

Items of Interest Gleaned from Our Exchanges

Emerson Enterprise: Geo. H. Haase had business in Omaha Tuesday.

Osmond Republican: Mrs. E. J. Huey and children were Randolph visitors this week.

Lyons Sun: Miss Olive Stinson was here from Dakota City several days last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest McDowell.

Wakefield Republican: Mr. Green, of Hubbard, was a visitor at the George Buskirk, sr., farm on Wednesday and purchased three Short-horn heifers.

Sioux City Journal, 21: Mr. and Mrs. Mel Niebuhr, 1307 South Helen street, will be the hosts tomorrow evening for the meeting of the Monday Night Five Hundred club.

Allen News: Owen Triggs was in Sioux City Saturday. Frank Hill came over from Sibley, Ia., last Friday evening for a visit with home folks. Reports from Mrs. George Twamley, who is in the St. Joseph hospital at Sioux City, are that she is slowly recovering from an operation on her throat.

Ponca Journal: The contest case in supervisor district No. 2, that was brought before County Judge Fales, Monday afternoon at 1 o'clock was dismissed by the contestant, Jas. Breslin. J. J. McCarthy was attorney for the contestant and Sidney Frum, of Dakota City, appeared for the incumbent, A. M. Leubben.

Sioux City Journal, 20: Mrs. George Hickox of Homer, Neb., ar-

rived yesterday to visit her sisters, Mrs. O. J. Gwens and Mrs. E. E. Dana. H. E. Brown, of Dakota City, Neb., was a patron of the day's sheep market. He shipped a load of 72-pound lambs that sold at \$13.35 and one load of 90-pound yearling wethers that cashed for \$11.60, an extreme top on this class of offerings at the Sioux City market. Mr. Brown is a novice in the sheep feeding business, but his operations of the last season have given him rank among the best feeders of this section of the country. He started in with 2,000 lambs and 1,000 yearling wethers.

Ponca Advocate: T. T. Harris was in town Wednesday night a guest at the G. H. Lewis home. Mrs. Catherine Twobig, of Jackson, visited at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Joe Davey, last week. Mrs. C. E. Gould was in Dakota City last Monday and visited at the W. A. Niemeyer home. While there she sold her residence in Dakota City to Prof. C. E. Simpson. Mrs. Mary Goodfellow, who died at Jackson Sunday of pneumonia, was a sister of Mrs. Joe Davey, of Ponca. The Davey family attended the funeral which was held Wednesday at Jackson. Mrs. Davey has the sympathy of her many friends in her sad bereavement.

Pender Republic: Mrs. L. L. Ream, accompanied by her son, came from Homer yesterday to visit her mother, Mrs. Van Valin. The case of J. C. O'Connor vs. Mrs. R. T. Tully, proceedings for foreclosure of mortgage under contract, was on trial before Judge Graves in district court Monday. Wilbur Flower intervened claiming interest in said land by deed in trust to Will E. Estell. Attorney Hiram Chase intervened in behalf of Bennie Saunsoi and Ardent Saunsoi as judgment creditors in and for the interests of which Wilbur Flower claims said land. Some twenty-five witnesses were called in the case and at the conclusion of the evidence from

witnesses the court took the case under advisement. Judge Evans, of Dakota City, represented J. C. O'Connor, Keefe & Nuoenpfer for Tully, Cecil R. Boughn for Flowers and Attorney Hiram Chase for the Saunsois.

Sioux City Journal, 23: That the body of Clyde Armour, of Sioux City, who was murdered near Glorieta, N. M., while enroute overland by automobile from Denver to Fresno, Cal., will be held at Santa Fe for evidence in the trial of Elbert W. Blanceett, who is accused of the murder, was the information received from Roy Armour, of of Hubbard, Neb., who is enroute home from Santa Fe. The report that the funeral would be held this week was incorrect. The identification of E. W. Blanceett as the man who accompanied Clyde on his ill fated journey, is positive, according to Roy Armour, a brother of the murdered man. Armour asserted in his message yesterday that Blanceett had not confessed as yet, but that he was suffering considerably from his self inflicted wound. The date of the trial has not been set, as the authorities are waiting for the recovery of the wounded man. That there is no mistake in the identification of the body of Clyde Armour was made clear in his telegram. Roy said that he had seen the body of his brother and that the identification had been complete. Roy Armour left Santa Fe Sunday night for his home at Hubbard. He has made all arrangements concerning the sending of Clyde's body to the Nebraska home after the trial at Santa Fe.

