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COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

The educational bill before the state legislature is in some measure the work of local men in educational circles. The object of it is of course to raise the standard of our schools. No part of our school system in this state is more dependent on the qualifications of the man than is the county division under the county superintendent. This bill to raise the standard of the man at the head of the county schools is good in many respects and picks out the flaw under which our school system has labored for many years.

Subjoined is an editorial which we reprint from a recent issue of the Indianapolis News, which covers the situation thoroughly:

The bill drawn by the state board of education and the County Superintendents' association providing for higher qualifications for county superintendents and for three years' experience in teaching school is before the legislature. The bill also establishes a graduated system of salaries, based on the population of the counties. At present a common school license is the only qualification prescribed by law. This is no guaranty that the county superintendent has any knowledge of high school subjects, yet he is a supervisor of high schools as well as of elementary schools. The present law gives him the duty of licensing high school teachers without demanding proof that he has sufficient scholarship to grade their manuscripts. In Marion county, e. g., there are thirteen high schools outside Indianapolis, most of which are commissioned or certified. Outlining the course of study, selecting text-books, and supervising the teaching of these schools are in the hands of the county superintendent. Surely he should be required to show in advance of taking the office that he has adequate knowledge and professional training to perform such duties. Two years ago the general assembly increased the requirements for teaching. The present legislature would take a forward step in raising the standard for county superintendents.

By the present law all county superintendents receive the same rate of pay—\$4.50 a day for each day they are actually employed. The superintendent of Ohio county, with thirty teachers, receives the same rate of compensation as the superintendent of a county with 200 teachers. This rate may be adequate in the smaller counties. But in the larger counties, at least, where practically all the time of the officer must be given to his official duties, it is hardly possible to engage the services of a fit man for such pay. At any rate, it is no more reasonable to pay all county superintendents, whatever their responsibilities, at the same rate than it would be to pay all principals of high schools in the state at the same rate. Either the state should fix salaries on a reasonable graduated basis or empower the county authorities to fix the rate of pay.

FORUM OF THE PEOPLE

A Word to the Editor:

The voters and women of Richmond have been warned not to permit themselves to be stampeded into lending their support to driving out the law abiding, well regulated saloons and driving in law violating blind tigers, etc.

Permit me to give you my experience in this line. As a brother editor I know you will accord me the courtesy of a few inches of space in your valuable paper.

It is a matter of history and common knowledge over the state of Indiana that the saloons in Boone, Adams county, were not closed without a terrific battle and fierce fight. After the "drys" had won a permanent victory over the legalized saloons, blind tigers and joints flourished until February, 1907, when the blind tiger law was enacted. As soon as that law was in force we took steps to clean house, and it did not take the county sheriff, nor a prosecuting attorney, nor a policeman to do it. I swore out the search warrant myself and had it served on a man who was a constable, and who had himself been running a blind tiger for a long time, until the court finally gave him a \$100 fine and a 30 day jail sentence on two cases each at one clip. I instructed the

"Squire before whom I swore out the search warrant to serve it on this man because I was afraid he would interfere with the raid and cause trouble, and so I thought the best way to get rid of him was to make him help."

When the "Squire" read the paper to him there was just one of three things left for him to do. He had to take his choice from serving or resigning his office, or forcing impeachment proceedings. He weighed the matter for a long time and finally chose to serve. He appointed two of his friends as deputies and thought they would go through the motions and make a sham search without finding anything. But I went with the fellows and compelled them to open every box and cupboard and cooler, made them break into the storage room against their protests, and the men who had no more thought of making a real raid than of jumping to the moon, helped to carry out one keg of whisky, thirty bottles of rum and brandy, two jugs of wine, twenty gallons and thirteen pints of hop cream made by the Marlon brewing company, and 489 bottles of the Crosser brand Toledo beer.

What can be done in Berne can be done elsewhere. That stock of wet goods was poured out into the street, and Berne has since then been a practically dry town, as dry as you can make them with wet towns surrounding you.

