ROSEBURG REVIEW
IS ISSUED
FRIDAY MORNINGS
—BY—
THE REVIEW PUBLISHING CO.
J. R. N. BELL, - - Editor.

One Year - - - - - - - - $2 50
Six Months - - - - - - - - 1 25
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Roseburg Review.

VOL. X. ROSEBURG, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH, 12, 1886. NO. 49.

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Teachers' Institute.

FULL PROCEEDINGS OF THE INSTITUTE OF DOUGLAS COUNTY TEACHERS ASSEMBLED.

Literature is the immortality of speech.—(WILLMOT.

On Wednesday evening the South bound train came in literally loaded with teachers, among whom were State Supt. McElroy, of Salem. The Junior Band met them at the depot and dispensed some of their excellent music. The Institute convened at the Court House at 7:30 o'clock. The house was crowded to overflowing..

After music by the Junior Band, Hon. L. F. Lane delivered the address of welcome. This literary gentleman is a graduate of Yale and commanded the closest attention of his hearers. "With pleasure, yet with diffidence I approach the performance of this duty I have assumed to perform. Teachers, it is your high province to be one of the first guides of the mind—to watch it as does the parent bird its young, until it takes wing and flight into space and where, known only to its entity and the origin of its existence. Is it not worthy of remark that the grandest achievements of the human mind have been since and beneath the light, the shades, and shadows of the cross, and in the name of Him who knew of imortality of the birth-hood of mind and said of its custodians suffer them to come unto Me for of such is the kingdom of heaven. With such a teacher as your guide—your higher examplar—I repeat your vocation is of exalted character. Under all circumstances you should be greeted with words of welcome and encouragement. Trusting that your meeting at this time may be under happy auspices, that your deliberations may be both pleasurable and profitable, I but echo the sentiments of the friends of education and enlightenment in Roseburg when I extend to you a cordial and hearty welcome to our city."

"The Royal March" an instrumental duet was rendered by Mrs. J. C. Fullerton at the piano and J. B. Horner with the flute.

Prof. R. A. Booth, of the Drain Echo, delivered the response. "The remarks of our honorable friend are not calculated to lighten the weighty responsibility that every true teacher feels. The great work of mind training and the duties necessarily connected therewith are upon us; the charge has been committed to our care; the eyes of the little ones are watching us and the minds that may grow to wonders and become as giants are left as clay in our hands.—While it is true the human mind requires an education, it is also true that much of it is gained by example as well as precept. This is particularly true of character and habit. I therefore assert that not only the teachers are responsible for the characters daily forming, but every individual owes to society and humanity a pure and elevated example that will lead them to a higher life. No one can live to himself. He must either be a light to illuminate or a tempest to destroy. A work for all is placed before them and they dare not cease to toil. All labor has its reward. To-night, we are gathering sunshine sufficient for many a dark day. The friendly hand-shake, the kind words and the cordial welcome extended to us this evening cannot be mistaken. We accept it with a sense of gratitude, but we have soon to repay. Our hearts are gladdened by your hearty welcome and our very souls respond with thanks.

The quartette, "It will be summer by and by," was then sung by Mrs. S. C. Flint, J. C. Fullerton, and M. F. Rapp and Messrs. S. C. Flint, and F. M. Rapp.

State Supt. E. B. McElroy, Ph. D., then addressed the audience on "Education—its Relations and Results. We present below a synopsis of the address.

Civil society exists for the production, preservation and distribution of material resources. Property is the great instrumentality invented by the human mind to elevate itself above immediate brute instinct and necessity. Property thus becomes a necessary condition for subsequent intellectual growth. Education has a direct and definite relation to civil society in this its first and elementary aspect, of providing for the creation and presentation of property. It increases in a direct manner the productivity of the community. Statistics show that all the various trades and occupations of men in the United States are directly and beneficially affected by education. It is the verdict of the civilized world announced in the most unmistakable terms that the country must see to it that general and special education must be fostered if it would thrive in the accumulation of wealth. Each civil community demands popular education in another aspect—that of the preserver of the property through the preservation of the social organism.

This demand bases itself on the necessity of morality in the community. The very existence of society looks to the maintenance of the preservation of morality by means of the proper education of the young. Industry, punctuality, regularity, respect for the rights of others, and obedience to established authority—these are the cardinal virtues of the school-room and the foundation of its order. Discipline ought to be made emphatic in our school work for the reason that in our society and government we aim to place as few safe-guards as possible around the individual from without, and therefore our system of education must make the character strong and self determined from within. Again intelligence is the first element of prosperity: it builds our railroads, factories and erects the wires of the telgraph and telephone; it enables the farmer to double his crops; it invents labor-saving machinery; it yields us that satisfaction which prosperity may heighten but which adversity can never take away. It enables us to understand and interpret the purposes and designs of God and approximate more nearly to his character. Again, that course of instruction is best that gives the broadest foundation of fact; that arranges the facts in such order that laws and principles are easily seen and apprehended; that leads the mind to independent thought and investigation; that from the basis of the actual, raises it to the plane of the ideal; and that, beginning with accumulating knowledge shall end with the acquired power of thinking—thinking to definite results—in short, genuine mental developement.

