

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

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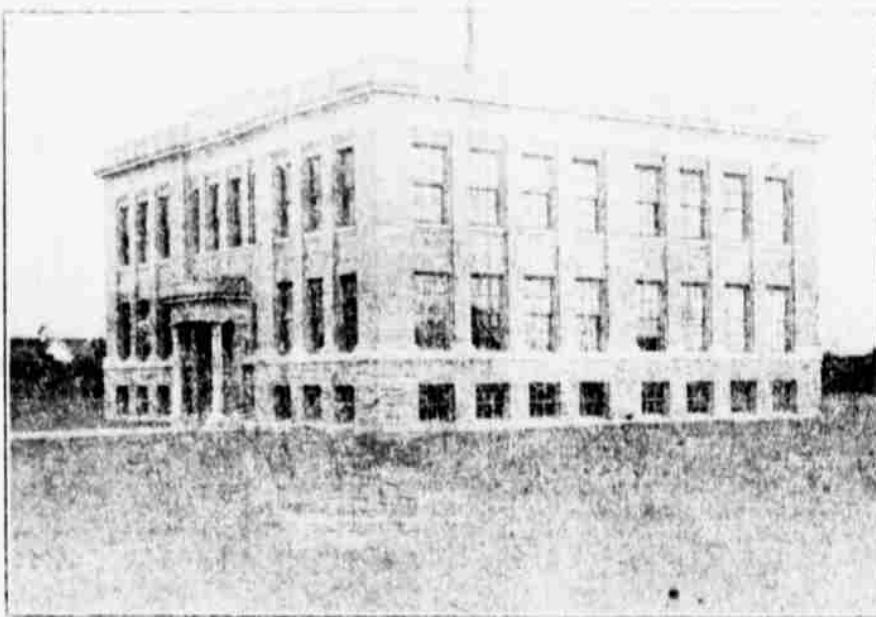
NUMBER 38

We don't "just think" we can make it worth your while to do business with us; we know we can.



Webster County Bank,
RED CLOUD, NEB.
CAPITAL \$25,000

B. F. Mizer, President, S. R. Florance, Cashier.
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B. F. Mizer, C. J. Pope, Wm. M. Crabill, Wm. H. Thomas, S. R. Florance.



The New Lincoln School Building.

The above is an exact picture of the new Lincoln building. It is a credit to any locality and the people of Red Cloud are proud of it in their pride of this magnificent building.

The foundation walls are 24 inches thick and are made of Colorado Red Sandstone than which there is no better material for the purpose quarried from the ground. The brick used is the Omaha hydraulic-pressed brick which is made in every respect. The buff color of these brick walls makes a pleasing harmony with the foundation and the buffed stone with which the building is ornamented.

The building represents many hours of labor and in its inception many hours of struggle and anxiety.

After a strenuous campaign nearly three years ago this district voted bonds in the amount of \$25,000 but before they could be sold an injunction was served upon the board seeking to prohibit them from selling the same. While this was pending in court the panic came on and removed all possibility of making any disposition of the bonds. However, the next election which was held in accordance with the state constitution permitting the state treasurer to make investments of school moneys in district bonds.

The injunction suit was dismissed upon the agreement of the board to submit the question of location to the voters. The site upon which this building rests was chosen and the bonds sold to the state.

The contract for constructing the building was awarded to the firm of Falls City, Neb., and the plans and specifications were prepared by Frank Peterson of this city. Considerable delay was experienced in the spring on account of the extreme rainy weather.

The corner stone was laid on the 15th of June and the building was completed on the 15th of August. The cost of the building was \$100,000.

The class-rooms are all large and airy and are finished in oak with maple floors.

We have reason to be proud of this magnificent structure and there is no reason why it should not stand for a hundred years to come.

As the time draws near for the opening of another school year the time has come when we should pause to reflect upon the progress of our schools.

Never before in the history of our city has there been so much time and money spent to promote the educational interests of this community as there has been during the past summer. The year 1909 is epoch-making for the Red Cloud schools.

