

DU PAGE COUNTY STANDS HIGH IN PAY OF TEACHERS

Report Shows Much Difference in Instructor's Salaries in Illinois' Counties.

F. G. Blair, Superintendent of Schools of the State of Illinois has just issued a report relating to the pay of teachers of the entire state.

There are in the state 102 counties. In the pay of men teachers Du Page County stands fourth, with an average salary of \$1,543.53; we are eleventh in women teachers with an average of \$731.31 and ninth in all with an average of \$805.96.

Cook County is highest with an average of \$1,332.89.

The lowest county on the list, is Wayne, which pays its men teachers an average salary of \$417.22, or a little better than \$34.17 a month, its average for all is \$355.31 or \$29.61 a month.

Pepe County pays its women teachers the lowest wage, \$306.57 a year or \$25.54 a month.

Ye Gods! Talk of salary and the high cost of living. And these are people who must have a special education, taking years to get and costing money. Talk about your poor, underpaid preachers and newspapermen, we'll take our hats off to the rural school teacher. She doesn't have any donation parties either.

In this connection it might be well to publish in full the report of Mr. Blair which preceded the table giving teachers' salaries.

It follows:

To School Officers and Tax Payers: The constitution requires the establishment of a thorough and efficient system of free schools whereby all the children of this state may secure a good common school education.

What makes a system of schools thorough and efficient? Fine grounds and buildings have something to do with it; rich and worth while courses of study, good books, and apparatus, close and intelligent supervision, all play their part.

But the real factors, the real makers of thorough and efficient schools are thorough and efficient teachers. Therefore, the legislature has not fulfilled the constitutional mandate until it has provided means for securing and holding competent teachers for all the children of this state.

It has made some well meant efforts.

It has established standards of qualification and has raised these standards from time to time. It has established normal schools for the training of teachers. These efforts have no doubt given us a better teaching force. Moreover, a stronger and better sentiment on the part of boards of education and patrons has demanded better and better teachers.

However, in spite of all this, after half a century of common school education, over 12,000 of our teachers have a professional and academic education which does not extend beyond that of a four-year high school. One-third of our teaching force have never been educated beyond the point to which we expect the children in our common schools to go. The untutored are our tutors; the untalented and untrained are still entrusted with the important task of teaching and training the children of our commonwealth. We have learned that well trained officers can quickly train an army for effective service, but that it requires long, thorough work to prepare these officers. It is a more difficult task to train a teacher. The government will not entrust its armies to the direction and control of untrained and unfit officers. But we place our children's education in the hands of half-baked, incompetent teachers.

Why cannot every child in Illinois have the benefit of good teaching? There is but one sufficient answer.

The teaching business does not offer sufficient salary to justify young men and women of marked ability in spending their time and money in making the necessary preparation. The very persons who should become the teachers of our children are driven away by the urge of economic forces. It is unfortunate that teachers are compelled to present these facts to the public and to law makers. Patrons and officers of the common schools should be the leaders in this campaign to secure better teachers for our children.

Let there be no misunderstanding. A part of the effort now being put forth has for its object more pay for teachers now in service. It seems to be the only way to hold the best that we have. Most of the unfit will remain whatever happens. There are also a few consecrated souls who will follow their profession even though poverty follow them. But after all this is said, the main cry for better pay has for its objective better teach-

ers and better teaching for our children.

There is no other way by which we can attract the bright, capable young men and women to the teaching business and induce them to take the extended training necessary to prepare them for this work.

With over 22,000 teachers of this state receiving an average annual salary of \$575 during the year 1918, is it any wonder that high school graduates are choosing other lines of business? Is it any wonder that men teachers are forced to leave their desks and take up other work in order to meet actual living expenses? Is it any wonder that our brightest and best women teachers are being taken from us in large numbers by other occupations?

Those who think that this campaign for a living wage has nothing behind it but the selfish, self-seeking of the teachers should, like Nicodemus, climb up a tree and take a longer and broader view of the situation.

The statistics for the year ending June 30, 1919, printed in this bulletin show an increase in the average wage over the previous year of 5 per cent and an increase of about 24 per cent for five years.

With the prices of commodities remaining stationary, this would be a fair increase, but with the cost of all things which the teacher must buy leaping from 25 to 200 per cent in that time, the average wage has been practically cut in two.

A normal school president who now gets \$5,000 says that in his first year as a schoolmaster he received \$900, but with that amount at that time he could buy more bacon than he can buy today with his large money salary. This is the only way to set forth the critical wage situation which threatens our school system.

