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TEACHERS IN OMAHA NEXT

East Central Nebraska Association Meets in Metropolis.

N. M. GRAHAM IS PRESIDENT

South Omaha Superintendent is Elected at Head of the Staff— Meeting of Two Days is Over.

N. M. Graham, South Omaha, president, F. M. Hunter, Ashland, vice president, Carrie S. Nelson, Wahoo, secretary, John Speede, Benson, treasurer, H. H. Hahn, Blair, J. M. Matzen, Fremont, members of the executive committee, Omaha place of next meeting.

The above tabulation represents the business of the last session of the East Central Nebraska Teachers' association, held at the high school building Saturday morning. Three or four hundred teachers attended this meeting and it appeared that the business was a matter which the majority of the teachers cared little about.

The election of officers developed no active campaigning. Many nominations were made and declined. As soon as a candidate was named, who did not reject the office, he was at once made the unanimous choice of the meeting. The place of meeting went without opposition to Omaha. The final enrollment was 1,600, making this the largest district meeting ever held in the states. The committee on resolutions reported thanking everybody who had had anything to do with the arrangements or the entertainment. An attempt was made to organize a declamatory association in connection, but this was voted down.

Program of Last Session.

The program aside from the business session, was opened by a plan set by Miss Alice Davis. After the business session, Miss Helen Hanblin and Arthur Nesbit of the Tekamah high school presented the duet, "Hark to the Mandolin," Bartlett, and "Let Me Rest," Green.

W. N. Cluff took for his subject, "The Concrete in Education." He illustrated his method of studying geography and the industries of the country, in the concrete as much as possible. He had sample of various woods and wood products which were interesting. He used these as concrete objects to illustrate the localities on the pupil. Not only location but industry and manufacture with its kindred subjects could thus be emphasized. In his history he believed much in the picture, the photograph.

Miss Mabel Stephens of South Omaha sang two solos preceding the address of President Guy W. Wadsworth of Bellevue. "The Ideal Teacher" was the theme of President Wadsworth. He emphasized the side of culture, true culture, as a requirement. It did not matter whether our pronunciation was at all times precise. That was the outside, a mere trappings, but the true culture is based on character. He advised the teachers to be courteous, kind, studious, religious and optimistic in the broadest sense of the terms.

Too Much Law, Says Gardner.

Superintendent Gardner of the Fremont schools, who attended the convention, does not believe in school legislation. On the other hand he says there has been altogether too much legislation for the schools, or, as he characterizes it, "against the schools."

"We do not want any more school legislation. We have too many laws now, and if the lawmakers keep up the present pace we will not have any sense left in us. We would be worse, we will not have any teachers who are worthy the name of teacher," says Mr. Gardner.

"Book learning is a small part of it; the teacher must know how to handle the children in his or her charge, but the laws which are being forced on us, because their education in some particulars is slightly insufficient."

WHAT TO DO WITH BOY AND GIRL.

Problem Deal with by the Teachers in Various Ways.

Nebraska boys must be bad and Nebraska girls evidently are naughty. This seemed to be the opinion held by many of the Eastern Central Nebraska Teachers' association. At the hour of 2 o'clock Friday afternoon five meetings of the teachers were held in various places of assembly in South Omaha, but while there was plenty of room at four of these gatherings, teachers were turned away for want of room in the hall of the city library, where four of the pedagogues read papers on "Our Naughty Boys and Girls; What Shall We Do with Them?"

The four papers differed widely in the treatment of the subject, but close attention was paid to all the teachers showing by their close attention that they are confronted by unruly youngsters who they do not know how to handle. The papers were read by Miss Minnie Manners of Wahoo, Miss Lois McClean of North Bend, Mrs. Harriet Heller of Omaha and H. H. Hahn of Blair.

Miss Manners told her hearers that a good way to get along with the bad boy is to take an interest in the tadpoles, cockroaches and bullfrogs he carries into the schoolroom in his pocket, though she tempered this statement by adding that she meant to take an interest in the boy himself and his work and play, gain his confidence and his respect. Miss Manners did not have anything to say about the naughty girl; all her troubles arise from the boys' side of the room.

Miss McClean, young and pretty, advised her fellow teachers not to become too friendly with their charges. In this taking issue slightly with Miss Manners, in that she opined that if the youngster was taken into confidence he would lose his respect for the teacher, which would be stronger if the teacher held herself somewhat aloof. "The teacher who at the outset can break the anarchistic spirit dominant at some time in the life of the average boy has gained a strong point and will have but little trouble with unruly children," said Miss McClean.

Mrs. Heller said it was natural for every well regulated boy to be bad and to play truant, for were not his ancestors? But truancy is the first step on the downward road, she said, and the teacher must at the outset show her pupils that she and not they are boss. The child will continually test the teacher's power, she said, but the teacher's power must never fall, for when it does she will find it hard work to maintain any regulations in the future. Mrs. Heller took the part of the boy, largely, and said that the girls are the mischief makers and that they are much harder to deal with than the boys.

Mr. Hahn asked the teachers to analyze their children more closely and get at the bottom of their petty troubles, and made the statement that teachers more often "punish the cause and not the effect." Many children are naughty because they do not feel well, or possibly because they have not enough to eat, or because they have not enough work to use up their surplus energy. This Mr. Hahn thought was the main reason for unruliness among school children. The average small boy and many a smart girl carries too much "excitement" and "somebody's" work, and if he or she has not enough work or play that energy will find vent in insubor-

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The teacher also thought that much could be accomplished by "thought transmission" to the pupil.

