

# The McCook Tribune.

FIFTEENTH YEAR

McCOOK, RED WILLOW COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 19, 1897.

NUMBER 44

## OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

An Account of Their Organization, Administration and Finances,

PREPARED FOR THE McCOOK TRIBUNE

By the City Superintendent,--A History of our Graded Schools Since Their Adoption as Such in 1884.

The present system of graded schools was organized in this city in 1884 with W. S. Webster as principal. The only building in use was what is now known as the West ward school where four teachers taught the 175 children enrolled. Today there are in actual attendance 674 pupils, divided as follows: 336 in the East building, 285 in the West building and 52 in the South building. The Board of Education now employs a superintendent, three principals, seven teachers, two assistant teachers and two janitors. The pupils are classified in twelve grades of one year's work each. The two lower grades are provided for in all three buildings, the third grade in both East and West buildings, the fourth, fifth and sixth grades in the West only, and all grades above the sixth in the East only. There are ten class rooms with an average seating capacity of fifty pupils. The pupils attending the lower grades are comfortably seated, but above the third grade every room is crowded far beyond what the requirements of health and proper condition for study and recitation demand.

### ADMINISTRATION.

The school system is controlled by a Board of Education consisting of six members, two of whom are elected annually to serve three years. The present board is constituted as follows: A. Campbell, president; John Wentz, vice-president; W. F. Lawson, secretary; R. B. Archibald, E. H. Doan, A. Barnett. The members meet on the first Monday of each month to audit accounts and take such action as may be necessary to the welfare of the school system. The city superintendent is the executive officer of the board and has direct supervision over all the classes. He arranges the courses of study, attends to the admission of new pupils, looks after the school property, arranges reviews, examinations and promotions, and exercises a general control over all questions of discipline and order. He receives a daily report from each teacher showing the names of absent and tardy pupils, and he is required to exercise great care in guarding against the spread of contagious diseases among the children.

### FINANCES.

The revenue at the disposal of the Board of Education is derived from three sources. The tax levy of 20 mills on the property in the school district should yield about \$5,500 per annum, \$2,250 is at present derived from the license fund, and about \$800 is apportioned from the state school fund. The non-resident pupils in the high school, now numbering about twenty-five have their tuition paid by a special tax on the property of the county outside the high school districts. This should yield a revenue of about \$400 at the legal rate of \$2.00 per pupil, per month of attendance. This makes a nominal income of about \$9,000, while as a matter of fact, owing to failure of taxpayers to settle with the county treasurer, it fell about \$2,500 short, last year. The principal item of expenditure is, of course, the pay roll. This has been steadily reduced for the past six years from \$7,575 in 1890-1 to \$5,675 in 1895-6, though the number of pupils has nearly doubled in the meantime. The two next items in importance are fuel and the supplies furnished to the pupils. The former has been reduced from \$700 in 1890-1, when hot air was used in the East building, to \$375 in 1895-6. Under the requirements of the state law, each pupil must be supplied with text books, and all other supplies required to be used in the school. The results show the wisdom of the plan. School supplies cost the district about one-half what they cost the retail purchaser, and last year the stationery and other supplies were furnished the children at an average cost of 50 cents per capita. The water tax amounts to \$113 each year and the insurance to a hundred more; this with various miscellaneous expenses bring the expenditures to about \$8,300, leaving small margin for unpaid taxes, and making the average expense for each pupil attending \$12.50 per annum, which includes all things necessary for their use in school.

The large number of families which have moved to McCook to secure school privileges for their children, the policy of the railway management to retain in their employ heads of families rather than single men, have led to a large increase in the attendance, while at the same time there has been a constantly

diminishing income owing to unpaid taxes and the shrinkage in values of the school lands. That McCook is not alone in this difficulty is shown by a comparison with other towns in the state where the same and, in most instances, worse conditions now exist. The problem is a serious one. In order to secure any portion of the state fund it is necessary to have nine months of school. To cut out from the system the upper or high school grades would be to reduce McCook to the rank of a village or a country district as far as educational advantages for older pupils are concerned.

### MOVEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE.

P. A. WELLS was up from Hastings, Saturday, on business.

J. F. GANSCHOW was a Lincoln visitor on business, Wednesday.

MRS. J. F. KENVON visited in Omaha and Lincoln, first of the week.

