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COMMISSIONERS CONTINUE IN PERNICIOUS MEDDLING

ENLARGING SCOPE OF THEIR OPERATIONS TO INCLUDE ALL SCHOOL BOARDS

Manifest Intention of the Board Is to Bring Every Official of Carbon County, Except Themselves, Into Disrepute, if Such a Result Can Be Accomplished By Systematic Insinuations of Official Neglect.

On Saturday last the board of county commissioners passed a resolution reciting the employment by them of the alleged expert and certified accountant J. W. Edmunds to audit the accounts of Carbon county high school, and of the various school districts of Carbon county. The resolution further directed that the compensation of Edmunds should hereafter be agreed upon between Edmunds and the board of county commissioners, but should be paid by Carbon County High School and the several districts so directed to be audited, and further recited that the action of the board in the premises was in discharge of the duty made incumbent upon them by subdivisions 3 and 4 of Section 511 of Compiled Laws of Utah, 1907, and acts amendatory thereof. The statutes in question read as follows:

511x3. SUPERVISE COUNTY OFFICERS. To supervise the official conduct of all county officers and officers of all precincts, districts and other subdivisions of the county (except municipal corporations); see that they faithfully perform their duties; direct prosecutions for delinquencies; and when necessary, require them to renew their official bonds, make reports, and present their books and accounts for inspection.

511x4. AUDIT ACCOUNTS. To examine and audit, at least every six months, the accounts of all officers having the care, management, collection, or disbursement of moneys belonging to the county, or appropriated by law or otherwise for its use and benefit.

Now as a matter of fact Carbon county high school district is a separate and distinct corporation, organized by legislative act, and having absolutely no connection with the county government subject to the supervision of the board of county commissioners, and the same is true of the several school districts existing within the county, and there is nothing in the subdivisions of the statute quoted granting any power whatsoever to the board of county commissioners authorizing them to supervise or audit any accounts whatsoever except those of county officers, and of the officers of the various subdivisions in which the county government is divided.

It would therefore seem that the action of the commissioners in the premises is predicated upon a strained construction of the statute, and is wholly without precedent.

Shortly after the service of the resolution upon the high school board Mr. Marcussen, president of the high school, referred the request to a number of disinterested attorneys who made an examination of the statute advised that the board of county commissioners had absolutely no power or authority to audit or employ auditors or to otherwise interfere with or supervise the conduct of the school systems, and he was further advised to refuse the demand of the county commissioners that the records of the high school should be turned over to the alleged expert, Mr. Edmunds.

This unwarranted assumption on the part of the board of county commissioners, carrying with it as it does an impugning of the integrity of the various officers charged with the responsibility of handling the school funds of the various school districts and of the high school is a direct insult to every school trustee within the county, and particularly to the president and trustees of the high school, and is resented not only by the several gentlemen against whom the insinuations are aimed, but also by every school loving citizen of Carbon county who feels that the loyal efforts of the high school board have been successfully frustrated at Price one of the most creditable high schools within the state, are entitled to better consideration.

It is the manifest intention of the board to bring every official of Carbon County, except themselves, into disrepute, if such a result can be accomplished by systematic insinuations of official neglect, and other accusa-

tions tending to bring such officers into dishonor.

If the bull moose commissioners entertain an idea that such conduct on their part meets with public approval they are woefully mistaken, as the slightest effort on their part will discover to them that the tax paying public is weary of their attempted persecutions, and of their constant insinuations of dishonesty, misfeasance, malfeasance and nonfeasance directed against the gentlemen who have assumed and are discharging their duties as servants of the public in Carbon county.

It is well known that for many years Mr. Marcussen has labored ceaselessly for the upbuilding of a creditable educational system, and the successful progress made by the schools of Carbon county are the result of his able and painstaking care, and the co-operation of the various school trustees whom the bull moose commissioners now intimate should be assumed, and against whom their guilty and presumptuous resolution is directed.

It doubtless will be asserted in behalf of the board of county commissioners that their specially paid legal adviser, Mr. Nelson, the former law partner of Bill Newton, of odorous fame, has so construed the statutes as to authorize and make incumbent upon the commissioners the auditing of the school accounts, and fittingly the alleged expert Edmunds was in attendance at the session of the commissioners when the resolution was adopted, and immediately after its adoption made demand that the public school records be turned over to his



"IN WINTER IT IS REALLY GRAND TO GO OUT SKATING. UNDERSTAND I MEAN OUT SKATING ON THE LAKE, AND NOT IN A CAPE," SAID JAKE.



"I SHALL NEVER FORGET YOU HOW YOU HAVE PROVED TO ME THAT YOU CANNOT KEEP YOUR HEAD ABOVE WATER. WATER NOW TELL YOU GET ME OUT."



JAKE BECKED HER UP (YOU KNOW THE GAME) AND PUT HER ON HER LITTLE FEET - A FEAT SHE KNEW WAS HARD TO BEAT.



"WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES?"

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Successfully Presented By An All Star Cast.

"What Happened to Jones," the comedy drama presented by the high school dramatic club at the Elko theater last Saturday night, drew a large crowd. The play was nicely staged and the players acquitted themselves most creditably in the various roles, notably William Morley as "Jones, the commercial traveler," and Lynn Paesett as "Rhonessa Goodly," the big audience gave its stamp of approval by pronounced applause. Miss Alice Hurst, instructor, has good reason to feel proud of her dramatic company.

HUSHMAN PUTS ONE OVER ON R. H. SUPERINTENDENT

E. C. Manson, general superintendent of the Oregon Short Line, has a hobby. His hobby is oil. He believes that the operating expenses can be kept down materially if less oil is used and engineers are saying in the matter of the use of the long spouted can. He has drilled oil saving into his division superintendent and they have drilled it into the engineers and firemen.