"Frats" in the high schools find a champion in Dr. Benjamin L. D'Ooge of the Michigan State Normal, who addressed the teachers of the East Central association Friday. He did not lecture on the Greek letter societies, but privately he says he has no "home to pick" with them, and on the other hand he thinks that in many respects they are good for the young people and good for the schools.

"The boys have got to go somewhere aside to school and then home again. The average youth must and will congregate with his fellows. The desire for communion with boys of his own age is natural. If he can not have a 'Frat,' as they are commonly termed, he will go to the pool and billiard halls, or possibly some place worse," said Dr. D'Ooge.

"The Greek letter societies in Chicago went too far, I will agree, and the only course to pursue there was to force them out of existence, but in smaller communities I fail to see what harm can accrue. However, I firmly believe that the 'Frats' ought to be under faculty supervision, that a member of the faculty ought to belong to the societies and be a ruling spirit in it. With a faculty member no harm can come of a 'Frat,' but on the other hand good will result, I believe."

Dr. D'Ooge added that no restrictions could be placed around Greek letter societies in the colleges, as most of the men in the colleges have reached years of discretion and would not tolerate faculty interference, but in the high school he believes that regulation would be much better than extinction and does not hesitate to say so.

"There is a difference between simple mischief and downright wickedness. For instance, it is not wicked for a child to whisper in school, but there are other crimes which surely need punishment," said Superintendent E. E. Morrow of Fullerton before the teachers yesterday in an address on "Points to Emphasize in Normal Training." "The child is not always at fault, in fact he is seldom at fault, but the fault lies with the teacher."

Prof. Morrow told the teachers that there was something radically wrong with them or with the community in which they work if they have to take a protracted vacation every year or two. "Teaching is easy, but you have got to study to make it easy. Don't be afraid to study for fear your handily will think you have to study to keep up with your pupils, for if you don't study the pupils will be ahead of you. Be clean and tidy, have your school room clean and tidy, and by setting a living example every day before your pupils they will benefit more than by days and days of poring over a dusty book."

"Have as your motto David's prayer: 'Oh, Lord, roll up Thy sleeves.' Get head and ears in love with your work and lay firm hold on the doctrine of service. These are the three principal points to emphasize in normal training."

In speaking on "The Problems of High School Discipline," Superintendent C. M. Barr of Wahoo also censured the teachers and told them that the children do not cause ruptures in the schools, but the teachers are the prime movers in the occasional internal strife which rend many a school.

"If the teacher is prepared and knows her subject she will have the respect of her pupils and will have discipline in the school and if there is an honest fraternal spirit manifest in the faculty the teachers are bound to win. There must be no dissension among the members of the faculty, the faculty must stand together, and there can never be civil war, for if there is the school is doomed," said Prof. Barr.

The slogan in the now antiquated popular song to "Let the Women Do the Work" was fully exemplified at the teachers' convention as was remarked by one of the speakers. A glance over the audience shows nothing but hats and curly locks and shirt waists, but an occasional manly form being discovered. The convention shows that the women are doing the work in the schools of the country.

One of the popular sections was that of music at the high school auditorium. This program was made up largely of musical numbers, which proved very attractive. Miss Eunice Enser presented a class from the Lincoln school, which gave a real classic chorus. The rendition was a splendid illustration of the progress of music in the graded schools. The Johnson school in Brown Park did almost as well in a special number at the morning session. The last number on this program was by the Hawthorne school.

Miss Carrie Fairchild of Omaha rendered a contralto solo, "Oh, That We Two Were Maying," by Nevins, and a cradle song by Mendelssohn.

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BUCHTEL TALKS OF AMERICANISM

Colorado's Governor Lectures to the Assembled Teachers.

Friday night's program at the Teachers' association was confined to three numbers, a musical number for the opening and closing and Governor Henry A. Buchtel of Colorado. The first music was by Mrs. J. W. Gamble of Plattsmouth, "O, Come to Me, Mavourneen," by Frank Lyness, Prof. C. W. Weeks of Fremont rendered "The Bondolero" in a bass of great power and precision. Mrs. Gamble was a pure soprano. N. M. Graham introduced the governor. Governor Buchtel's discourse was on the topic, "True Americanism." It proved a topic wide enough for the whole range of history. Governor Buchtel has a remarkably clear and resonant voice and not a word was lost to his audience.

"The belief that the republic will live forever is one of the steadfast principles which has existed in the minds of patriots from the first. There is a firm conviction in every American that God, through America, had a message to all people for all time. This has been recognized by the French and other European nations. Republics are built on essential faith in man. A sublime faith in the rights of the individual. In our scheme of government let me emphasize one factor which has done more than any other and has come to the rescue numberless times in our history. I mean the balance wheel of the judiciary department of our government. I cannot make this too emphatic. Without it our government would have been dissolved long ago. As it is, I believed with Herbert Spencer when he said America will produce a civilization grander than any in the world. It will be the great continuous empire of the rights of man."

"Independence in politics is political suicide; yet it is alluring to teachers and preachers. Note the career of Roosevelt after he had fought James G. Blaine in the Chicago convention when 35 years of age. He stayed by his party and has become the greatest political factor the world has ever seen, in less than twenty years. His assistant in that, fight booted the ticket and has been utterly forgotten. In this Mr. Bryan has also demonstrated his wisdom in remaining in the ranks of his party. The necessity for an alliance with some party or another is a fundamental in our government. Don't become a free lance unless you are content to be straggled out."

"In my election in Colorado as the opponent of the Western Federation of Miners I faced a peculiar situation. Now, don't become confused on the issues of that controversy. The propaganda of the federation was one of anarchy pure and simple. It was not a movement of honest workmen, but the iniquitous doctrine of treason. I won that election on the declaration 'Every man owes his best to the state.' There is no need for immorality in the affairs of state."

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