

COOKING IN SCHOOLS

Superintendent Eaton Submits an Interesting Report on the Subject.

The Children Will Be Asked to Organize Bands of Mercy—General business.

The usual monthly meeting of the board of school trustees, held last evening in the council chamber, city hall, was attended by Trustees Belyea, McKicking, Hall, Marchant, Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Jenkins.

Before taking up regular business the chairman announced that Dr. Campbell and Mr. Kitto were present to address the meeting on behalf of the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Rev. Dr. Campbell briefly outlined the objects of the society, which was organized in New Westminster in September, 1895, under the act passed by the legislature in February of the same year.

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The secretary read a communication from the Lieutenant Governor, offering a silver medal for competition by the pupils of the public schools of Victoria for proficiency in penmanship.

The communication having been submitted to the superintendent, he suggested that the competition be open to first division pupils, and that it be held in the High school on Saturday forenoon, June 18th, at 10 o'clock.

The teachers of the Central school sent in a request for 400 chairs and a table for the closing school exercises.

E. Collins, janitor of South Park school, complained to the board regarding delay in adjusting his salary.

The summary of reports for April was submitted as follows: Average daily attendance, 2,220.48.

A motion was passed requiring teachers to have their returns sent to the board on or before the 7th of each month.

The superintendent submitted the result of his examination into the overcrowding of the schools of Victoria.

By resolution of the last meeting of the board it was requested to report upon the provision necessary to be made for the increased attendance.

In the first place, I may be permitted to remind the board that during the current school year there have been 48 teachers employed in all the schools.

At the beginning of the year it seemed as though two additional teachers would be required to relieve the congestion in certain classes, but by means of a better distribution of pupils, a fair measure

of relief was afforded without the expense of any addition to the staff.

One class, however, remained in an overcrowded condition all the year, a condition that was brought about mainly by the inelastic system of grading that has hitherto prevailed in the city.

The unsatisfactoriness of this condition has been intensified by the fact that in each of these classes one teacher is required to do the chart and primer work, which is divided between two or three teachers in all the other schools.

In each of the four larger schools the average attendance per teacher, even under the most favorable conditions of grading, has, I think, about reached the limit, beyond which any material increase would call for additional teachers.

It is reasonable to suppose that the necessary permission could be readily obtained from the educational department, and necessary to do so, however, is the expense.

A moderate equipment would cost from \$300 to \$500, and the salary of the special teacher together with the cost of materials and incidentals would amount to, probably, \$1,000 a year.

It is not unreasonable either to suppose that the government of the province would be willing to contribute a portion of the cost of such a project, or to encourage the establishment of a course of instruction which is so manifestly in the public interest, and which, if efficiently conducted, would undoubtedly result in an entirely practical direction of the education of British Columbia girls.

school work would continue to be limited mainly to memorizing of text-book matter, the most of which is forgotten—perhaps just as well forgotten—very soon after it is learned.

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PUPIL TEACHERS. Important Amendments to the Present System.

Under the system hitherto employed in regard to pupil teachers in the city schools each principal had the assistance of a pupil teacher, and at the end of the year the five principals acted together as an examining board.

The regulations adopted, which come into effect after the midsummer holidays, are practically an adaptation of the model school system in force in the eastern provinces.

The School Board of Victoria, in a report of February 9th, recommending certain changes in the present system relating to pupil teachers, was referred back to me for further consideration and report.

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Advertisement for 900 Drops, a vegetable preparation for assisting the food and regulating the stomachs and bowels of infants and children. Includes a signature of Chas. H. Fletcher and a list of ailments it treats.

Advertisement for Columbia Flouring Mills Co., featuring Hungarian, Premier, and Snowflake brands. Lists agents R. P. Rithet & Co. in Victoria.

Advertisement for Dixie H. Ross & Co., featuring a 'Good Mark' logo and listing various products like cigars and tobacco.

Advertisement for 'The Surgeon Foiled' and 'Wanted to Perform an Operation.' Includes a testimonial for Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

Advertisement for 'SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASCARIA' with a signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

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