C. H. BOYLER arrived home, Tuesday, from visiting the family in Denver, a few days.

MISS GRACE SANBORN left, Monday evening, to visit friends for a few days at Haigler.

J. S. MCBRAYER was up in Hayes county, close of last and first of the week, moving a house.

C. J. RYAN and FRANK LYTLE went down to Grafton, early in the week, on a business trip.

F. M. KIMMELL looked in upon the legislature, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, at Lincoln.

WILL SANDERSON recently came up from Garfield, Webster county, and has gone to work in our city.

GEORGE HOCKNELL came in Omaha, where he has been visiting the wife and daughter, Wednesday evening.

CALEB CLOTHIER was the guest of Mayor Troth, midweek, on his return to Hayes county from trip east on business.

A. BARNETT was in Lincoln on Tuesday and Wednesday in attendance upon the meetings of the lumbermen's association.

JAMES HATFIELD came in from Decatur, Illinois, last Friday night, on business of their large ranch and stock interests here.

MRS. J. B. MESERVE came up from Lincoln, Sunday night, and is spending the week here, guest of her daughter, Mrs. F. M. Kimmell.

J. E. KELLEY and J. S. LeHew were Lincoln tourists, first of the week. Mr. Kelley also made a short visit to his little daughter in Beatrice.

MRS. IDA McLAUGHLIN of Del Norte, Colorado, with her two children, arrived in the city, close of last week, and is visiting her sister, Mrs. Frank Allen.

JOHN CARMICHAEL of Lexington, Virginia, an inspector of the general land office, looked over the affairs of the McCook office, this week, finding everything in shipshape.

ENOS RISHEL of Filley, Nebraska, is a new arrival, and for the present has taken quarters in the Battershall dwelling. He owns the northwest quarter of 4-2-30 southwest of the city.

R. A. GREEN, county clerk, was called to Illinois, close of last week, by the death of a brother-in-law. He will be absent about a month, settling up some business affairs and visiting oldtime friends.

MRS. C. L. DEGROFF and two children Anna and Weller came up from Nebraska, first of the week, and have been visiting friends and acquaintances here all week. They still have a warm place in their affections for McCook.

MISS AIMEE STRASSER of McCook came down, Wednesday morning, to spend a few weeks with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. H. Stern. She will also take part in the presentation of Tenyson's "Dream of Fair Women", by the ladies of the Eastern Star, on the 19th of the present month.—Holdrege Progress.

W. M. NESMITH and wife and son-in-law, Duncan Reed, were guests of J. A. Wilcox, close of last week. They were on their way home to Calvert, Chase county, from Illinois, where Mr. Nesmith and wife were recently summoned by the death of a daughter. They took the Imperial line on Monday morning. The bereaved son-in-law is accompanying them home.

New line of men's and boys' caps just opened at THE FAMOUS.

Wall Paper—4 cents a roll. L. W. McCONNELL & Co.

## THEY GOT THEIR MEN

Deputy Revenue Collector Ed. Ballew and Sheriff Robb of Cheyenne Co., Wyo.,

### CAPTURE TWO ALLEGED MURDERERS

Down Near Beloit, Kansas.--They are Also Charged With Making Moonshine Whiskey on Wheels.

Deputy Revenue Collector Ed. Ballew, accompanied by Sheriff Robb of Cheyenne county, Wyoming, came in on the train from the west, Tuesday. They were on the trail of a couple of men who murdered a man up in that country and robbed him of some four or five thousand dollars. The two men passed through here on Thursday after doing some horse trading with some of our local traders. After leaving this city they stopped over night at the farm of James Bogenreif. They gave out the information that they were on their way to Beloit where they intended to stop several days and visit with friends and were going from there to Oklahoma. They are also suspected of being moonshiners and it is supposed that they had in their wagon a couple of stills and about ten barrels of whiskey. Two officers were sent on the train, and Ballew and Robb stopped here and hired a team and were driven to Burr Oak where they took the train for Beloit, and if the murderers have not gone in some different direction they are probably by this time in the hands of the officers.—Red Cloud Chief.

