

FROM SUN-KISSED LAND OF ARIZONA

Mrs. Helen Johnston Tells of Her New Home at Solomonville, Ariz., Where She is Teaching:

MOST RIVERS AND LEAST WATER
In the Irrigated District Within One Mile of the Gila River, Land Sells From \$200 Up.

Solomonville, Ariz., Sept. 21, 1912.
Dear Editor and Review Readers,
Denison, Iowa.

"Here's to the state that has the most cattle and the least milk; the most rivers and the least water, where you can see the farthest and see the least—Arizona."

This is the substance of a toast that was given at a banquet in a certain California city in honor (or dishonor) of the sun-kissed land of Arizona.

We reached the promised land after fifty-one hours' ride from Denison, leaving Denison June 30th. We left Kansas City over the Rock Island to Bowie, Ariz.—not a single change. The accommodations and equipments over that road are just splendid. We took a tourist sleeper and rode without interruption for thirty-nine hours; had everything our own way, and we think that is the Only Road for comfort in traveling from Iowa to Arizona.

Solomonville is in the irrigated district within one mile of the Gila river on the Arizona Eastern railroad, which terminates at Miami, eighty-six miles from here at a mining camp. The Gila valley is strictly agricultural, alfalfa being the leading crop, but wheat, barley, with some corn, are also largely cultivated. Not each farm has a barn, but some of the farmers have immense barns, rather sheds, many of which hold from two to three hundred tons of hay. This summer has been what old timers call an exceptionally wet season and the barns have come in very handy, but those who have no barns just pile the hay in large heaps and thatch it over with hay and it rarely ever gets damaged by the rain after it is baled. The valley is very pretty, green even in winter, mountains on both sides, the Graham range on the west is white with snow from fall until May. Snow on old Mt. Graham means plenty of water for the farmers, so this is one case in which a white head is beautiful, pleasant and welcome. The Gila range is six miles north and the Mt. Graham range, with the forest reserve, twenty miles southwest. The valley is comparatively level. The canals and the ditches are higher so as to afford ample fall for the water as it has to spread over the entire farm. Cultivated land is worth any price from \$200 up. Water shares in the different water companies are worth from \$75.00 to \$1,500 each. One share will furnish water for ten acres of land. A well prepared alfalfa farm will average \$75 clear profit per acre. If we get anything like reasonable freight rates with the outside world the profits would be fabulous. The season opens here at about \$8.50 per ton and usually runs to about \$12, but in some of the southern states it opens at \$10 per ton, and it is said not first class hay at that. So you see how high freight rates cut our profits.

The artesian district is about fifteen miles from here. They have schools and a postoffice there, also some nice farms, alfalfa, corn and vegetables. It is seven miles from the nearest railroad. The flowing wells are beautiful, although not all of them are good for the vegetables, and finding water is not certain. Some bore hundreds of feet and never get any water, and I have heard from good authority of some good wells ceasing altogether on account of blasting on a nearby neighbor's farm.

There is a large stretch of government land open for homesteads within five miles of this place. This land extends thirty miles along the railroad, is not within the range of any of the canals or the river, and for this reason no settlements have been made, however, many homeseekers are now beginning to file on it. The large mesquite growth indicates water, besides the railroad company has a pumping tank of fine water, said to be the best this side of El Paso. This well is 590 feet deep. Near where the people are now filing is a goat ranch on which is a well forty feet deep. The railroad tank is some twelve miles distance from where the people are now filing. Homesteaders should have at least \$2,500 or they may expect a very hard time in getting started.

The entire county lies within the Gadsden's purchase, so many of the towns and villages are entirely Mexican, few of the Mexicans speaking the English language. This town is largely Mexican, but being the county seat, the county officials, who are Americans, reside here, making this a very nice town, indeed. The buildings in the Mexican towns are adobe; the

pueblo—San Jose (San Ho Say) where I teach is strictly Mexican. We have more than a hundred pupils with only four American children. The schools in this valley are not up to the standard, being from one to two grades behind the eastern schools. "The harvest is white and the laborers are few," so good Iowa teachers are in demand. Recent legislation has brought rural schools to the front; not one gets less than \$1,000, thus making the salaries from \$80 to \$120 per month for eight months each year. Second and third class rural schools are those that average ten and twenty-five pupils. Heretofore it has been hard to get good teachers.

Most of the people coming here drink of the Gila waters, taste the Elysian springs, learn Spanish, eat pumpkins, Chili (pepper) Frijoles (Free O Las) and Okra, live here in peace and comfort, smoking their pipes sitting on the back porches watching the alfalfa grow while the fat cattle browse lazily by the roadside.

