

# SIX-YEAR HIGH SCHOOLS EXIST

Ten Towns in State Have Already Adopted New Plan Speaker Tells Teachers

## EXAMINATIONS ARE ATTACKED

Departments of Educational Association in Closing Meetings This Morning Elect Officers—Convention Adjoins To-morrow

The last meetings of the separate departments of the State Educational Association were this morning held in rooms on all floors of the Technical High school and officers for the ensuing year were elected following the reading of papers and the holding of round table conferences.

In the high school department animated debates on various questions took place. During a discussion on the advantages of dividing a school course into six years of elementary and six years of high school work the fact was brought out that there are already about ten high schools in small towns of this State which have adopted the new gradation.

Those who spoke on the matter of setting up a high standard for the preparation of high school teachers seemed to be of the opinion that strict requirements ought not be laid down for teachers, since instructors who are anxious to do better work will voluntarily take up summer studies at universities.

In this connection the matter of teachers' pay was brought up, the assertion being made that teachers could not afford to take university work in many cases.

### Title of Prof. an Honor

"The public schools," said the chairman, Prof. C. O. Althouse, of Philadelphia, "are competing with business. When a good teacher gets a big offer from a business firm he often leaves the profession. The schools say that for the privilege of being called Prof. you should accept a position with them for \$700. If only the salary were made commensurate with the task, we could keep our teachers."

That a high school teacher should have some pedagogical training over and above his college course was the contention of one speaker, who told how a young man fresh from college had tried to begin teaching ninth grade children where he had left off in college, how he had scored Grammar, and had been soaring above the heads of his pupils in endeavors to conduct a revival in poetry. The speaker declared that a year's training in definite methods of teaching would have saved that young man considerable trouble.

### Abolition of Examinations Urged

Many high school students had they been present would have loudly applauded the statement of another speaker advocating the gradual abolition of examinations in High schools.

"A set of examination questions cannot possibly cover term's work in a High school," said this speaker, "and the standard by which pupils should be judged ought to be the word of their teachers. Marks and grades are the bug bears in our High schools. Tests at intervals are well and good, but set examinations accomplish nothing."

In answer to this declaration, Miss Katharine McNiff of the faculty of Central High school, this city, told how for ten years final examinations had been dispensed with at the local High school, and how during that time normal schools had complained that Harrisburg graduates were much slower in their work than formerly.

That "teachers should never under any circumstances yield to parents in the matter of promoting children" was perhaps the most emphatic and most generally accepted statement made during the session.

### Model School Exhibited

At the session of the department of graded schools, attended principally by women, a model school was conducted by Miss Patterson, in first grade reading. Fifteen little boys and girls from one of the local primary schools exhibited their skill before the teachers.

Officers elected by various departments follow: Colleges and Normal schools, President, Frank E. Baker; Edinboro Normal; vice president, S. B. McCormick, chancellor University of Pennsylvania; secretary, O. H. Backeles, Bloomsburg Normal, and treasurer, Harvey Brumbaugh, Juniata College.

County superintendent, president, C. S. Knapp, Warren county; vice president, Frank Kocher, Monroe County; secretary, L. R. Crumrine, Washington county, and treasurer, J. F. Hoffman, Bucks county.

City and borough superintendent, president, J. T. Allison, Wilkinsburg; vice president, F. C. Steltz, Bradford; secretary, T. B. Shank, Jeanette, and treasurer, I. C. Ellenger, Sunbury.

Graded schools, president, Joseph A. Shove, Columbia county; vice president, J. Hollinger, Pittsburgh, and secretary, Miss Etta M. Work, Charleroi.

### Speakers on To-Night's Program

To-night, in Technical High school auditorium, Dr. Griggs, of New York, will speak on "Education for the Art of Life," and Dr. Corson, of Columbus, Ohio, will speak on "The Three C's in Education." The last general session will be held to-morrow morning, when officers of the association will be elected.

Dr. Davidson, of Pittsburgh, spoke this afternoon on the subject, "The Old Order Changeth." Dr. Griggs, of New York, on "Self Culture Through the Vocation," and Dr. Halbrook on "The Life of Drudgery of Our Country Mothers."

