

HOLDS UP APPOINTMENT

School Districts Which Have Padded Census May Lose Out in Distribution.

RETURNS MUST BE SWORN TO IN FUTURE

Smaller Depository Banks in the State Will Be Called Upon to Furnish the Cash for the Schools.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Neb., Nov. 17.—(Special.)—State Superintendent McBrin today indicated that he will require a false enumeration of children of school age to be connected before making the apportionment and intimated that a failure to do so would incur the penalty of exclusion from the benefits of the December apportionment.

Mr. McBrin intimated that many districts are left out of the apportionment because of failure to comply with the statutory requirements, and in this connection called attention to the penalty that might be visited for failure to amend the returns so as to show the actual school population.

The Lancaster county return has been filed in the office of the state superintendent after several months' delay beyond the statutory limit, due to the fact that the Lincoln district figures had not been sent to the office of the county superintendent. It is regarded as significant that the total attendance in Lincoln, shown by the 1905 figures is only 12,885, as compared with 13,898 for 1904, although in the meantime the city has been growing. The total for the county, which includes several colleges outside of the city district, was 23,288 last year, while for 1906 it is reported at 20,892, indicating a decrease.

As an illustration in addition to the 1905 figures in the city district, Chief Clerk L. C. Harnley, who has immediate charge of these county returns, said that he has not been informed as to the reason for the decrease, but took it for granted that the district enumerators have been left out of the enumeration.

It is possible, Mr. McBrin says, that he will require the various county superintendents to indicate how many of the local district returns have been sworn to. It is explained that the district officials are required to take oath before the county superintendent as to the correctness of the returns, but there is nothing in the showing made to the state educational department to indicate whether the proper authentication has been supplied. During past years several of the district school district enumerators have failed to take oath as to the correctness of their figures. It is to this violation of the law which the superintendent will direct himself primarily, since few of the officials will care to swear to their returns if they are false and will thereby be liable to correct them.

McBrin will not go back of the sworn return in any instance unless he should change his views, since he believes that they should be taken to be correct until impeached.

May Delay Apportionment

State Treasurer Mortensen, who is taking an active interest in this matter of forcing a correction of the enumerations which have been furnished to the detriment of the smaller districts, believes that the result of the campaign which McBrin promises to make for the authentication of the returns of district officers will have the effect of delaying the apportionment beyond December 24, the date when the statute requires it to be completed. He takes the view that the superintendent may delay action until the returns have been corrected and properly sworn to. McBrin says that he does not have the power to delay action on the apportionment unless some legal action is taken, and so far the threats in that direction have not materialized.

As an outgrowth of the present controversy, it is now a certainty that the department will issue its mandate next year requiring the rejection of every enumerator's return which is not sworn to before the proper officers. He does not believe that he has the power to require the districts from which false reports have been made to take a new census this year before sharing in the apportionment.

Small Banks to Be Drawn On

State Treasurer Mortensen will draw on the smaller depository banks of the state for the funds with which to pay the December apportionment. For all current demands he has been checking out the funds in the larger city banks, until they are at a comparatively low ebb. He has a smaller supply of cash at his command for this apportionment than he ever before in recent years, due to the zeal with which he has sought investments for the permanent school fund. The apportionment will range from \$200,000 to \$250,000, it is believed now, and the total balance in depository banks at the beginning of business today was \$235,000, \$100,000 less than the total balance a year ago.

During the eleven months ending November 1, however, the treasurer has invested in \$468,485 more in warrants and bonds than last year. The excess of warrants was

\$23,212.99. This, taken with the failure of the railways to pay their taxes, explains the depletion in the fund of ready cash. The demand for the payment of the apportionment, should it be made on time, will not begin until the end of the year, and many of the smaller counties will wait even longer before taking the cash, and there is no really urgent demand for ready money. If there were, there are several blocks of county bonds which the counties are anxious to take up, but the treasurer is holding back in order to get all the interest possible. At the first of the month, however, he will be obliged to relinquish \$40,000 in Otoe county bonds, which are optional at once.

May Have College in Tent

Principal J. W. Crabtree of the Peru Normal, who was conferring with State Superintendent McBrin today, said that he anticipates a phenomenal attendance at the summer school next year because of the requirements of the new certificate law. He is seriously considering plans for the care of the increased attendance, for which the present accommodations may prove inadequate, and may accept the suggestion of Superintendent McBrin that he lease large substantial tents, place floors in them, and use them for assembly rooms.

