

## Educational Department

Conducted by County Superintendent Crocker

### April.

April is here!  
Listen, a bluebird is caroling near!  
Low and sweet is the song he sings,  
As he sits in the sunshine with folded wings,  
And looks from the earth that is growing green  
To the warm blue skies that downyard lean,  
As a mother does, to kiss the child  
That has looked up into her face and smiled.  
Earth has been sleeping but now she wakes,  
The kind sky mother bends and takes  
The laughing thing in her warm embrace,  
And scatters her kisses over its face,  
And every kiss will grow into a flower  
To brighten with beauty a coming hour  
—Eben E. Rexford.

### The Arbor Day Proclamation.

Governor Mickey has issued the following proclamation:

"In harmony with the time honored custom, I, John H. Mickey, governor of the state of Nebraska do hereby appoint and set apart Friday, April 2, 1904, as Arbor day, and request that the true spirit of forestry be observed in our public schools by appropriate exercises and the planting of trees and that all societies and individuals assist in general recognition of the day."

"The most sublime object in the vegetable kingdom is a beautiful tree. It commends our admiration not because of its practical value alone but because it typifies sturdiness, persistency and progress. For many years, perchance, it has defied the fury of the winds, the rush of torrents, the extremes of summer's heat and winter's cold, and it stands as if in conscious pride of the vigorous battle with the elements which it has fought and won. From the standpoint of sentiment we can all appreciate the thought which a well known poet has expressed in the following verse:

Woodman spare that tree,  
Touch not a single bough,  
In youth it sheltered me,  
And I'll protect it now.  
'Twas my forefather's hand  
That placed it near my cot,  
There, woodman, let it stand,  
Thy ax shall harm it not.

It is a well-known fact that our natural forests have been denuded until serious climatic changes are threatened. It is to correct this evil as well as to encourage the systematic planting of trees in a prairie country, to embellish our public and private properties and to inculcate a love for both the practical and sentimental features of forestry that Arbor day has been established in nearly every state in the union. Nebraska takes more than ordinary pride in the day because the idea originated here and probably no other state has received so much benefit from it.—Lincoln Star.

### Announcement.

The summer school of the Nebraska State Normal for the year 1904 will open May 30th, and close July 8th. This is a six weeks term in which credits may be made in the prescribed work in the regular courses. Write for a summer school announcement. Address Dr. W. A. Clark, Peru, Nebr. Other good summer schools will be held in the state but we have not yet received announcements.

### Official Notice.

Issued by the state board of health—Rules and regulations respecting quarantine and disinfection have been adopted by the Nebraska board of health and must be obeyed by all boards of health in accordance with Sec. 6 and 8, Art. 7, Chap. 55, Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1903. We have not space to publish all the rules but school officers and teachers should be familiar with at least two:

Rule 4. All school officers and teachers shall co-operate in every possible way with the local board of health, by causing their knowledge of any case of contagious disease, to be forthwith reported to such board, and by refusing admission to school of any pupil from a household having contagious disease without a permit from such board.

Rule 5.—While any case of smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, measles or other disease, contagious or dangerous to public health exists in a household in any city, school district or neighborhood, and until the recovery and disinfection of such premises, and unto two weeks thereafter no person from such household shall attend any public meeting, nor shall any superintendent, officer or teacher allow any child to attend school for such time, nor afterward without a permit from the board of health. Teachers boarding at such households, where contagious disease is found to exist, shall immediately disinfect person and clothing and change their place of boarding and lodging until recovery from the disease and disinfection of premises, and two weeks thereafter.

You can secure a very helpful and interesting little pamphlet entitled "Regulations for the Quarantine and Disinfection of Contagious diseases, etc." by writing to the state superintendent.

Dist. 83—Chas. P. Stump teacher.—The year's term closed last Monday. For the past two years the oldest pupils have been working for the goal of the country school which is, to success-

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fully pass the 8th grade examination. They have done excellent work and, as announced last week, six of them are successful. The presentation of the diplomas was the last number in our closing exercises.

The teacher was given a nice present by the pupils which he prizes very highly.

We received a visit from our superintendent a few weeks ago and were very much encouraged by his remarks.

Our attendance during the past few weeks has been very irregular, on account of bad weather and sickness.

Both pupils and teacher are pleased with the educational department.

During the past four or five months we have had a business Department. The pupils have become familiar with business forms, such as checks, drafts, notes, bills, statements, etc.

Dist. 29.—Maud Mohler, teacher.—The maps and globes purchased with the money earned by our entertainments, have been received. We are all delighted with them. The maps are on spring rollers and in diamond cases. They are very helpful and we wonder how we ever got along without them. We also have purchased curtains for the windows.

The children are greatly interested in geography. We have read stories of other countries and have lately moulded land forms from clay which we get from the creek banks near the school.

Last week we had some physiology experiments. We observed the effects of alcohol on raw meat and the white of an egg. We also noticed how alcohol burns.

During the autumn we noticed the flight of birds, and by careful observation determined when

each kind left for its winter resort. We are watching, and recording their return. We have also on each Friday afternoon examined the buds of the trees around us, noting their arrangement and growth.

Recently we purchased a set of Channing's Histories.

Dist. 60—Mr. H. M. Shaffer, teacher.—The Literary closed Friday March 16th. with a very good program. The members of the debating club all agree that the debates have been the principal part of the programs. The 8th grade students are working hard preparing for the 8th grade examination.

There has been much sickness among the pupils during the last few weeks, cutting down the average attendance.

As spring work is at hand some of the pupils have already doffed their school clothes.

School closes April 15th.

Dist. 3—Jannette Weller, teacher.—On account of so many removals from our district school closed last Friday.

Dist. 77—D. D. Houtz, teacher. Enrollment for third quarter, by grades; first, 6, second 5; third 7; 4th 1; sixth 5; eighth 6. Four pupils have removed from this district. Mr. Miller has been sick for more than a month making it necessary for his sons, two of the eighth grade pupils to quit school. Iva Fuller, another of our eighth grade pupils has been sick and unable to attend during the last month. This leaves only three of the eighth grade in attendance.

Dist. 98—Beulah Greenwald, teacher.—Our school closes April 1st. We have an enrollment of six, all boys. They are very regular and punctual in attendance.

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