Our School As a Social Center

BY CLARENCE LINTON.

The school is at the crossroads of social intercourse of the community. Every interest of the community is affected by it and every home is brought into its influence. It is the one great influencing agency of our social and economic life, affording the medium through which the social efficiency and civic righteousness may permeate the community life. It occupies a place unique in the all-inclusiveness of social interests in contrast to any other institution. The school is the most democratic and representative institution of any community, and therefore, offers a reliable forecast of the future possibilities of the community. Children from representative homes from an area of considerable extent surrounding the school come together, forming a cosmopolitan society, and affording a medium of social intercourse unrivaled elsewhere. The homes of the whole territory from which children come are welded together into one social unit. Common interests and purposes are engendered, wider social sympathies are born, and the community becomes socially efficient through the widened social horizon of the school.

The school is the only institution which holds the possibilities of a true social center. The church is necessarily limited in its social activities, for the most part, to its members, while the school reaches every home where there are children. For six hours of each school day each child is under the direction of the school. It is imperative that the school should develop the highest type of social ideals, and there is nothing in the community that should take more of the parents' interest and cooperation than the attempt of the school to enlarge the social life of the children who attend it.

A careful study of any representative school will reveal the character of the society of the future of that particular community. By far the larger percentage of children now in school are destined to remain in the home community and follow the occupations of their parents. This is as we wish it to be, but empowers us with great possibilities and responsibilities for the character of this future society.

This great trust given to the school is a most binding moral obligation upon all responsible for its conduct. The fact that our complex society has made it necessary for parents to delegate a portion of the duties of child training to paid servants, or teachers, does not relieve the parents from the most vital concern in the nature of the instruction and the social atmosphere of the school. All parents are interested in the education of their children, and most parents realize the importance of the social and moral tone of the life of their children at school, but few parents fully appreciate the importance of the part they are able to play in the enlargement of this social life. It is not enough that parents feel that the school is well conducted, they should know the teachers personally in the environment both of the school and the home. This would necessitate the attendance of parents at regular sessions of the school and at all possible special functions. It is obligatory that the teacher live in the commu-

nity in which she teaches. She should know the parents in their homes and know her pupils in their home and community environment. It is only under these conditions that parents and teachers meet upon common ground and are able to wisely consult each other for the betterment of the school. Necessarily the teacher must remain a hireling, but this fact in no wise excuses her from service of a constructive, permanent and idealistic nature.

The school not only represents the society of tomorrow but it is the society of today. The children are living their lives day by day in school and out of school, and are not merely preparing for the future adult lives they are expected to live. The attitude toward school, teacher, authority and other children will be the attitude of the citizen toward law, justice, and his fellow social beings. The school is directing tendencies and forming habits of conduct that form a permanent part of the child's life. In view of these facts it behoves us that we make the school life a real society, as nearly ideal as possible, a part of the child's normal life, satisfying his interests and ambitions. The child who hates the school is not learning to be a useful citizen by the coercion of the school. It is a strained and unnatural condition for him. Often the school is to blame for such individuals. The school life is not made significant enough, his native tendencies and aptitudes are not given room to expand and the results may be a cramped, blighted life. It is not necessary that this condition should exist for the normal child, as it is due largely to the failure of parents and teachers to understand the child's needs.

This article attempts to deal with only one of the important factors which tend toward the solution of the above mentioned problem, that is, making the social life of the school really significant to the child, so that he will go to school from his own spontaneous interests and will find there larger life than he is able to get elsewhere. If the school is to mean this to the average child, it must stand as such a social institution in the esteem of the community. Parents must think of it as satisfying this need of their children and give it such recognition.

We are interested in our own particular school and the special problems concerning it. We are very vitally concerned with anything that will aid in making our school the social center of our community. Surely there is much that may be done to improve this feature of our community life. Our community is said by some to be dead socially, meaning perhaps that community spirit is at a low ebb, little interest is taken in local social enterprises. There is much truth in such a statement due to causes well known to all. While we lose in this particular possibility we are benefited in other advantages to recompense for the loss. It is true that better entertainment can be gotten in the city for less effort and cost than the entertainment that can be gotten at home. Many things point cityward for our community, but if we are to lead a social life worthy of preserving its identity, we must tie it to something at home. It must be rooted in home interests and nurtured by home talent. Otherwise we cannot hope to keep our young people interested in home projects, and will find them taking up the pursuits of the larger world outside the home community.