If our present blind tiger law is not effective enough to reach and convict all illegal sellers of liquor, it will be made more effective as soon as its inefficiency has been sufficiently proved. The way to improve a poor law is to make much use of it, and constantly expose its weakness. That's the way the Nicholson remonstrance law was strengthened and made effective by the passage of the Moore amendment. Complaints have been made in some places about officials who are slow to do their duty or absolutely refuse to do it. There is a remedy for this. Our county seat, Decatur, had such a mayor, and a little over a year ago he was impeached and put out of business. He is now a traveling salesman for a liquor house.

The people are the boss in this state and majority rule is the boast of this country. The government of a town or city or state is seldom better nor worse than the prevailing public sentiment of the respective community.

FRED ROHRER,
Editor Berne Witness,
Centerville, Ind., Jan. 19.

NO RECOGNIZANCE PAPERS FOR HER

Eaton Woman Preferred to
Remain in Jail Than to
Accept Parole.

WAS CONFINED 2 MONTHS

HOWEVER MRS. SCHILLING,
CHARGED WITH CARRYING CONCEALED
WEAPONS REFUSED TO
PLACE NAME ON "ANY PAPERS"

Eldorado, O., Jan. 27.—The refusal of a prisoner to sign a recognizance bond for release from jail was an unusual incident that occurred in the common pleas court at Eaton yesterday. It was a most unusual event.

Mrs. Lydia M. Shilling, confined in county jail under \$200 bond on the charge of carrying concealed weapons, was the prisoner who refused to sign the bond. She has been in jail two months awaiting trial.

Judge Fisher was requested by Prosecutor H. R. Gilmore to release the woman on her own recognizance and the court gave the order.

No Bonds for Her.

The necessary bond being prepared was presented to the prisoner for her signature. After reading it over carefully she threw it down saying "I'll not put my name to any paper," and started to leave the county clerk's office. Deputy Sheriff John Huffman detained her.

The bond was read and explained to her, but she remained obdurate. Mr. Huffman warned her to sign it or go back to jail.

"I will stay in jail the rest of my life before I will sign any bond," she said as the officer locked her in.

Mrs. Shilling is the party who created a panic in a traction car some time since by suddenly displaying a gun and threatening to shoot up the car. After being taken before the probate court and examined by two local physicians who pronounced her sane, she was placed in jail.

.. Henry W. Deuker ..

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Alma, Mich.

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Extract at 25c a bottle.

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lb. of Coffee at 25c.
20 STAMPS with one
lb. of Coffee at 30c.
15 STAMPS with one
lb. of Coffee at 25c.
10 STAMPS with one
Box A. & P. Jelly
Jowder at 10c a box.
All flavors.
10 STAMPS with one
box Toilet Soap at 10c
a box.

50 STAMPS with one
lb. of Tea at 70c a lb.
45 STAMPS with one
lb. of Tea at 60c a lb.
40 STAMPS with one
lb. of Tea at 50c a lb.
10 STAMPS with one
bottle Vermont Syrup
at 25c a bottle.
10 STAMPS with one
box A. & P. Currants
at 10c a box.

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With one 18-oz
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this one, "the greatest of them all."

INDIANA'S ROLL OF HONOR

27 Counties Dry by Remonstrance.
7 Counties Dry by County Option.

COUNTY.	MAJORITY.
Wabash	897
Lawrence	1,508
Pike	917
Putnam	1,564
Tipton	1,581
Decatur	1,708
Hamilton	2,396

WHO PAYS THE LICENSE ?

"The saloonkeeper doesn't pay it. He produces nothing. As far as he is concerned he has nothing to pay it with. Who pays it then? Those who can least afford it and those of whom it ought to be least expected. The drunkard's family pays the saloon license. See the poor woman, pale and wan and wretched, wearing her life out over the washboard. What is she doing? She is paying the license. See the little boy going along the street half clad, with his feet protruding through the holes in his shoes, and with degradation written on every line of his face. What is he doing? He is paying the saloon license. Equity is a great word in the law, and in the Constitution of the State. Is there any equity about that? We have boards for the equalization of taxes. What is the board to do in such a case as that? What can conscientious voters do in the matter but VOTE DRY?"

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