The men were apprehended near Beloit, and taken to Junction City for preliminary trial. A large amount of moonshine whiskey was found in their possession, and they will tell the Federal judge at Cheyenne all about it when court opens in that city, May 10th. The deputy says they were regular Georgia moonshiners and had with them over 300 gallons of illicit whiskey of their peculiar sort, abounding in fusel oil and other abominable smelling stuff.

### Death of J. Oscar Wagy.

From the Plainville (Ill.) Messenger we take in brief an account of the tragic death of J. Oscar Wagy, a brother of Mrs. R. A. Green of our city. The young man, while laboring under a paroxysm of temporary insanity, sent a bullet through his head, Sunday evening, March 7th, 1897, at his home near Plainville, Illinois. The Messenger states that "Oscar was regarded as a model young man, intelligent, well educated, of a good disposition and correct deportment. He was 25 years of age. He was of a gloomy disposition, however, and disposed to look upon the dark side of things, and his mother, it is said, was fearful that his mind might become unsettled. He and a sister were the only children of Mr. and Mrs. Wagy and this blow falls upon them with a crushing force that none may analyze. In their sad affliction they have the sympathy of the whole people without reserve".

The people of Red Willow county will join THE TRIBUNE in heartfelt expressions of sympathy for the remaining sister, Mrs. R. A. Green of our city.

### Stricken With Paralysis.

Joseph Williams was stricken down with an attack of paralysis, Sunday morning, and is in a precarious condition. The stroke effected the entire right side, rendering him speechless. Mr. Williams is about 80 years of age. He formerly lived on a farm on the upper Driftwood, but of late has been making his home in McCook, with Mrs. Julia Adams on McFarland street. He is an old settler of western Red Willow county. Mrs. Williams has made her home in Iowa for some years. He has a son in Cripple Creek, Colorado. Mr. Williams was preparing to make a business trip to Iowa, in the near future. His illness may permanently detain him.

### The Primary, Monday.

The primary called for next Monday evening should be largely attended, especially by the business men and taxpayers of the city. Municipal and educational affairs are in a serious condition as viewed from the financial standpoint and wise, thoughtful and economical plans must be devised and carried out in the next few years to keep the schools of the city up to the present standard of excellence and carry on the business affairs of the municipality. Economy must be the watchword and retrenchment in several directions the slogan. To secure these results those who pay the money to carry on our business and educational affairs should be out in force.

Don't fail to see us before you buy or place any orders. THE FAMOUS.

### CITY CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

BAPTIST—Regular services, Sunday morning, at 11. Bible school at 10 a. m. Persons received for membership at the morning service.

GEO. W. SHEAFOR, Pastor.

GERMAN METHODIST—Regular services at 9 o'clock, every Sunday morning, in the South McCook Methodist church; services in German.

REV. M. HERRMANN.

CATHOLIC—Mass at 8 o'clock a. m. High mass and sermon at 10:30 a. m., with choir. Sunday school at 2:30 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

REV. J. W. HICKEY, Pastor.

METHODIST—Sunday school at 10. Preaching at 11. Junior League at 2:30. Doors of the church will be open after the sermon. J. A. BADCON, Pastor.

EPISCOPAL—Divine service second and fourth Sundays of every month at 11:00 a. m. and 8:00 p. m. Sunday school every Sunday at 10:00 a. m. Lectures alternate Mondays at 7:30 p. m.

S. A. POTTER, General Missionary.

R. A. RUSSELL, Assistant.

CONGREGATIONAL—Morning theme, "Separation". Sermon followed by the reception of members. Those intending to unite will please be present by 10:30. Envelopes for the free will offering to Major Cole are being distributed. They may be left at the church or with the treasurer, H. L. Preston.

HART L. PRESTON, Pastor.

SOUTH McCOOK METHODIST—Sunday school at 10. Preaching at 11 by Rev. H. H. Berry. Major Cole will preach at Dodge school house, Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. The 2d quarterly meeting for South McCook will be held in McCook, Wednesday, March 24th. Quarterly Conference at 2 p. m.; preaching at 8 p. m. All official members are requested to be present to make their reports.

J. M. BELL, Pastor.

### COURT HOUSE NEWS.

#### COUNTY COURT.

The case of Irree S. Hadley vs. James A. Miller, forcible detainer, was decided on Saturday in favor of plaintiff, and writ of restitution ordered. Appeal taken. Letters of administration in the estate of Inman H. Triplett were on Monday granted to Clarkson S. Triplett.

