

Opposed to Prohibition--Wooster Will Speak at Box Butte County Fair Thursday, September 28th 1916

There will be an address opposed to prohibition at the Box Butte County Fair on the afternoon of Thursday, September 28. The Nebraska Prosperity League, composed wholly of leading taxpayers and business men, is conducting a campaign of education against prohibition, and is presenting arguments opposed to the pending constitutional amendment. The management of our County Fair notified the League that arrangements had been made to hear speakers on both sides of the prohibition issue, and offered a place on the program for a speaker representing the League. The League took advantage of this opportunity and engaged Hon. Charles Wooster of Silver Creek to represent it on this occasion. Mr. Wooster is not a member of the League, but was requested to fill this engagement because of his prominence as a publicist, and because he is known far and wide as a man of strong convictions and personal independence of all outside influences.

Mr. Wooster is a veteran of the Civil War; was a member of the legislature of 1897, and has owned and operated a farm in Merrick County since 1872. He is opposed to prohibition for reasons which he is able to present most forcibly, and the visitors to our Fair on Thursday afternoon, the 28th, will be well repaid for listening to his address.

Nebraska Prosperity League

STATE SUPERINTENDENT VISITS IN THE CITY

Head of the State Schools Talks to the Students at the High School

State Superintendent A. O. Thomas spent Friday forenoon in Alliance.

Mr. Thomas gave a short address at the high school. He expressed himself well pleased with the Alliance schools, the excellence of the schools of this city being well known to him. Mr. Thomas devoted several hours to meeting the leading citizens of Alliance. From this city he went to Scottsbluff.

When at Chadron at the Dawes county fair the state superintendent gave an address on educational lines especially of interest to the schools of the northwestern portion of the state. A digest of this address will be of interest to those who did not have the pleasure of hearing him.

Following is a condensation of the excellent address:

Northwestern Nebraska has its own educational problem. The larger allotment occupied by the dweller of this region as compared with the smaller unit of the eastern section forces a condition peculiar to itself.

A larger school district is necessary in order to bring together sufficient groups of children to warrant a school within reasonable cost to the people. Then again the nature of the basic activity of our northwest accustoms us to larger range. The combination of grain raising and live stock industry makes a reasonably easy and profitable life, but makes difficult the building of schools commensurate with the needs of the people.

The great northwest is a valuable portion of our commonwealth. The whole eastern section is enriched by it and its welfare industrially and commercially adds largely to the wealth and prosperity of the whole state. The one section of the state is not only interested in watching the development of the schools of the other but is willing to help in that development, well knowing that the country, or any part of it, cannot hope to thrive until the school is developed to reasonable efficiency. In an age like this parents will not take their children into a territory where schools are inaccessible and inefficient. The school therefore is of first consideration, following settlement. If the proper system of schools can be built up in this section it will make a more permanent abode, increase the population and wealth and make richer the life of the country.

Our schools cannot be said to be

efficient until we have brought equal chances to all the youth of the state. We must not be content with an elementary education gained by intermittent attendance. Efficiency and preparedness come through education and they are the watchwords of the age. We must have an open door and a chance for all who desire from the humblest country school to the highest learning, and to do this is a great problem. But the great problems of business and government are solved and why can we not solve our educational problem?

Our problem is to bring educational facilities within reasonable reach and at reasonable cost. The difficulties we encounter in doing this are not insurmountable. They are, however, perplexing and will require patient and persistent effort if we expect to accomplish desired results. In the sparsely settled section the districts are so large that children are compelled to travel long distances, over temporary roads, through pastures and over streams which keep the parents in many localities uneasy during the time the children are absent from the home. This condition seems at present unavoidable because of the necessity for large areas in order to get sufficient revenue to maintain a school. The smaller land valuation, the quantity of land undeeded and the greater distances between settlers are obvious difficulties to be adjusted.

A concerted effort on the part of the people backing up an intelligent program will work wonders in a short time. A district unit such as will serve the ultimate and developed country should be established and this should be determined by a careful analysis of conditions and by interested patrons who may be called into convention for the purpose of determining the most feasible and practical unit.

A tract four miles by four miles, making a district containing sixteen square miles, will place no more than three miles from the school house which should be located by law as nearly in the center as the lay of the land will permit. A district broken on the half-section line, five miles by five miles in area, and containing twenty-five square miles, would place one child in twenty-five more than four miles from school. In a district six miles square one-half of the children would be more than three miles from the center. A reasonable allowance should be established by law for each family, not for each child, who lives beyond the three-mile limit, or a systematic method of transportation employed. Three miles is not a great distance. As a boy it was my privilege to walk four and one-half miles for much of the schooling I received and it is little hardship to one who really wants an education.

School should be maintained in every district in which there is a reasonable number of children who will attend. This number should be determined largely by the dwellers of this section who are the interested parties. Should any established district not have a reasonable quota of children, some provision should

ROOMS WANTED FOR THE FAIR

If Alliance is to continue to enjoy her excellent reputation as a hostess she must meet the abnormal conditions in respect to visitors that will prevail on the occasion of the County Fair. There will undoubtedly be a large number of visitors in Alliance on those days and the present hotel accommodations are not sufficient to house all the visitors. The County Fair board is desirous of obtaining rooms for all visitors at the fair, who are unable to obtain accommodations at the regular hotels and rooming houses. The Commercial Club will on these three days serve as a clearing house for rooms and they are requesting now that those who have rooms fill out the following blank and send it to the secretary of the Commercial Club. It is a duty we owe as hostess. Your co-operation in this matter will be deeply appreciated.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE _____
NO. OF ROOMS _____ NO. OF PEOPLE _____
PRICE PER PERSON PER NIGHT _____

Signed _____

NOTICE—The secretaries office at the Commercial Club will be the clearing house for all rooms. Applications for rooms will be made at the secretary's office and assignments given there. Money for rooms will be paid in advance to the secretary, who will in turn remit the entire amount due immediately after the fair.

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Come in and let us show you the features that make these stoves and ranges the most desirable at any price. The arrangement of the air flues is such that all the gas is burned along with the coal. That's economy since the gas gives off more heat than the coal itself. When the gas goes up the chimney, unconsumed, you are losing the greater part of your heat. You are clogging your chimneys and paying more money for less than if you used the BUCK.

COME IN AND SEE ALL THESE THINGS AND WE ARE SURE THAT YOU WILL CONCLUDE THAT THE BUCK IS THE STOVE TO BUY

ALL STYLES AND SIZES IN BOTH RANGES AND HEATERS

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be made to get them into an adjoining district or to establish the mother-teacher, in case the mother has sufficient educational qualification, and pay her the per capita cost for education in the state.

The school house site should be located by law in the center of the district, but provision should be made for a temporary shift in case the distribution of children should warrant, and in many localities the portable school house should be employed to cover temporary shifting of the population of the district. The change should be made by established and competent authority.

In case a school does not have sufficient valuation to maintain a proper school the state at large, which will benefit by having all parts well supplied, should aid in the support.

Adequate provision should be made for high school within all districts where there are sufficient children to warrant the same and in combinations of these districts, or by county or district high schools as the people of the various counties may choose.

Such a system of education will enable dwellers of this "land of greater reach" to build up more rapidly and more substantially. It is true all of the hardships cannot be overcome, but they can be reduced to the minimum, and the vast majority of our children given reasonable educational accommodations. As state superintendent of public instruction I shall be glad to confer at any opportune time, with the people of this section relative to such laws as will bring the most beneficial results to the people and the greatest development to this part of our great state.

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