Education has other important objects. Certain kinds of intelligence are needed and imperatively demanded to minister our physical wants, to prolong our existence, to fit us for our duties as citizens, and to enable us to discharge our obligations to society generally. We must know how to obtain food and clothing; we must understand physical laws and the limitations of our physical possibilities; we must be able to distinguish between that which is beneficial and that which is hurtful to us; we must learn to know and appreciate the good, the beautiful and the true in all relations of life and we ought to be so intelligent in reference to conduct in life that our every act will conduce to human happiness. This is practical intelligence and it embraces all branches which treat of the materials and forces most familiar to our senses. Without this intelligence, combined with resolute purpose, the richest powers of mind are useless.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Education is the chief defense of nations.—(BURKE.

The morning was beautiful and the attendance at the Institute was large. The exercises opened with remarks by Hon. E. B. McElroy. Then Supt. Benson appointed the following list of officers: Recording Secretary J. B. Horner; Enrolling Secretary, Misses Alice Mosher and Lucy Hay; Certificate Secretary, H. L. Benson. The County Supt. is president ex-officio.

The State Superintendent then announced that the usual reduction would be made by the R. R. Co., on all return tickets He at this time lectured on "The objects of the institute," some of which are to acquaint teachers with the best methods of instruction, for at the institute we usually find our best public spirited teachers; to increase the efficiency of the teachers, by giving a distinct idea of the ends of true education, by illustrating latest methods of instruction to avoid ruts; to correct prevailing faults involving waste of time in movements of pupils, in conducting recitations, wrong methods arising from defective instruction, Ways and means, lectures and talks, questions and answers, diagrams and notes, class exercise for illustration, general discussions, query box and critics work, were mentioned.

J. B. Horner sprung the question of the legality of attending institutes, to which the State Supt. replied that County Supts. are authorized by the State Board of education to lower the grade of the certificate of the applicant who fails to attend the county institute.

Rev. J. R. N. Bell then said schools often receive injury from the fact that teachers too often underrate the work of their predecessors.

The State Supt. then said the teacher sometimes criticises his predecessor, then criticises the text book, then the pupil thinks the teacher knows nothing then the parent criticises the teacher and the fifth step is taken by the teacher who goes out of the school.

Mr. H. C. Smith, formerly a teacher of Coos Bay, introduced "Improved methods of teaching history." After the speaker gave an interesting accounts of historic facts that pleased the audiance, he said that the demand of the world now is a better in everything. When we assert that better schools are wanted, it is no reflection upon the schools of the past. We are growing. We must keep up in the march of human progress.

Miss Alice Mosher read a paper upon "Primary pupils." The first teacher of a child should, by all means be its mother. Often the little child is sent to school before it can talk plainly. Charts should be introduced. Since a child will mark everything that comes in its way, as soon as it gets a pencil, this impulse should be turned in the proper way—that of drawing. Little children should be taught to sing. Every thing taught in the primary department should be taught thoroughly for there is the foundation laid for the child's entire future.

Prof. Mark F. Jones then, by request rendered the beautiful solo, "Navy Blue Polka" on the organ.

Prof. J. R. Kendall introduced "Oral teaching." I have no spelling book in school. It does not pay a man to run a mule to death to catch a rabbit. A sentence is a composition of one line. I introduce the subject of grammar in my third reader class. Teach the class that a noun is a name not a substance. Then remind them of modifiers such as good, bad and so on, and thus introduce adjectives. Some days when the work is crowded this exercise is omitted from the regular reading lesson. But great attention is at all times paid to capitals and orthography. If the child speaks incorrectly, the incorrect expressions will crop out in after life. Practice makes the child stronger and more accurate. One word is an anomaly as much as a barrel of flour would be without the universe. Better carefully study the words and their uses.

The county Superintendent then appointed the following committees on introduction J. B. Horner, R. A. Booth, Misses Winnifred Mosher, Lucy Hay and Annie Kent.

After a short recess, the discussion of corporal punishment was introduced by J. B. Horner. Prof. Kendall prefers that a child should be compelled even by the rod than bought with candy. A smart pain will bring on a re-action that often does a child good, and will make it better. Rev. J. R. N. Bell said there is a tendency in our schools to govern them by a sickly sentimentality. If a child has an evil nature, take that nature out of him. The only real American liberty is a strict adherence to law. At this point of the discussion it became clearly evident that iron would rasp iron.

Prof. H. L. Benson: The punishment for larceny is not the punishment for forgery, and there is no punishment for murder other than hanging. The rod is not used as much as it was fifty years ago, and yet the children are better. Prof. Kendall said if New Jersey has a whipping post for big folks we must not dispense with the rod for the little folks.

Continued on page 4.