Ponce De Leon was noted for his attempt to find the "Fountain of Youth;" even the crossing of the Hasayampa river in Arizona effects mankind so he cannot tell the truth. As yet I haven't crossed this famous stream, so you may be sure this writing is not exaggerated.

If this finds its way into print, I may tell you later of the Salt River valley and the Roosevelt dam.

Best wishes to all, I am,
Yours very truly,
Mrs. Helen Johnston.

NO MORE OVERDRAFTS.

Comptroller of Currency Orders the Practice stopped—Local Depositors Affected.

The Washington correspondent to the Sioux City Tribune sends out the following dispatch which will be of interest to bankers and depositors.

"Recognizing as an improper policy the practice long pursued by banks of Iowa and those of other states, of permitting their depositors to make overdrafts, the comptroller of the currency has instructed the bank examiners to advise officials of all the institutions with which they have dealings to discontinue this method of business. Overdrawing is realized by all financiers to be a bad if not an illegal method of banking, since the depositor who is permitted to overdraw obtains the use of bank moneys without cost, thus taking from the bank vaults money which might be put out to command an income. As a substitute for the overdraft, officials of the comptroller's office have suggested that all bankers should be compelled to require the depositor to obtain his money on a secured note, and thus pay for the money of which he had the use.

"The supreme court of the United States has given its opinion on overdrafts in 1 Peters, page 71:"

"A usage to allow customers to overdraw, and to have their checks and notes charged up, without present funds in the bank—stripped of all technical disguise, the usage and practice thus attempted to be sanctioned is a usage and practice to misapply the funds of the bank, and to connive at the withdrawal of the same without any security in favor of certain privileged persons. Such a usage and practice is surely a manifest departure from the duty, both of the directors and cashier, as it cannot receive any countenance in a court of justice. It could not be supported by any vote of the directors, however formal, and, therefore, whenever done by the cashier is at his own peril, and upon the responsibility of himself and his sureties. It is anything but well and truly executing his duties as the cashier."

"In the cities where money is usually 'turned' quickly, the overdraft does not constitute a large item. In Iowa, treasury officials declare, it is not a feature of the banking business."

Would Keep Girls From Stage.

Are great artists happy? Emma Calve, one of the most talented, admired, and in every way successful artists the world has ever seen, has for a number of years made a specialty of advising girls to get married and try to make happy homes instead of studying for the stage. Her latest statement of her views, which she says she has held ever since she was twenty-five, was given to a journalist in Los Angeles, "O, the girls," she exclaimed, "the hundreds, the thousands of poor girls. You will write just what I say? Then write that but one woman in a hundred thousand who tries wins. There is in a million one Geraldine Farrar, one Emma Eames, one Schumann-Heink. Do you grasp what that means? I have seen them—these girls that come to Paris to study, to fight their way among men. When the day comes that I shall teach I shall teach no girl for the stage. I will teach only the rich girls who wish to sing for accomplishment, for home, for husband—that is a woman's place."—N. Y. Post.

THE NEW PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAN

Last Legislature Appoints Body to Consider Matters Pertaining to the School Laws.

URGE RURAL HIGH SCHOOLS

Advocate Discontinuance of the Present Method of Holding of Normal Institutes.

The last legislature voted a small sum of money to pay the expense of a commission appointed by the state superintendent to investigate and recommend changes in our school laws. They have thoroughly examined our school system and asked advice from citizens from every part of the state and have filed the following report with the state superintendent. They recommend:

Voluntary consolidation of schools for a minimum area of sixteen sections. State aid to consolidated schools for a period of years; the amount of said aid shall depend on the number of departments, grade of teachers employed, course of study, kind of building and equipment. Some suggested plans for raising the funds to be apportioned to schools are a small graduated direct tax on inheritances exceeding \$10,000, a millage tax, etc. The plan recently enacted by the state of Minnesota, known as the Holmberg law, encouraged the organization of fifty consolidated districts since the law became effective April 27, 1911.

The encouragement of rural high schools. The course of study should meet the needs of the community, while the quality of work should be equal to the standard of any high school.

That every school that meets the requirements for the normal training course shall receive \$500 annually. This method of training teachers for the rural schools should be especially encouraged.

That four additional normal schools be established within the next five years. These schools shall be limited to the preparation of teachers for the elementary schools. That applicants for teachers' certificates after July 1, 1915, shall have at least twelve weeks of normal training.

The discontinuance of the present method of holding normal institutes. Short inspirational teachers' meetings held during the school year and compulsory attendance of teachers without loss of pay are recommended.