The attendance at Peru is an average of over 500 daily, an increase of 100 as compared with the construction of last year. The faculty is working in harmony and the morale of the institution is being steadily built up. The students, most of whom are teachers, or expect to enter the profession, are working with great enthusiasm.

Governor Goes to Geneva

Governor Mickey will visit Geneva tomorrow to visit the Girls' Industrial school at that place.

Delegates to Divorce Congress

Governor Mickey has appointed the following delegates to represent Nebraska at the interstate congress for the consideration of uniform legislation on the subject of divorce to be held at Washington, D. C., February 13, 1906: Ralph W. Breckenridge, Omaha; John L. Webster, Omaha; Roscoe Pound, Lincoln.

New Elevator for Lincoln

A building permit was issued today to E. D. Foster of the Foster Grain company of this city for the construction of a \$4,000 elevator with 7,500 bushel capacity, at 1007 North Tenth street.

Convicts Do Cement Work

A gang of convicts in charge of a civilian foreman from the state penitentiary is employed in constructing a cement driveway at the residence of Ralph B. McKinstry in a railroad wreck near Port Worth, Tex., where he was a brakeman. He formerly lived in Table Rock and his wife lives near Humboldt, Neb.

GRITNA—The base ball boys will give a dance in Treckel's hall Thanksgiving evening, November 23. Olsen's must be secured.

BEATRICE—Last evening at 8 o'clock occurred the marriage of Mr. Roy Kelley and Miss Lolla McKinstry, both of this city, Judge Walker officiating.

GRITNA—Street Commissioner Driskell has had the street work on the roads running east of town and the roads are now in the shape for winter.

GRITNA—The students of the Beatrice Normal school gave their first Red Cross drive yesterday. Drills will be given at unexpected times, the only notice given being the alarm bell.

BEATRICE—The Deane foot ball team of Crete stopped over night here, and left today for St. Mary's, Kan., to play the college team at that place. There were seventeen in the party.

BEATRICE—J. T. Wakenight, who lives four miles north of Beatrice, has a bushel of wheat of early sowing that had eleven acres of the Hesban variety. This is the first report of the year.

BEATRICE—Thomas Godfrey of Omaha, state boiler inspector for the Hartford Insurance company, inspected the boiler at the institution for Feeble Minded Youth.

PLATTSMOUTH—Miss Jennie Johnson, both of Plattsmouth, were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, Mrs. J. W. Johnson, at Plattsmouth, last evening.

NEBRASKA—One of the best barns in this county was destroyed by fire this morning. It was on the farm of H. W. Kinison, five miles northeast of here. All the contents, including a horse, including fifteen head of horses.

GRITNA—The barn of F. J. Bopp was completely destroyed by fire this morning. The fire department was unable to render aid owing to the incomplete condition of water mains in East Gravelly. Loss partly covered by insurance.

TABLE ROCK—News has arrived here of the serious injury to a man in a railroad wreck near Port Worth, Tex., where he was a brakeman. He formerly lived in Table Rock and his wife lives near Humboldt, Neb.

GRITNA—Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Page of Kearney arrived in Gravelly last afternoon with the body of Mrs. Burge's mother. The remains were taken to Springfield and laid to rest, and her husband, who had died a couple of years ago.

ALBION—The weather is all that nature could send in the way of a hard frost. The corn crop is now nearly gathered than usual at this time of the season. Many of the farmers who are endeavoring to save the crop before snow.

YORK—Last night there was a quiet wedding in town here at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Finney, who reside in York. The party was composed of Messrs. A. O. Shaw, George Warren and E. Brown, and Miss Jennie Johnson, both of Plattsmouth, and other cities. They were accompanied by representatives of the Independent and Bell companies. The gentlemen have returned and will make a report to the company to furnish him with a statement of the list of policies it had issued in California from 1880 to 1887 and much information concerning them. It was Mr. McCurdy's recollection that the commissioner wanted the society to review all the issued policies and death claims for seventeen years to see if a large amount could not have been paid on each claim. The Equitable society engaged counsel to represent it at a hearing in San Francisco and the subject dragged along for three years.

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