The replevin suit of Patrick Gibbons vs. C. J. Ryan, constable, was continued till the 24th.

The damage suit of David Carpenter vs. Rexford Simpson, was compromised. The suit in attachment of C. T. Brewer vs. Richard Carl was dismissed.

Suit on account of T. A. Erb vs. Farmington Power was continued for 30 days. Application of W. H. Methany and wife to adopt Lena Flury was filed. Case will be heard April 10th.

Petition for letters of administration in estate of William H. Moore filed and same will be heard on April 5th.

Suit on account case of John W. Hapner vs. John O. Simison was filed. Case set for the 24th and attachment issued.

#### DISTRICT COURT.

The case of Irree S. Hadley vs. James A. Miller was filed. Appeal from county court.

Mrs. Jennie Bush vs. George A. Hobson. Equity.

Elizabeth B. Crosby vs. William H. Boyd. Equity.

John S. Whitman vs. James Kinghorn. Equity.

Lemina M. Beaty vs. Charles Masters et al. Equity.

Transcript completed in the case of M. P. Mulford vs. T. K. Quigley, appealed to the supreme court.

#### A Good Showing.

We direct special attention to the article to be found elsewhere in this issue from the pen of Superintendent Valentine. Some very gratifying facts are given, and economy is shown in a number of instances, all of which is very satisfactory as far as it goes. But it is undeniable that the emergency demands still further reduction, in order that our school deficit shall not grow to such proportions as shall overwhelm us. A salary reduction of at least ten per cent, effecting the better paid teachers, seems to be imperative, among other necessary acts of economy. While the patrons of the city may properly take distinct and excusable pride in the condition of our educational matters, yet we insist that we must not lose sight of the fact that a condition confronts us that demands still further retrenchment.

#### Nay, Not So, Jasper.

"Soon after the revival meetings are over", says the Indianola Reporter, "McCook local talent will produce 'Trib'".

Wall Paper—4 cents a roll. L. W. McCONNELL & Co.

## McCOOK NOT ALONE

Retail Merchants of Omaha Complain Against Out-of-Town Shopping.

### SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT IN FRONTIER.

Brief Happenings at the Schools.-- Also all the Other News of the Town Presented in the Best Manner.

Omaha retailers are again calling attention to the fact that altogether too many people who reside in this city and derive their income from Omaha institutions persist in going or sending to the larger eastern cities for wares and goods that can as well be bought through local merchants. This complaint seems to be not only well grounded, but also well directed. If the Omaha retailers cannot depend upon the patronage of Omaha people it will be next to impossible to build up local business, without which no city can permanently thrive.

The Bee was the pioneer in the movement for stimulating the patronage of home industry by giving the preference, other things being equal, to the products of Nebraska factories and mills. The same principle dictates that in the purchase of all commodities local merchants be given the preference where they can fill the order equally well. Our local business men pay out thousands upon thousands of dollars annually for rent and for employes' salaries, and this money should in turn be spent here in Omaha. The usual excuse for going abroad with purchases that ought to be made at home is that Omaha merchants do not offer the same varied choice or that they do not carry in stock the best and most expensive grades. This, however, is but an excuse, as local merchants would be glad to supply any article for which there is a real demand.

The systematic practice of going to Chicago or New York to do shopping which might be done right in Omaha is entirely unjustifiable. The retailers deserve ever encouragement in their efforts to put a stop to it and develop a local pride that will stimulate local business.—Bee.

### School Entertainment.

The closing of the winter term of school in district No. 11, Frontier county, was celebrated on last Saturday evening by an entertainment. The program consisted of literary selections by the pupils and musical numbers by I. W. Spaulding and two sons and George McClain. The affair was a very meritorious and delightful one, and it was heard by a crowded house. This is the fourth year that Hubert Beach has successfully taught this school, and much praise is due him for the pleasant and interesting manner in which everything passed off.

On Friday of last week there was a flag raising at the same school. The flag was purchased by money raised at entertainments given by the pupils—a good motive and proper means of realizing the object.

#### Is Very Ill.

THE TRIBUNE is deeply pained to note that Mrs. T. Foley is very alarmingly ill, with the chances somewhat against her recovery.