### Mummers to Hold Dance To-night

The Mummers' Association in a final effort to finance the fantastic parade to be held on New Year's day will hold a masquerade-to-night at Winterdale. The dance will begin at 8 o'clock and will continue until midnight. Several prizes will be given for excellence in dancing and attire.

Artistic Printing at Star-Independent.

## CAPITOL HILL

### MEMBERS OF HOUSE IN TOWN

Two Representatives From Western Pennsylvania Call on Resident Clerk—Ready for Rush

The first members of the lower branch of the State Legislature to arrive in the city were James F. Woodward, Allegheny county, and Donald Glenn, of Franklin, Venango county. Both members called on L. Dale Meals, resident clerk of the House, and A. B. Smith, clerk of the Appropriations committee.

The work of seating the members of the House is progressing rapidly. It is impossible to satisfy every member who has sent in a request for seats and it is expected that about twenty per cent. of the new members will be dissatisfaction.

Other members of the House will be

begin arriving to-morrow and by Saturday

many will be on hand to take part in the campaign for Speaker. As yet none of the prospective candidates have been on Capitol Hill since the announcement of their candidacy.

**Commissioner Jackson in Philadelphia.**

De John Price Jackson, Commissioner of Labor and Industry, was to-day attending a conference taking up the problem of the unemployed in Philadelphia. This conference was the outgrowth of a meeting of the American Association on Labor Legislation which met in Philadelphia Monday and Tuesday of this week.

### Good Roads News

The Pennsylvania Highway News in its second number, just issued, gives some interesting statistics of the work that has been done during the season just closed, after the automobile money was released and placed at the disposal of the State Highway Department.

Up to the present time in this season's work 6,300 miles of earth roads have been gone over, ditches and drains opened and the surfaces dragged and repaired, together with 365 miles of stone roads. This work is handled by trained forces in every branch, and scientific business methods are worked out with precision. The showing during the entire year indicates that the department has been very much on the job.

### All Want Quick Licenses

Applications for automobile licenses for 1915 are being received in great numbers at the Automobile Division of the State Highway Department. Up to the close of business yesterday 37,326 licenses have been granted for pneumatic tired vehicles, 3,290 for solid tired, 11 for tractors, 46 for trailers, 793 for motorcycles, 9,027 for drivers, 1,361 for dealers and 5,142 for operators with 33 transfers. The Poor Board Needs \$3,200

Through County Solicitor Fred M. Ott, the County Commissioners this morning informed the Directors of the Poor that their requisition for an additional appropriation to carry on the department until the close of the present fiscal year must be submitted anew, and the Directors said they probably would have the estimate prepared by late afternoon to-day.

The Poor Board originally asked for \$3,500 for this purpose, but it is now believed that only \$3,200 or \$3,300 will be necessary. The sum to be granted will be determined by the amount of the Poor Board's bills and an estimate of the business to be taken care of to-morrow. That the Directors of the Poor had a big deficit and were unable to pay their employees the regular half month's salary immediately before the holidays, the County Commissioners said this morning, was not known to the latter when the requisition for \$3,500 was offered a week ago.

The Directors of the Poor this morning confined their work to paying bills and granting half a dozen or more relief orders. The County Commissioners were gathering data on fireproof book cabinets, it being their plan to purchase one for the County Controller. They also approved the November and December reports of Harry A. Boyer, County Sealer of Weights and Measures.

### Measures Are More Accurate

The Sealer's expenses for the two months, aside from salary, totaled only \$21,42. He made 587 inspections, sealed 566 scales, weights and measures, adjusted 46 and condemned 21. The benefits derived by Dauphin county through the office of the Sealer are pointed out in Mr. Boyer's latest reports. They show the weights and measures he inspected during 1914 were forty-one per cent. more accurate than those examined during the corresponding period of a year ago.

Comparisons made with the December records shows that this year the weights and measures were thirty-nine per cent. more accurate in that month than those of December, 1913. The Commissioners postponed until their afternoon session consideration of the request of Sealer Boyer for an increase in salary.

