netted the league \$219, but brought down the wrath of the merchants on the members for spending our money away from home. Realizing our mistake we entered a compromise, the merchants becoming paying members of the league.

In 1910 Mrs. J. C. Burns became president. The work outlined was carried on. Maps and globe, and dictionaries were placed in every room, library enlarged, janitor paid and all repairs made, and when the Convention of School Leagues was called at Lafayette she was sent as a delegate, returning with new ideas and honors, being made vice president of the State League.

In 1911 Mrs. E. R. Moses was elected president, and a year of hard work in the same line with the others marked her reign. Many new members were enrolled, and remarkable ability was shown by her in raising money for all requirements.

In 1913 and 1913 Mrs. J. C. Burns was again elected president, and if the work of the league carried on so splendidly in the past would not begin to show fruits for its labor it would indeed show a lack of ability and good sense in its present administration. The long desired special tax was carried last year, the league doing splendid work and carrying the majority of votes—"women's votes."

Our handsome \$35,000 school building shows the results of that and the rest of the community's labor. A splendid \$300 piano has been purchased and is ready to be moved into the auditorium. All necessary repairs in the old school building were made in the past two years, and janitor's fee partly paid. The league is now in active preparation for the holding of a grand school rally in March, when 2000 children will be entertained in Covington and be fed at a large expense to the league.

Every member has been a loyal supporter. The people at large have always co-operated. The faculty and parish superintendent have been members and supporters, endorsing every movement in the work. More than \$3000 has been expended for the school in this work.

MRS. J. C. BURNS.

Hookworm Campaign in Louisiana.

About three years ago, when the campaign for the eradication of the hookworm was begun in the South, many people questioned the existence of the disease in our midst, and some questioned the purpose of the philanthropist who assisted the State Board of Health, financially, and made the work possible. But today's intelligent people realize that the hookworm is in our midst, and that the eradication of this parasite is a serious and important sanitary problem. However, it is a problem that could be easily solved if all the people of every community would be united in seeing to it that the surroundings of every home be kept in the best possible sanitary condition.

A little more than two years ago I was sent by the State Board of Health to investigate hookworm infection in this parish, at that time, of those I examined, I found 53 per cent infected, showing conclusively that the disease was very prevalent here. Treatment was given to all cases found, how many were cured I cannot say. However, in my recent trips over the

parish I am glad to observe that the heavily infected cases appear much less often than at the first survey of the parish.

After leaving this parish I toured through all the Florida parishes, and found hookworm disease widespread in Washington, Tangipahoa, St. Helena and Livingston parishes, the heaviest infection being found in Washington parish. Since I left here I have worked in two parishes, where I did not find a case of hookworm disease. We can destroy all the hookworms in St. Tammany parish, which is the ultimate end the State Board of Health desires—provided we get the untiring co-operation of all the people in a common cause.

In making my second campaign in this parish I note with great satisfaction the marked sanitary improvements in the surroundings of the public schools, which marks the step to that sanitary state from which environment we hope to bring men of brain and of brawn, such as the country has not seen.

The day of the skeptic and doubter is past, but why hide behind the veil of false pride and remain a victim of hookworm and misadventure? Join in the fight and let's rid our country of a disease that is doing the youths of the South an untold harm.

G. B. ADAMS, M. D.



DR. G. B. ADAMS

In Charge of the Hookworm Work.

EDWARDS SCHOOL.

When the session of 1913-14 began our children were still using seats and desks like those of "forty years ago." They had just succeeded in getting into a comfortable, new school house, which it takes money to do.

Now that they had gotten that schoolhouse we could turn our attention to school furniture. This we did, and we are proud to say that as a result of six weeks work and two entertainments we now have a nice set of new school desks.

But believing that that old saying "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," is true and that merely standing around and talking at recess is not really play, we cleared the grounds, laid out a basketball court for the larger children and put up two swings for the little ones.

The patrons have shown much interest in all of our plans, therefore we feel that this year has not been without some good results.

ANONYMOUS.

Madisonville School.

Madisonville has made quite a number of improvements in the last year.

Under the management of the present school board director a drinking fountain has been placed in the basement thus preventing the exposure of the children to the bad weather. Just beyond the fountain is a flowing well.

In the literary work a society has been organized, which is called the "S. A. K." meaning "Seekers After Knowledge." It meets every Friday afternoon from 2:30 to 3:30 o'clock, where the leading questions of the day are debated.

The athletic features of the school have greatly improved. Both boys and girls have organized a basketball team. A vaulting pole has also been purchased for the boys.

During the year a Webster's New Century Dictionary was donated to the school.

MISS PORR. ET.

School Among the Pines.

It was late in the afternoon when I first came in sight of Slummock Creek school house. The setting sun stood all around beautifully the landscape through the great pines that scarce with their long, soft shadows. No artist could have painted such a picture, no poet could have written its full beauty. The little brown house was nestled among the trees with no new lumber and paint to mar the scene. Every color blended.

I attended Tulane last summer, so on the Monday that my school began I went intending to try to be an ideal teacher.

I found that I had no material except children. Most of them were polite and willing to help in any way that they could.

My boys have built one shelf, a small locker and put strips beneath the blackboards to hold crayons and erasers. At different times during the session we have had the room decorated with pine, holly and cypress. Each month I have put a new stencil on the board.

We have a basketball court now and have been enjoying that game.

Purple and gold are our colors. We are busy getting ready for Rally Day, and hope to bring back some of the prizes.

MAY FREDERICK, Teacher.

The Economy Store's Offering



We are offering this line of school dresses made up in latest styles of best washable materials, madras, gingham, linene and corduroys, 50c to \$1.75.

See the values we offer in boys' and girls' hats, rompers and hosiery. Our millinery line is from the best makers. You can be assured of securing correct styles at reasonable prices. The latest shapes in stylish millinery can be seen here and any selection made can be trimmed to order. A good assortment of ladies' house dresses, aprons, kimonos and muslin underwear at popular prices. No trouble to show goods.

Everything marked in plain figures. We buy for cash and give our trade the benefit of our cash discount.

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