

PROCEEDINGS OF BEAVER COUNTY TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

THIRD DAY (continued.)

Afternoon opened with music by the choir. Ex-Supt. Whitham gave his views on the subject of School Government.

Messrs. Hillman, Dungan and Misses Bunn and Donchoo gave their plans in teaching Geography, all agreeing that the entire school should constitute the class.

Prof. Allen followed in a brief discourse on the subject of History. He would read a chapter, and teach it topically by writing the topics on the board, requiring pupils to tell what they knew about the lesson, and he would have the whole school study it, not having any special class.

Prof. Allen conducted a spelling exercise, distributing slips of paper among the teachers, pronouncing ten words and defining them. After they were written, they were taken up and corrected and returned to the teachers, many of whom were surprised at the result.

WEDNESDAY EVENING—Exercises opened with music by the choir. S. B. Wilson was introduced and spoke on "the relation of common schools to those of a higher grade. It was his opinion that the common schools were not fostered and encouraged as they deserved.

D. A. Cooper read an essay entitled "Personalisms," a very fine production. The choir sang an anthem, "The Lord is King."

Miss Maggie Taylor read an essay on "Manners and morals of the school room." A general discussion followed on the subject of Compulsory Education, opened by Rev. W. H. Locke of Beaver.

Prof. Allen gave a programme of daily exercises for the school room. There must be a plan of study. He would first hear the primary classes after the opening of each session, then the higher classes.

Arithmetic. One of the teachers referred to the metric system, which called out some thoughts on the subject. Prof. Allen could not endorse the subject; he thought it impracticable.

Prof. Allen then suggested that there should be teachers to go from district to district to teach vocal music. This being practicable, especially in graded schools.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.—This day being designated by the Superintendent as "Directors day," the regular programme of exercises was suspended. The Court House was filled to its utmost capacity.

Prof. Allen, in his address to the directors, first alluded to the history of the school law of our State. He gave an interesting account of the law in its infancy. The money appropriated was very small, so unsatisfactory that the name of "pauper law" was given to it.

State Superintendent was not created until some time after. At that time he was not regarded as an officer of sufficient importance to have a room of any description; now he occupies the best suits of rooms in the State House.

Speaking of Teachers' Institutes, he stated that they had become a part of the school system of the State, giving some strong reasons why directors should allow the teachers their salary during their attendance.

After recess and a lively song by the choir, Prof. Allen proceeded to answer some questions given by directors. He spoke very much in favor of District High Schools in the rural districts wherever practicable.

The County Superintendent, M. L. Knight, presented the following resolutions, which were well received and unanimously adopted by vote of teachers and directors:

WHEREAS, The permanence of our general government depends upon the education of our people, and, whereas, the system of common school education deserves to be more tenderly cherished by every lover of freedom, it is the opinion of the teachers and directors of this county in "County Institute" now assembled, that teaching in our common schools should be a self-supporting profession without burdening the people with local taxation, therefore.

Resolved, That the Constitutional Convention should be and is hereby requested to recognize and incorporate our present system of common school education in the amended constitution, in whose preparation they are now engaged, with such accompanying provisions of restriction and obligation upon the Legislature as will render teaching a distinct and self-supporting profession.

County Superintendent Aiken, of Lawrence county, being present, was called upon and expressed his pleasure at meeting the teachers of this county.

Prof. Gantz spoke in a very animated manner, approving of the resolutions offered by Prof. Knight.

The report of committee on Permanent Certificates was received.

Prof. Mays, of New Castle, read a paper on Education, Ancient and Modern.

Prof. Allen occupied the remaining portion of the evening with a lecture on the Training of Children—a familiar talk to parents. The house was densely crowded, yet the audience paid the closest attention, as the speaker spoke impressively on a subject that concerns every parent in the land.

Opened with prayer by Prof. Allen.

L. Wise, of Industry, read a poem on the Teacher's Great Mission, which was fully appreciated, especially by the teachers.