Mr. Manson's oil hobby took a new turn the other day when an examination of an Irish fireman was being held at Pocatello. Mr. Manson takes part in the examinations sometimes, as he likes to get close to the men. During the examination the Irishman answered questions well, and when he was about to be turned loose by Superintendent Stevenson, Mr. Manson asked the following question:

"If you were an engineer and going down King hill into Glenns Ferry, and your train was not under control and you saw about one-half mile away a train approaching you on the single track, what would you do?"

"Grab the oil can, reverse the engine, cross myself and jump," replied the Irishman; and Mr. Manson went to his private car.

At the M. E. parsonage Saturday evening, February 21st, J. R. Fleming of Woodside and Miss Ella Grundy of Roseton, Tex., were united in marriage by Rev. J. E. Ferris. The groom is a well known business man, having business interests in Henry and Carbon counties. The bride is a teacher and has been in charge of the Woodside schools. They will reside in Woodside.

SENATOR TELLER DEAD AT 84 AFTER LONG CAREER

DENVER, Feb. 25.—Henry Moore Teller, former cabinet officer and for more than thirty years United States senator from Colorado, died here early today at the home of his daughter, Mrs. G. E. Tyler. For two years Senator Teller had been in poor health, experiencing frequent sinking spells from which he rallied. Two weeks ago, however, his condition became critical and death was momentarily expected. Late last night he relapsed into an unconsciousness from which he did not recover. Most of the members of his family were at his bedside at the end.

Senator Teller's reputation became nationwide when he made his famous speech in debate in congress upon the repeal of the Sherman law, which provided for the demonetization of silver. Then, in course of one of the most sensational speeches ever given in the senate chamber, Senator Teller made this famous statement, known as "The sensation of the senate." He said:

"I say it in cool and calm deliberation, weighing well my words, that if the republican party stands for the gold standard, the four silver producing states will not hereafter be able to act in co-operation with this (the United States) or any other body."

R. W. Crockett, United States commissioner at Price for the past ten or twelve years, has tendered his resignation to the department of justice, and it is now in order for some local democrat to get the appointment, which is usually made on the recommendation of the United States district attorney. The retiring commissioner states that the fees of the office during the time he held it have never exceeded fifteen dollars a year, and a greater portion of that time very much less. In fact, the office is more of a nuisance than anything else.

Joseph Naughton, the local sheepman who recently went back to his old home in France and was drafted into army service of that country, is still hopeful of securing his release so he can return to Utah and his extensive interests here, says Green River's Dispatch of last Thursday. The secretary of war of France has taken the matter up in his behalf. Attorney Brim of Helpe is looking after the Naughton matter and expects to get quick and satisfying results within the next few weeks.

BULL MOOSE BOARD BACKS UP A LITTLE

SUPP. C. B. MARCUSSEN SHEARS LIGHT AT MEETING.

Commissioners Rescinded Resolution Drawn by Special Adviser Nelson and Adopt One Drafted In Its Stead by County Superintendent.

Carbon county's bull moose commissioners have discovered, through the assistance of their special legal adviser, Mr. O. C. Nelson, a fancied duty which none of their predecessors have discovered, nor any other set of county commissioners in the state. It is to supervise and audit the accounts of the various school districts in the county every six months. In accordance with their discovery, on February 21st they adopted a resolution demanding the school boards of the county to deliver to Mr. J. W. Edmunds & Co. their books for audit and inspection, the cost of the audit to be determined by the commissioners and Mr. Edmunds and deducted from any money due the various school boards. A copy of the resolution was presented to Mr. Marcussen, who is president of the Carbon County High School board, and he advised them that he kept no books nor had he any accounts which they might audit and that he could not without the consent of the board order the clerk, Mr. C. C. McWhinney, of the Carbon County High School board to deliver the books. He would, however, present their communication at the next regular meeting of the board of education.

The commissioners then called a meeting for Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. Mr. Marcussen, Mr. Fouts, Mr. McWhinney and Mr. Hanton, the four members from Price who are associated with the high school board, were asked to meet with the county commissioners. At this meeting was Mr. O. C. Nelson, the commissioners' special legal adviser. After some discussion, in which all participated, the commissioners rescinded their former resolution and Mr. Marcussen prepared for them a resolution wherein they asked the various school boards of the county to permit Mr. Edmunds to make an audit. Mr. Marcussen and Mr. Fouts, who were the only members of the school boards present, signified not only their willingness but said they were desirous of having an audit made, but they informed the commissioners that they were of the opinion that they had no power to make such a demand and their permitting the audit of the books would establish no precedent. The county commissioners assumed the obligation of paying for the audit.

Mr. Marcussen has called a special meeting of the board of education for Monday morning next to authorize Mr. McWhinney to deliver the Carbon County High School board books to Mr. Edmunds, the auditor. In the meantime Mr. Edmunds is making an audit of the Price school books, which are kept by Mr. Fouts. Mr. Edmunds will make a request of the various school boards to deliver their books to him as fast as he can complete one set.

At the meeting the commissioners stated that the reason for their asking for an audit was because of their having been advised it was their duty to make the same and not because of their having any idea that anything was wrong with any of the books of the school districts. The commissioners stated that the reports which appeared in the Salt Lake dailies were entirely misleading and without their knowledge and consent.

D. H. Evans was last week appointed postmaster at Castle Gate, succeeding Mrs. Susanna Whitstead, deceased. On the same date W. R. Morrison became postmaster at Richfield. These two Utah nominations, according to National Committee Wainwright, clear up all the Utah presidential postoffices in which the terms of the republican incumbents have expired and from the present time on there will be no delay in nominating democratic officials for postoffices when opportunity arises, either through expiration of the terms of the incumbents or removal for cause.