

THE FRONTIER

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County Superintendents Favor Continuing High School Normal Training

For several years there has been a move on to defeat the normal training high schools. This move for the most part originated in areas accessible to state normal school and universities.

In an open discussion meeting of the County Superintendents association, J. C. Mitchell, Director of Secondary Education, voiced the sentiment of the State Superintendent's office. Mr. Mitchell lauded the normal training schools of the State of Nebraska, coming to their defense he stated that the time was not yet ripe for the discontinuance of the normal training schools.

The matter was brought before the county superintendents later in the form of a motion. The group was nearly unanimous in favor of their continuation. A general applause followed the discussion. Talking as he did, Mr. Mitchell assured us that we were in no immediate danger of having our normal training schools abolished. He further stated that until financial conditions were better we could not expect teachers with two or four years of college work to accept wages as low as thirty dollars per month.

Mr. Mitchell pointed out that the compensation for teacher's training was a great deal lower than that of other corresponding professions, stating that teachers were unable to live on the money they saved from their wages, throwing them on their parents for support during the summer months.

Summarizing the content of his speech he repeated that college training at the present time was not versatile enough for rural schools. As a corrective measure the normal schools would have to more nearly meet the requirements of rural schools.

We people here in Holt county should deeply appreciate the efforts of the state department in preserving our normal training schools. It will make it possible for high school graduates to secure teaching position without a year of college preparation.

In asserting himself as he did, he said that they have had no quarrel with the state normal schools, that their only wish was that they could continue to make it possible for many to secure certificates who would be unable to if normal training was discontinued.

PROJECT CLUBS

HAPPY HOUR PROJECT CLUB
The Happy Hour Project Club met at the home of Mrs. Bernard Hynes on December 14. The leaders discussed the topic of the day. There was one visitor present. A delicious lunch was served. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. John Hynes.

ASH GROVE CLUB
Members, numbering nine, met with Mrs. Ralph Phillips on Wednesday, December 16. A cold and frosty "baked bean and hot coffee" day, nearing the shortest one of the year, therefor following our repast, the fairies disposed of the skeletons and the dishes, allowing the Club to proceed with the business of the day. Distribution of Christmas gifts, arrangements for a mid-holiday party, the lesson and installation of new members and adjournment to meet with Mrs. George Rector on January 20th.

WOODMAN CIRCLE
The Junior Woodman Circle enjoyed a Christmas party at the home of Mrs. G. A. Miles. Gifts were exchanged and games were played, after which a dainty luncheon was served by the hostess.

ant attendant; Keith Vincent, outer sentinel; Bill O'Connell, inner sentinel; Margaret Jean Yantzi, musician.

BUSY HOUR CLUB

The Busy Hour club met at the home of Mrs. John Miller on Dec. 18. All members were present except Mrs. Gray who we hear is able to get around a little now, and we hope will be with us soon. There was one visitor present, Stella Van Every. After the election of officers for the coming year the afternoon was spent with games and in the unwrapping of presents as old Santa had remembered all. A nice lunch was served by the hostess. The next meeting will be on Jan. 28 at the home of Mrs. John Schmoher.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School: Junior Department 9:00; other departments at 10:00.
Morning Worship 11:00—"Build the Walls."
Evening Service 7:30—This will be a Panel Service on the subject of New Years.
Music by the choirs for both services.
H. D. Johnson, Pastor.

METHODIST CHURCH NOTES

Sunday school 10 a. m.
Morning worship 11 a. m., special music by the choir. Vocal solo by Lewis Cambre. Sermon subject, "Opportunities of Another Year."
Epworth League 6:30
Evening service 7:30. Young peoples choir. Sermon subject, "Another Chance."

Meeting for Making Agriculture Plans

Rural electrification and pump irrigation, two lively rural discussion topics now, will receive major attention at the annual organized agriculture meetings at the college of agriculture early in January. Both will be discussed pro and con by farmers and authorities on the farm equipment association program. While definite plans for the discussion of these two topics were being completed, it was assured that the University of Nebraska band will make an appearance on

the general session Thursday, Jan. 7. Directed by Billy Quick, this musical organization has gained fame as being the best college band in the country. The group will be in full dress for the event. Meanwhile plans progressed for holding the annual small grain utility show during the week. Improved varieties of oats, barley and wheat will be on exhibition.

The New Cars Are Out

Last month the automobile shows were held throughout the country. The new cars are more beautiful in design and finish than ever before. They offer much in the way of improvements and gadgets. Their power plants deliver staggering performance—you can push the throttle down and run up to eighty or ninety m. p. h. without trouble—so far as the mechanics of your car are concerned.

However, the emphasis on speed has been productive of one of the gravest national "troubles" America has known—the growing accident toll. And the driver who thinks that seventy is safe because it seems as slow as thirty used to, should think again. Silent engine performance won't help if we encounter a cement guard rail at high speed. Effortless steering won't make a head-on crash less destructive. Lack of vibration won't help the undertaker patch us together after the wrecking crew gets the body out with blow torches.

But these modern cars are magnificent examples of safety-engineering—blue-print safety. Brakes stop a hurtling machine in amazingly short distance, without sway or shock. All steel bodies will take a lot of punishment without serious damage. Steering mechanisms are next to fool proof. And the tire manufacturers have done their bit by reducing the blow-out hazard to a minimum.

