

SCHOOL OPENS MONDAY

Vacation days are over, lads and lassies! Nert Monday will mark the opening of another school year to educate the young and prepare them for the battle of life in an educational way.

Courtenay's pride is her splendid school system and its efficient management and the fact that the schools will open in a few days is of interest to the people of this city and vicinity. Our people may be divided in politics, church and opinions in general but they always make it a point to rally to the support of the school. Much of the progress of the village and surrounding country is undoubtedly due to the splendid school system and it has done much towards bringing here many fine families who settled mainly for the reason that the opportunity for the education of their children were unsurpassed.

A good many improvements have been made in the school rooms and building. Walls and ceiling have been calcimined and painted, floors scrubbed and fumigated and several coats of paint applied, effectually ridding it of microbes and disease germs. The assembly room in the High school department has been re-seated and a number of new seats added. Two new desks have been placed in the laboratory and library room and a number of new books, including several Webster's Unabridged dictionary's and works of reference, have also been purchased by the management. A large storm anti-room has been built at the entrance on the west side of the High school building having a door from the south, north and west which can be used as the occasion demands in view of the ever changing winds.

These improvements and the expense of the new material has been made from the money given first, second and third class High schools by the state aid fund derived from appropriations made by the legislature and not from general taxes as is often assumed by those not initiated in the distribution of state funds. A certain amount of funds are given schools coming under this class which must be spent for improvements or the purchase of new equipment during the school year and if not so expended during the year the amount will be withheld in the future years.

Very little change has been made in the complement of the force of teachers from the preceding year. The High school faculty, under the efficient leadership of Prof. J. W. Kingston and his able assistant, Miss Hazel Orcott, have left a record hard to excel while the grade teachers have given universal satisfaction. The records and returns from state and county pupils' final examinations show that 94 per cent passed and were advanced in grades while the percentage of the High school students was 78 per cent. This is a much better record of percentage than any of the neighboring towns were able to get for the past school year and this speaks highly for the High school faculty and their efficient work, and the local school board may consider themselves fortunate in securing the services of the same corps of teachers for the coming term.

Prof. Kingston will be superintendent of the High school and the district, the active principalship being given to Miss Hazel Orcott. Miss Orcott is a resident of Cleveland, Ohio, and arrived here a few days ago to prepare for the many duties involved in the position.

Miss Cecela Whelan will act in the capacity of assistant principal. She held practically the same position last year and this completes the same faculty for the High school department for the coming term. Miss Whelan's home is in Lake City, Minn., but has taught in this state for several terms and is no stranger here.

Miss Hanah L. Conway, who taught the 7th and eighth grade room pupils last term of school has decided to return and it is said that

she may accept a better position in the Jamestown schools. Miss Conway's pupils in the final eighth grade preparing them for High school work passed in the county examinations without a single exception with an average of over 90 per cent. This room will be taken by Miss Helen Marsh of Steel, N. D. She is a graduate of the State Normal school of Valley City and although a stranger here comes well recommended and undoubtedly will prove a valuable addition to the faculty.

Miss Susan O'Laughlin will teach the 5th and 6th, presided over last term of school by Miss Gertrude Bergen of Valley City who has accepted a school elsewhere. Miss O'Laughlin's home is in Moorhead, Minn., and she taught the 3rd, and 4th grade rooms last season and her promotion comes as a well deserved compliment to her ability and efficiency.

The 3rd and 4th grade pupils will be taught by Miss Ida Milne, a sister of R. B. Milne, the clerk of the Courtenay school district. Miss Milne has lived all her life in this vicinity, has taught school for several terms in this county and her excellent qualifications for her chosen profession require no comment.

Miss Mabel Smedley will take the place of Miss Anderson in the primary department. She comes from Mapleton, N. D., and is a young lady highly spoken of by all who know her.

The school and the teachers will be ready for work next Monday morning and it is hoped that every child in town and those who intend to attend from the country will be on hand at that time to begin the opening of the school term from the very beginning.

Clarence Edwards has again been engaged for the janitor work for the coming school term and will see to it with his usual promptness that everything is kept in fine shape so far as cleanliness, warmth and general sanitary conditions of the school rooms are concerned.

DEATH OF JACK WELSH

A letter was received here by H. N. Tucker written by E. J. Welsh and stating that his brother Jack had been killed in a runaway mixup at Vermillion, Alberta on Wednesday, the 23rd of August. Having a number of friends in this vicinity who will be sorry to hear of the young man's death we herewith give the letter in full:

Friend Harry:—You will be shocked to hear that my brother Jack was killed at Vermillion, Alberta, last Wednesday, Aug. 23rd, at 5:30 p. m., and I am on my way back to Ontario with the body now and will bury him at Bobcaygeon, Ontario, next Wednesday, as I should reach there Tuesday night. He was with me at Milk River, Alta., all winter and up to four weeks ago, when he went north to loog after his crop, as he still has a quarter section up there. He went to work for Cummings brother who have a horse ranch close to Vermillion, they had justdriven in a bunch of horses that day, and loaded them in cars, and Jack and one of the riders started for the ranch. His partner's horse took fright at the train, and became unmanagable running wild through the street, Jack racing his horse along side to keep the runaway from running into other rigs or buildings. Jack lost his glasses, and was very near sighted without them, they had very near got out of town safe, when turning a corner the runaway was making directly for a building, Jack spurred his horse in ahead of him, turned the runaway alright but didn't realize how close he was to the building. He attempted to turn his horse sharp but was too close, and going at a terrific speed right up against the building he was shot out of the saddle and his skull was fractured. He only lived one and one half hours, and never regained consciousness. I reached him Friday and left that night for the east. Am tied up here 10 hours. He was still single and 35 years old.