The logical and practical solution for this local and community problem is to be sought through the churches and the school. The school is especially qualified to assume its full measure of the responsibility. Perhaps there is no better way in which to establish the social position of the school than through its extra-curriculum activities. The parents are always interested in such activities of their children and will attend such functions more often than the regular sessions of the school.

The handicap of our unlighted building has deterred us from more aggressive measures until this time. Our building is now to be well lighted, is well heated, and will be well seated for any particular occasion.

The high school has organized itself into a literary society which has given regular programs nearly every Friday afternoon for the past year and a half. This takes the time from the regular work and does not obtain the community interest that should attend such an undertaking. It is now being arranged that these programs shall be held in the evenings at intervals of possibly two weeks. The nature of the program may be varied from time to time, including debates, declamations, essays, orations, parliamentary discussions and music. It is not necessary to dwell upon the benefits to be derived from such an innovation from the present work. It is imperative that we have the support of the parents in this undertaking. It is no easy task for high school students, who have not been well

disciplined in such public work, to take a place on such a program. Therefore, I urge parents to give this plan an impetus by encouraging all they can and by attending as often as possible. It will put new spirit into our community life, if we give it just consideration. Out of this literary society should grow inter-school debates and other contests of brains, thus enlarging our social horizon to include the surrounding communities.

Athletics have been developed somewhat and their social benefits are well known. They should receive the attention of every parent who has a student participating. There can be no more important duty of a parent than to show the keenest interest in all such activities of their children. It is in this way that school becomes real society with life significance to each child.

The ideal contemplates that the school shall be a center of social activity which radiates the community interests and ideals into every home in every part of our neighborhood beyond it into surrounding communities. The school building should be a well known haunt of all the people whether they have children or not. The building and grounds should be an object of local pride. The building should be used, as ours is, for a public meeting place, farmers' meetings, public entertainments and public enterprises whenever possible.

For the greater part this article has dealt with the subject in idealistic terms. The educator must be an idealist though he fails in attaining his ideals. The ideal must first exist before it can be realized and before any real progress is made. The ideal exists for our school and is within our possibilities. Let us cooperate to make it real.

Next week the subject for these columns will be "The Function of the School."

Notice

Beginning with the new year, we have adopted the cash system, and everything sold hereafter must be for cash.

The Fields & Slaughter Co.
Fred Parker, Mgr.

Looking Backward.

Sioux City Journal, Jan. 21, 1897: Charles Westcott, formerly of this city, will be married at noon today to Miss May Hazelgrove at the home of the bride's parents, near Dakota City, Neb. Mr. Westcott is a son of George E. Westcott, of this city. He lived with his parents in this city until a few years ago, since which time he has had charge of his father's farm in Nebraska. He has numerous friends here. Miss Hazelgrove is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hazelgrove, who are widely known in this city.

Your Last Chance.

Recently we published in these columns an offer of the Youth's Companion and McCall's Magazine, both for a full year, for only \$2.10, including a McCall Dress Pattern. The high price of paper and ink has obliged McCall's Magazine to raise their subscription price February 1 to 10 cents a copy and 75 cents a year—so that the offer at the above price must be withdrawn.

Until March 31 our readers have the privilege of ordering both publications for a full year, including the choice of any 15-cent McCall Pattern, for only \$2.10.

The amount of reading, information and entertainment contained in the fifty-two issues of the Youth's Companion and the value of twelve monthly fashion numbers of McCall's at \$2.10 offer a real bargain to every reader of this paper.

This two-at-one-price offer includes:

1. The Youth's Companion—52 issues.
2. The Companion Home Calendar for 1917.
3. McCall's Magazine—12 fashion numbers.
4. One 15-cent McCall Dress Pattern—your choice from your first copy of McCall's—if you send a two-cent stamp with your selection.

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Great Worm Destroyer and Hog Conditioner

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Come in and see us
Let's Get Acquainted

H. R. GREER, Mgr.

Dakota City, Nebr.

Sturges Bros. Have Moved

to 315 Pearl Street

where we will be glad to see all our old patrons, and we hope, many new ones. This move is necessary, as the building we now have is too small for our growing business.

Sturges Bros.

Old Location, 411 Pearl St.

Sioux City, Iowa