We want a thorough and efficient system of schools; we want our children to secure a good common school education. It is impossible to reach either one of these; it is impossible to get the right kind of persons to make the outlay of time and money necessary to secure the needed preparation unless the employment offers more adequate compensation. Fortunately or unfortunately, the teachers have been compelled to take the lead in this matter. The situation demands and is worthy of the best thought and effort of our best statesmen.

Every patriot, every believer in our democratic form of government should awake to the fact that if our schools fail our civilization will fail. Our schools will fail unless we secure the right type of teachers. Such teachers cannot be secured or held if the present wage situation continues.

F. G. Blair, Superintendent.

RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS: An All Wise Providence has seen fit, in His Infinite Mercy, to remove from the family circle of our esteemed Brother, Blair Hubbert, his son; and George T. Schindler, his mother.

WHEREAS: While we bow with humble submission to His Holy Will, we mourn with our Brothers, their loss.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we, as members of Downers Grove Lodge No. 750, Independent Order of Oddfellows, extend to our Brothers, our most heartfelt sympathy and commend them for consolation to Him who doeth all things well.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That these resolutions be read in open lodge and entered upon our records, one copy to be sent to Brothers Hubbert and Schindler, and a copy to The Downers Grove Reporter for publication.

C. J. Winter, Secretary.

When cleaning out the attic or cellar, do not throw things away. They may be of no use to you but some one else wants them. Try a classified ad.

Advertisement for 'Honest John Plasters' featuring an illustration of a woman and text describing the product's benefits for corns and bad temper.

FATHER SHERAN TO BE AT SAINT JOSEPH'S SUNDAY

He Will Speak on 'The Hound of Heaven' at the Ten A. M. Service.

Dear Mr. Staats.

Several of my non-Catholic friends have expressed a desire to hear Father Sheran in his series of addresses here, but indicated a hesitancy to attend our church due to their lack of understanding of Catholic church services, which with its elaborate ceremonial and its Latin is so very different from that to which they are accustomed.

In view of the foregoing, I am pleased to advise that arrangements have been made to place in the hands of our ushers a booklet of prayers appropriate for the laity at the various stages of the Mass, together with explanations of this, the central act of Catholic worship; and a copy of this little missal will be given to each "stranger within our gates" upon entering the church, so that it will be possible for them the more intelligently to follow the service as well as to enjoy the Reverend Father's lecture-sermons.

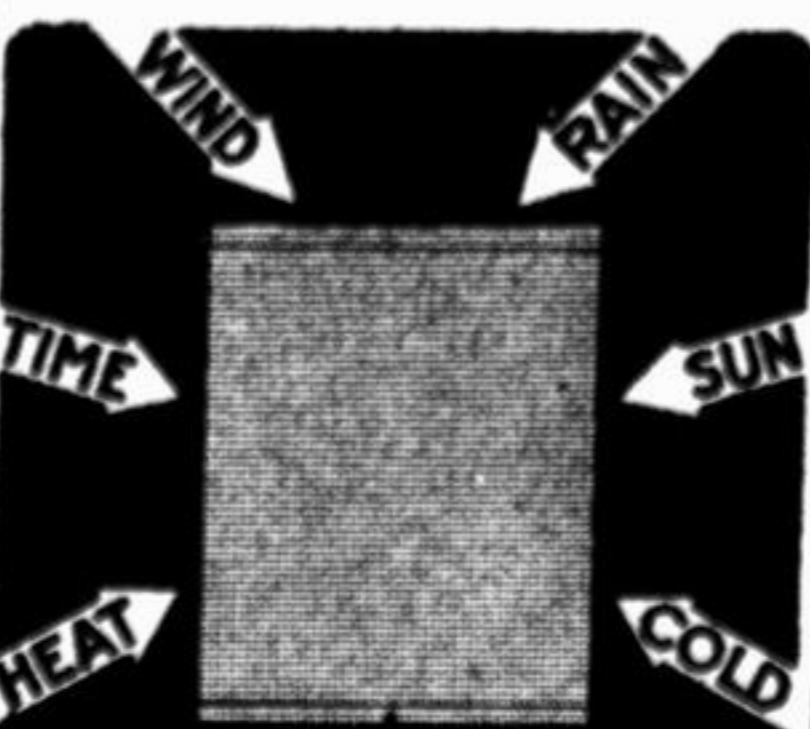
As announced in this issue of the Reporter, Father Sheran will be with us again next Sunday, February 15, at 10:00 a. m., subject "The Hound of Heaven," being an interpretation of a poem of this title by the English author, Francis Thompson. Possibly some of the more literary disposed may wish to read this poem in advance of the address, and for the benefit of these Dr. Goodwin has stated that a copy of the author's book containing same, Thompson's Poems, can be procured, in an inexpensive edition, at Marshall Field's.