Increase the power and efficiency of the department of public instruction; provide an adequate contingent and traveling expense fund; fix the salary of the superintendent of public instruction at not less than \$1,000 and make the term four years. The duties of the deputy superintendent are barely less important than those of the head of the department, and his compensation should be fixed commensurate with his responsibilities.

The employment of a rural school inspector, a grade inspector and a high school inspector, under the department of public instruction. States, including nearly all the surrounding states, that are taking the lead in educational matters employ such in inspectors.

Increase the duties and importance of the county superintendency, fix the salary as high as at least, as that of any county official (not less than \$1,800) raising the standard of qualification for the office and increasing the facilities for the supervision of the schools. The term of office should be four years.

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That the office of superintendent of public instruction be made non-partisan elective, and that of county superintendent nonpartisan elective or appointive.

That the enforcement of the compulsory attendance law be placed in the office of the county superintendent.

The abolishment of the rural independent districts and the establishment of the township as a unit of organization in rural districts, to be governed by a board elected at large, to consist of not to exceed five members.

That all school officers be required to attend an annual conference to be called by the county superintendent of public instruction or his representative, particularly the inspector for rural schools may attend, and that school officers receive a nominal fee for such attendance. Sections 2780 and 2785 should be amended so that school officers shall receive a fixed compensation for performance of certain duties.

The changing of the county board of education by the election or appointment of two or four members to serve with the county superintendent.

The abolishment of the office of school treasurer, the county treasurer being authorized to pay all warrants on the school funds. That the school funds draw interest the same as other county funds.

All school elections be held on the same day in March, and that all the school boards organize on the same day.

The extension of industrial education in the schools. The extension of the community center idea.

That the school funds shall consist of a school house fund and a general fund.

A complete recodification of the school laws.

Recommendations of the committee on high schools were adopted as follows: That the department of public instruction define and classify high schools. That the work of the high schools be standardized. Amount of work a school ought to do and character of work done. A minimum number of teachers for a definite amount of work. Minimum requirements as to qualifications for high school teachers. Requirements as to building and equipment.

The passage of a law safeguarding all nominations and elections pertaining to school matters.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

State of Iowa, Crawford County, ss.—
In Probate.

In the matter of the estate of Jens A. Petersen, late of Crawford county, deceased.

Notice of Appointment of Administratrix.

To Whom It May Concern: You are hereby notified that on the 11th day of September, 1912, the undersigned was duly appointed administratrix, with will annexed, of the above entitled estate, and all creditors of said estate are notified to file their claims in the office of the clerk of the district court, in and for Crawford county, Iowa, within one year from the date of this notice, according to law, and have the same allowed and ordered paid by the said court, or stand forever barred therefrom.

Dated Denison, Iowa, Sept. 11, 1912.
DOROTHEA PETERSEN,
Administratrix with will annexed.
P. J. Klinker,
Attorney for Administratrix. 38-3t

State of Iowa, Crawford County, ss.—
In Probate.

In the matter of the estate of F. W. Mueller, late of Crawford county, deceased.

Notice of Appointment of Executrix.

To Whom It May Concern: You are hereby notified that on the 11th day of September, 1912, the undersigned was duly appointed executrix of the above entitled estate, and all creditors of said estate are notified to file their claims in the office of the clerk of the district court, in and for Crawford county, Iowa, within one year from the date of this notice, according to law, and have the same allowed and ordered paid by the said court, or stand forever barred therefrom.

Dated Denison, Iowa, September 11, 1912.
AMALIE MUELLER,
Executrix.
P. J. Klinker,
Attorney for Executrix. 38-3t

State of Iowa, Crawford County, ss.—
In Probate.

In the matter of the estate of Jurgen Reimer, late of Crawford county, deceased.

Notice of Appointment of Executor.

To Whom It May Concern: You are hereby notified that on the 12th day of September, 1912, the undersigned was duly appointed executor of the above entitled estate, and all creditors of said estate are notified to file their claims in the office of the clerk of the district court, in and for Crawford county, Iowa, within one year from the date of this notice, according to law, and have the same allowed and ordered paid by the said court, or stand forever barred therefrom.

Dated Denison, Iowa, September 12, 1912.
JOHN REIMER,
Executor.
P. J. Klinker,
Attorney for Executor. 38-3t

RESOLVED

THAT IT IS THE DUTY OF PARENTS TO WATCH OVER THEIR CHILDREN. TEACHING THEM THINGS THOUGH, IS SOMETIMES PAINFUL.



BUSTER BROWN

MARY JANE SUITS ME

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