### SCHOOL NOTES.

H. L. Preston was at the schools, Monday morning.

Major Cole made an excellent address to the pupils, Tuesday afternoon.

The 12th took up Virgil, Monday, having finished the first five books of Caesar.

A framed picture of President McKinley now adorns the south wall of the High school room.

The 12th grade had a special literature class, last evening, in which Mr. Valentine read one of Gullbert's charming plays.

Lantern class tonight at 8 o'clock and Saturday night at 7:30. Forty-five photographs of scenery in Switzerland. All are welcome.

Friday evening lantern class program was taken up by readings from Mark Twain, giving accounts of different places he had visited in Europe and Asia. The attendance was small.

The 12th grade had a special literature class, Saturday night, to which they invited a few of their friends. Mr. Valentine read several short stories to them, and then the class discussed the merits of each.

Wall Paper 5 cents a roll at McMILLER'S.

Paints and oils at McMillen's.

### PETITE PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS.

Staple stationery, best quality at low prices, at THE TRIBUNE office.

Wall Paper 4 cents a roll at McMILLER'S.

Wanted—A furnished room. E. E. MAGRE.

THE TRIBUNE has in mind a charming matrimonial event for the first of June.

Wall Paper—4 cents a roll. L. W. McCONNELL & Co.

Wall Paper 4 cents a roll at McMILLER'S.

The Reporter thinks that Culbertson needs Cole worse than Indianola does. But that doesn't prove it.

Do you want to surprise your dear wife? Buy a plan of the Natural Hen Incubator from T. F. Rowell.

More new styles ready-made colored shirts received this week. Call and see them at THE FAMOUS.

The Trowbridge dwelling on Main avenue, now occupied by H. Thompson, has been purchased by W. R. Starr.

Apropos of our support of retrenchment in municipal and teachers' salaries we wish to state that it is not because we love Caesar less but Rome more.

Before ordering shirts, either colored or white, see our line of samples. We make these to order at lowest prices. A good fit guaranteed. THE FAMOUS.

Rev. R. A. Russell will deliver another of his popular lectures, at the Episcopal church, on Monday evening, March 22d, at 7:30 p. m., subject not announced. Admission free. All are cordially invited.

A Red Cloud paper evidently considers Republicanism and Religion as synonymous, as witnessed the following item: "Ed. Ballew, the deputy revenue collector, was up from McCook, on last Monday. We understand he has become a recent convert to Republicanism".

THE TRIBUNE takes exceptions to the views expressed by its amiable Populist contemporary, this week, when it says that McCook has no men of ability that are philanthropic enough to perform the duties of mayor and councilmen for nothing, and that those who are willing to do such gratuitous services are bootless. In both instances our contemporary is mistaken, putting it mildly. And again in its conclusions about the matter of proposed retrenchment in teachers' salaries of the better paid class, it more grievously errs, in advising shorter term of school rather than retrenchment in salaries. This should be the very last resort.

#### May Close, Sunday.

The revival meetings may close on coming Sunday night, although it has not been definitely decided as yet. The number of converts is now very near the half thousand mark, and great and good results will continue to follow after the meetings have been brought to a close. Western Nebraska has never experienced the like of the present revival, which will mark an epoch in the religious history of McCook. Next week, THE TRIBUNE will cover the meetings and the work accomplished more fully and arrangements will be made for a number of hundred extra copies of the paper for the accommodation of those who may desire them for distribution. It has been rumored that as Major Cole goes from place to place in Nebraska, he is being backed and directed by a committee. The report is incorrect. He is entirely independent of any man, committee or organized direction.

#### Republican Caucus.

The Republican voters of the city of McCook are requested to meet at the city hall on Monday evening, March 22d, 1897, at 8 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of nominating:

One candidate for mayor.  
One candidate for city clerk.  
One candidate for city treasurer.  
One candidate for police judge.  
One candidate for city engineer.  
One candidate for alderman first ward.  
One candidate for alderman second ward.

Two members of board of education. To be voted for at the city election to be held April 6, 1897.

And to transact any other business that may come before the caucus.

C. W. BARNES,  
H. H. BERRY,  
C. G. COGLIZER,  
M. E. HORNER,  
Committeemen.