Yet each year's safety improvements have been followed by more accidents, not fewer accidents—and by more serious accidents—not less serious accidents. Why? Because we, the motoring public, have overestimated the safety factor of the new cars, just as we have overestimated the safety factor of wider, better surfaced highways. The cars and the roads are improved—

and so we take the chances that lead to disaster.

The new, super-performing cars are out. Maybe you are lucky enough to be able to buy one. Have a good time with it—but treat it with respect and remember that 36,000 people die and many times more are injured and maimed on our streets and highways every year. Don't add to that list.

TRUE COOPERATIVES

Considerable misapprehension as to the functions and financial set-up of agricultural cooperatives seems to exist in the public mind. There is a feeling, for example, that a co-op is financed by government, and bailed along with the aid of public largesse. There may be cooperatives of which this is true—but they are not the true farm cooperatives that represent the collective production and marketing efforts of the producers of an area. These agricultural producers put up their money to establish their organizations. They hire their managers and they take all the risks.

Thus, if the cooperative management is capable, the members receive the economic benefits. If it is incompetent, the members take the loss. There is no financial Santa Claus to help them. Such producer cooperatives are business-like in set-up and in operation. They apply proven business principles to the problems of agriculture.

THE NEBRASKA SCENE

by James R. Lowell
Nebraska has sacrificed during

the depression to keep its schools up to standard, and the state educational system is a source of pride to most inhabitants of the state. A primary subject in the legislature next month will be any action taken in connection with the schools, and the present indications are that considerable legislation will be introduced amending schools and education.

The Nebraska state teachers association is recommending creation of a state department to "administer the business of our state schools endowment, lands and funds."

Also recommended are a request for the unicameral to order a "complete audit of educational lands and funds from the time of its organization to Dec. 31, 1936," and legislative and court action to "stop the diversion of fines, fees and license monies which by constitutional provision belong to the state school funds."

State Superintendent Taylor, who was defendant in a recent suit in which the supreme court found that certain new liquor licenses collected under the state liquor law should go to the county or school district in which the license was paid instead of the state school board, has put the issue up to the legislature. This will mean increased money for school districts if the legislature follows up the dictates of the court.

As concerns federal aid to the states, the teachers lay down the following recommendations:

1. Appropriations should be made directly by congress to the states.
2. The funds should be distributed to the states by methods prescribed by law and not at the discretion of any federal official.

3. The states, in turn, should use these funds in accordance with their respective constitutions and statutes in whatever way in their judgment will best serve the educational needs of their people.

4. Administration, supervision and control of education should be specifically reserved for the states and denied to all federal officials and agencies.

A state system of retirement for teachers based on sound actuarial principles and supported by contributions from the state and participating teachers is also urged.

The "right of the pupil to learn and the right of the teacher to guide in learning about the facts in and around our evolving social order," also is demanded by the teachers.

Teachers also want the state to know "that a teacher after being employed by a board, shall be considered re-elected from year to year unless dismissed by a majority of the board."

Representatives of Nebraska educational institutions are drafting legislative requirements for a draft requiring all teachers to have two years college training before eligible for an instructional position.

The proposed bill would discontinue high school normal training instruction. Rural teachers now are required to have only 3rd grade certificates, obtainable after two years of high school normal training.

Nebraska county superintendents have expressed favor of continuing normal training courses in high schools "until such time as economic conditions permit would allow teachers

with two years of college work to be placed."

A new record of success with operation of the parole system in Nebraska penal institutions has been set up during the last biennium. Violations figured less than 9 per cent—"the lowest in history of the pardon board."

Of the 39 parole violations during the last two years, 31 have been returned. There were 338 paroles granted by the board and 135 communications. A total of 997 prisoners were discharged from the penitentiary, the reformatory for women at York, and the men's reformatory during the same period. Six hundred men were discharged from the penitentiary, and many of them were persons who could classify as good citizens aside from their record.

When the first state pardon board was created in 1920, pardon boards were trying to find out something new. They were going to let prisoners out of the state correction institutions—notably the penitentiary—on the promise that they would go straight and get a job.

Recently, M. F. Kratcher, chief state probation officer, compiled figures showing that violations of paroles have diminished.

Kratcher reveals that 338 paroles were granted, 39 violated, for a batting average of about 9 per cent. This is the lowest in the history of the board, compared favorably with 14.5 per cent in 1932-34.

Proudly says Kratcher: "I think this is a remarkable record, because chances for jobs and economic conditions have not been the (Continued on page 8, column 3.)"



The ceaseless surge of progress has obliterated local boundaries. Horizons have broadened tremendously. Today the interests of every one of us extends far beyond the confines of our town, our country or our state.

If we are to keep in tune with the times, we must be informed upon national and world developments.

If we are to have relief from the seriousness of life, from the fast and furious pace at which we are moving, we also need to be amused . . . entertained.

To meet these requirements of today's reading public, to give you a newspaper of which you—as well as ourselves—may be proud, we have commanded the resources of the world's oldest and largest newspaper syndicate.

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A brief, clear picture of latest developments at the nation's focal point is offered by Carter Field, veteran Washington correspondent whose intimate knowledge of politics makes him especially capable for this task. He is one of America's "top" Washington observers.

These Writers Contribute Every Week to
THE FRONTIER