

School Meeting

At the July meeting of the Board of Education it was decided to publish a summary of the proceedings from time to time. The board feeling that it was something due the public and wishing the citizens to familiarize themselves with school matters, and thereby be able to take a more intelligent interest in school affairs.

It only being about three weeks until the opening of the school year, attention is called to the ruling of the Board a year ago regarding the age for entrance of primary scholars, at which time it was decided to allow no children under six years of age to enter. There are a few children under six who can do the work, but the majority cannot, and considerable friction arises if any exception is made, and it was decided to make the minimum age six years. And a great many school authorities think it is better for the child to wait a year or two after that.

At the first meeting of the new board, R. A. Lathrop was elected President, and John D. Foley Secretary, for the coming year. The oath of office of F. W. Ehred and S. D. Scott as members for a term of three years, was found to be correct and placed on file.

The matter of 4th grade and drawing teacher was taken up and a contract was tendered to Miss Florence O'Donnell of Stephenson, Mich., who comes highly recommended both as a grade teacher of experience and as a drawing teacher, she being a graduate of the Thomas Training School in the drawing course.

Warrants were ordered issued to the treasurer for \$25. and secretary for \$50. for salary for the past year. It was found upon looking up the school laws carefully that members of the board in special districts were entitled to no compensation, hence no warrants were issued, so if members appear on the street wearing last summer's hat, the reason therefor will be understood.

The tax levy for 1907 - 1908 was placed at \$9,000. and in explanation of the increase of \$1,000. over last year, let it be explained that it is not anticipated that there will be any increase in the expenditures, but as there is virtually no money coming in during the first four months of school, in the past the account has been overdrawn during the fall of the year, and the board desires to

get a little ahead for another year, as it is an injustice to ask the bank to carry an overdraft and at the same time it is desired to avoid paying of interest, or compelling the discount of warrants.

The following committees were appointed by the chair; Messers Warner and Ehred to procure bids for the purchase of fuel for the coming year. Mr. Ehred was appointed to procure abstract and perfect title to block 44 as it was found that the title to quite a number of the lots had not been completed. Mr. Scott was appointed to procure bids for painting the Gray and Scott schools and to consult with the patrons as to engaging teachers for the ensuing year. The clerk was instructed to advertise for bids of the annual deposit of \$300. in the sinking fund.

One of the greatest handicaps in the past in retaining teachers has been the lack of boarding places. If any of the patrons can either room or board any of the teachers, if they would give their names to the secretary or any member of the board, then the places could be referred to the teacher upon their arrival and would no doubt be greatly appreciated by them.

It is believed that an excellent corps of instructors has been engaged for the coming year. The list having been published.

The board desires at all times any suggestions and assistance that will improve any department of the school, as we believe every citizen desires that Hope shall have the best schools, in all respects of any town in North Dakota.

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