I confess I am personally unfamiliar with the poem in question, but believe the author is considered as a sort of England's Poe, and while his brief career of a most tempestuous character, he wrote only a few poems these are esteemed of the immortal type.

H. S. Dun.

For Automobile Insurance SEE

J. H. CHENEY Phone 152-M-2



"The Fittest Survive"

As with men, so with window shades, the fittest survive. Recognizing the fact that a window shade, in order to retain its color, shape, and durability must successfully combat the elements, we have selected a careful hand-made shade for our customers.

Luxor hand-made shades are scientifically treated to withstand the constant beating of wind and rain, the piercing effects of heat and cold, the relentless rays of the sun. Ask to see them.

WINDOW SHADES

Curtain Rods Kirsch Flat Rods in every Style Kirsch and Round Brass Rods by the foot All Styles of Fixtures We figure any requirements for Rods and Shades and do the work

Lehmann & Michel

28-30 So. Main St. Two Phones 177 & 178

COLORED ORATOR AT M. E. CHURCH SUNDAY EVENING

On next Sunday evening, February 15th, the Sunday nearest to the birthday of Lincoln, the Great Emancipator, the Rev. John W. Robinson, D. D., Chicago's most popular and gifted colored pulpit orator, will preach at the First Methodist Episcopal church here. The evening service is held at 7:30.

Dr. Robinson is a scholar and a gentleman. He has been prominently mentioned as a possible candidate for Bishop of the colored church.

He is pastor of St. Marks M. E. church, Chicago, and had much to do with holding his people steady during the recent race riots. He should have a packed house to hear his address.

He has done great work among the people of the South and it is particularly fitting that one of his race should speak here so close to the anniversary of the birth of the man which liberated so many of his people.

Have you some little thing that you wish to sell. Try a classified ad.

Advertisement for Eagle 'Mikado' Pencil No. 174, featuring an illustration of the pencil and text: 'EAGLE "MIKADO" PENCIL No. 174. Regular Length, 7 inches. Made in five grades. Conceded to be the Finest Pencil made for general use. EAGLE PENCIL COMPANY, NEW YORK.'

Tooth Brush Satisfaction

You can get more genuine satisfaction out of a good tooth brush than that's made right than you can out of a dozen ordinary

A great many tooth brushes are made to sell only; they look nice, but that's all the merit they possess. We use as much care in selecting our tooth brushes as we do in selecting all our goods. We want the best, and you cannot afford to buy anything but the best; it is cheapest in the end.

Our 40c "Klenzo" Brushes are perfect and guaranteed. WE ARE IN BUSINESS FOR YOUR HEALTH

ZINDT'S PHARMACY

Day and Night Service. 34 S. Main Str. Telephone 282

Advertisement for Bertolin & Pfeifer Undertakers, featuring the names SAM BERTOLIN and GEO. L. PFEIFER, and text: 'Bertolin & Pfeifer Undertakers. Office, Curtiss Theatre Building Downers Grove, Illinois. Day Phone, 267-W Night Phone, 94. Geo. L. Pfeifer, Expert Embalming Lady Attendant.'

Large advertisement for 'The Power of Money' and 'The Country Gentleman' magazine. Includes an illustration of a man with a money bag and text: 'The Power of Money. When William Payne, the Lunker at Bisonville, decreed that no farmer who did not raise cows as well as wheat could borrow money from him, the angry grain growers almost lynched him. But they had to do as he demanded—and today his county is an oasis in a blowaway desert, his depositors and borrowers are prosperous farmers, his bank is looked upon as the agricultural father of the whole countryside. Such is The Power of Money for Good. Herbert Quick, formerly a member of the Farm Loan Board, tells the story in the February 7th issue of The COUNTRY GENTLEMAN. It is the first article in a great new series about country banks. The business of a bank—of this bank—and the prosperity of its farmer customers are closely related. That is why we stand ready at all times to give to you whatever service is in our power. Consult with us about your farming plans. Let us help you in your financial plans. Keep your money on deposit with us. Let us advise you what to read about farming; let us, in fact, send in your subscription for THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN. For only \$1.00 you can read Herbert Quick's series and all the other splendid articles that will appear in the next 52 issues of the Great National Farm Weekly.'

Advertisement for Farmers and Merchants Bank, featuring text: 'Farmers and Merchants Bank Capital \$100,000.00 LEVI MERTZ, President Telephone 12. Gentlemen: (1) Because you know me, enter my name for THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN for one year and charge the cost, \$1.00, to me. or (2) Here's my dollar. I want THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN. Send it to me. (My Name) (My Address) (City) (State) Cross out one'