After many years of neglect and insufficient school facilities and the last two years of chaos which will always be remembered by those closely associated with our schools as the "dark age" will rejoice beyond expression with the advent of a new year, when conditions are not only better but the best we have ever experienced and as good as the state of Nebraska affords.

The Lincoln school represents more than a mere school house such as you find in the hearts of our towns but it represents the most modern type of school building in style, plan, finish and equipment. A few years ago the attention was given to the material side and more attention to ventilation, heat, light and general sanitary condition of which the old and worn-out buildings were representative types.

The old main ward, overlooking the Washington school, is a handsome structure, but to place it hereafter in the past a modern school building (old cracked walls excepted) the widening of the hall, stair way, the installation of a steam heating plant, an assembly room of double its former capacity, a well lighted laboratory equipped with water and ventilation shaft, a sanitary fountain, a new office and book room, a double coat of paint and varnish these and other changes too numerous to mention have metamorphosed a dark, gloomy, ill arranged school house into a comparatively modern structure.

While the Board of Education has given much attention to provide our boys and girls with school facility

which will aid much in the physical, mental and social development of our youth, the state has not seen the light of the day's expenditure of money for the purpose of the state's educational system.

For more than a quarter of a century Red Cloud pursued an educational policy not between but governed by a circle of cultured gentlemen whose mental horizon was bounded by and very high walls. For more than a quarter of a century, we as well as every other city, town and hamlet in this state have sacrificed the needs of the many to please the interests of the few, the very few. As true we have done this not without hearing an occasional protest or a murmur of dissent but it has developed upon the present Board of Education to break away from these inconsistencies and past errors and inaugurate an educational system which has for its cardinal aim, a course of study based on common sense and common needs. It is not our intention to minimize the value of education training but for the majority of students upon whom an appeal has been made for education, we have a high school, after all, nothing practical or useful.

Industrious, energetic, well trained, vocational training to the level of school prescribed is and is provided as if this sentiment were heart of Education has taken the matter up in the right direction. The new course of study becomes only partially operative this year grade 9 more school mechanical drawing and manual training, grade 10 may select commercial arithmetic, business correspondence and spelling in place of Latin, the continuation of this course leads to book keeping and stenography in the 11th year and typewriting and Commercial Law in the 12th year.

The Commercial subjects in grade 11 do not go into effect till 1910 and grade 12 in 1911. For the present grades 11 and 12 are privileged to select subjects as heretofore in Normal Training Latin or German courses. Below we (Continued to page four)

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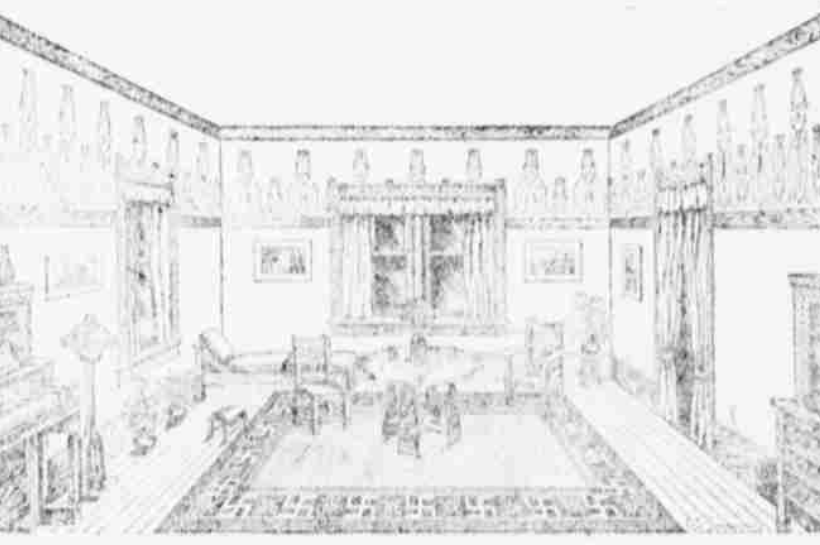
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WM WOLFE, Secretary.



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