Prof. Dungan read an essay containing some practical thoughts on Compulsory Education.

Messrs. Phillis and Dunlap sang a song illustrative of school-life.

Mr. Jas. Phillis was completely surprised by J. P. Todd coming forward, and in a few remarks presenting him, in behalf of the teachers and citizens, the amount of \$25, for his efficient service in furnishing music during the sessions of the Institute.

The committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were adopted by a unanimous vote of the teachers:

Resolved, That the County Institute is legalized as a means of increasing the efficiency of our schools by offering to teachers an opportunity of improving themselves; therefore,

Resolved, That every common school teacher in the county should attend the Institute.

Resolved, That the advantages of the Institute should be reflected from our respective school rooms upon the communities around them.

ty of our County Superintendent, M. L. Knight, and we ask for him the support and hearty cooperation of all the friends of education in the county.

Resolved, That as teachers we express our appreciation of the instructions given by Prof. A. Allen, and feel that they are well calculated to secure a high standard of teaching, and would be pleased to be favored with his presence at some future Institute.

Certificates of membership were issued to the one hundred and forty teachers in attendance, representing the Union Schools of Beaver, Bridgewater, Rochester, New Brighton, Beaver Falls, Fallston and Freedom, and nearly all of the rural districts of the county.

Prof. Allen made some remarks appropriate at parting. An opportunity was given to citizens and others to speak.

Prof. Knight spoke encouragingly to the teachers, thanking them for responding to his call, and the regularity with which they had attended the sessions of the Institute.

All united in singing the closing song. Prof. Taylor pronounced the benediction.

We have no time, nor can we ask for space for comment. It is sufficient to say that the teachers went home feeling that the time was spent profitably, and that the Institute was a complete success.

England and Russia in the East. According to a prominent St. Petersburg journal, England has at last raised her voice in protest against the Russian encroachments in the East.

The time seems to have come when her government is required by considerations of safety and of ordinary self respect to take a decided stand in opposition to the Russian policy.

It is impossible to imagine what effect her protest will have upon the Czar. It may treat such an antagonist with disdain or he may think it wise to respect her opinion.

His Object. A doctor was called in to see a patient whose native land was Ireland, and who had prescribed as the only cure.

"What have you here?" said the doctor. "Milk, doctor; just what you ordered."

"But there is whisky in it; I smell it."

"Well, doctor," sighed the patient, "there may be whisky in it, but milk's my object."

A DANBURY citizen sent over to a neighbor one evening recently to borrow the Danbury News, and was told that she would have to wait until "our Jane got back from the ball."

Resolved, That the teachers of Beaver county place implicit confidence in the ability and integrity of our County Superintendent, M. L. Knight, and we ask for him the support and hearty cooperation of all the friends of education in the county.

Resolved, That we tender our earnest thanks to Mr. Jas. Phillis, the pupils of the Beaver Union school and others for the most excellent music furnished during the session; also to the agents of the Taylor & Farley and Jewett and Goodman organ companies for the use of their instruments, and to the citizens of Beaver and surrounding villages who have extended to us their kindness and hospitality.

Resolved, That the County Institute is legalized as a means of increasing the efficiency of our schools by offering to teachers an opportunity of improving themselves; therefore,

Resolved, That every common school teacher in the county should attend the Institute.

Resolved, That the advantages of the Institute should be reflected from our respective school rooms upon the communities around them.

Resolved, That the school law should be changed so as to make it obligatory upon school directors to have their teachers attend the Institute, as it is upon the Superintendent to hold it.

Resolved, That the teachers of Beaver county place implicit confidence in the ability and integrity of our County Superintendent, M. L. Knight, and we ask for him the support and hearty cooperation of all the friends of education in the county.

Resolved, That the County Institute is legalized as a means of increasing the efficiency of our schools by offering to teachers an opportunity of improving themselves; therefore,

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