Friday, New Year's Day, will be observed as a holiday by all of the county officials so that to-day's meetings were the last to be held this year.

### Safety Meeting Next Month

Safety meetings of committees of the State Industrial Board have been scheduled for the Department of Labor and Industry as follows:

Quarry, January 7; canneries, January 8; ladders, January 12; cranes and hoists and conveyors, January 14. A meeting on iron and steel mills is scheduled for Pittsborough January 20.

### Confers With Inspectors

Lew R. Palmer, chief of the Bureau of Inspection of the Department of Labor and Industry, has had a conference with some of the inspectors in the outlying districts planning the work of the new year.

### Gather Being Congratulated

Many congratulatory letters and telegrams have been received by Walter H. Gaither, private secretary to Governor Tener, whose appointment to the Public Service Board was announced yesterday by Governor Tener.

### Clain Excessive Water Rates

The boroughs of Ben Avon and Emsworth have filed with the Public Service Commission a complaint against the Ohio Valley Water Company, claiming that the rates are excessive. The commission is asked to fix a fair and reasonable schedule of rates.

### Approve Charter Applications

Applications for charters were approved to-day as follows: Brie and Stone Co., Waynesburg, capital \$12,000; East Bear Ridge Colliery Co., Philadelphia, capital \$10,000; Federal Amusement Co., Pittsburgh, capital \$5,000; Garden Athletic Co., Johnston, capital \$10,000; Homestead Mining Co., Pittsburgh, capital \$8,000; G. J. Laufer Co., Pittsburgh, capital \$5,000; Liberty Fruit and Produce Co., Pittsburgh, capital \$5,000; Lasko Manufacturing Co., Lancaster, capital \$5,000; Purrella Realty Co., Philadelphia, capital \$10,000; Scooter Coal Mining Co., Williamsport, capital \$10,000.

### State Bank Is Chartered

Application for charter for the State bank of Tidioute was approved by Governor Tener this morning. The application was first approved and certified by W. H. Smith, Commissioner of Banking. The capital of the new bank is \$50,000.

### Another Electrocution

Governor Tener to-day set the date for the electrocution of Andrew Malinowski, of Allegheny county, as the week beginning February 22. The execution will take place at the Western penitentiary, near Bellefonte.

### JUSTICE HUGHES' MOTHER DIES

Was Widow of Clergyman and Was Born in 1830

Washington, Dec. 30.—Mrs. Mary C. Hughes, mother of Associate Justice Charles E. Hughes, of the United States Supreme Court, died early to-day at her residence here.

She was the widow of the Rev. David C. Hughes, late of New York, and was born in Middletown, Delaware county, N. Y., November 22, 1830. Her life was devoted to religious and charitable work.

**Marriage Licenses**

Joe Horwath and Mary Bukovitz, Steelton.

Hiram E. Bishop, Oberlin, and Ida S. Livingston, Ennauht.

Elias Whisler and Gertrude S. Lester, Harrisburg.

## COUNTY CLOSES

### WORK FOR YEAR

### No Changes Are Expected When Boards Are Reorganized Next Monday

## POOR BOARD NEEDS \$3,200

Commissioners Will Act Late This Afternoon on Request of the County Sealer, Boyer, for an Increase in His Salary

The County Commissioners and the Directors of the Poor practically cleared their 1914 calendar to-day preparatory to reorganizing for the new year in extraordinary sessions to be held on Monday next. In Court House circles it is practically conceded that all of the present county employees will be retained. Isaac S. Hoffman, it is said, will again head the County Commissioners.

With four exceptions all of the county physicians connected with the Poor Department will be retained for 1915 under a resolution adopted by the directors at a meeting a week ago. Harry A. Walters, it is expected, will again be elected to the presidency of the Poor Board and so far as can be learned there will be no changes in the personnel of the persons now employed at the Dauphin county almshouse.

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The Orpheum's New Year Eve carnival will begin at 10.30, immediately after the regular evening performance. Persons in the audience are invited to don masquerade costumes and prizes will be awarded the best creations.

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