1914

Report of the Superintending School Committee and the Superintendent of Schools for the Municipal Year 1913-14

Ellsworth (Me.).

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REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee

AND THE

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FOR THE

MUNICIPAL YEAR

1913--14

CAMPBELL'S JOB PRINT

ELLSWORTH, MAINE.

1914.
SCHOOL OFFICERS
OF THE
CITY OF ELLSWORTH
1913--14

SCHOOL BOARD:
E. J. WALSH Term expires March, 1914
R. E. MASON Term expires, March, 1914
E. K. HOPKINS Term expires, March, 1916

Officers of the Board:
E. J. Walsh, Chairman
Mrs. C. O. Hopkins, Secretary

Superintendent of Schools:
Mrs. Clara Osgood Hopkins.

Truant Officers:
Schuyler Higgins Herbert Ash

Office of Superintendent, Hancock Hall.

Office Hours:
Tuesdays, 3 to 5 P. M.
Saturdays, 2 to 5:30 P. M

Regular meetings of the school board are held on
the last Tuesday of each month at 4:45 P. M.
REPORT
OF THE
Superintending School Committee.

To the Honorable Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ellsworth.

In submitting its report for the municipal year, 1913, the school committee herewith express its gratitude and appreciation of the splendid corps of teachers, the superintendent of schools and your co-operation towards maintaining the continued high standard of scholarship in its schools. To continue the high standard of our schools, we trust you will carefully consider our requests for appropriations for the coming school year.

We also direct attention and hope you will carefully consider the suggestions and requests of the superintendent of schools in her report for the school year 1913. It clearly outlines the conditions and growing needs, which will have to be met in managing school work for the coming year.

We earnestly recommend these various sums of money to be expended under the different accounts for the ensuing municipal year, viz:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High school fund</td>
<td>$2,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common school fund</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text-books and supplies fund</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoolhouse fund</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We further call your especial attention to our request for the sum of $300. for the High school, in addition to the appropriation of $2,300. which was asked for
last year. This additional sum is for the purpose of maintaining our splendidly equipped commercial course, added to the high school curriculum the past year. This, we believe, will at once meet with instant approval, as this course means so much to some of our ambitious pupils, who are anxious to take up and complete this course to fit them for gaining a livelihood upon their leaving school, and whose parents could ill afford to send them away to learn this course because of the necessary expenses of tuition, travel and board, if we had to discontinue the same for lack of funds.

Edmond J. Walsh, Chairman,
E. K. Hopkins.
R. E. Mason.
Gentlemen of the School Committee of the City of Ellsworth:

In accordance with the usual custom, I beg leave to submit the report of the superintendent of schools for the year ending February 10, 1914.

The year has been a busy one, the effort has been steadily made to raise the standard of scholarship and generally improve conditions.

The meetings of your board have been held regularly on the last Tuesday of each month throughout the year, also many extra meetings to consider the repairing and remodeling school buildings. More and more attention is given sanitary conditions, nearly every child provides his or her own drinking cup and in the near future we hope to see the sanitary paper towels provided by the city funds, as the common towel is recognized as a carrier of disease. While there is still room for improvement, it is gratifying to know there have been changes for the better during the past year.

We have escaped an epidemic of scarlet fever, but that dread disease has appeared in isolated cases with a persistency that has cost us great anxiety and many dollars.

The schoolhouse on the Shore road, No. 19, burned last June, the municipal board did not consider it necessary to rebuild as the number of scholars was so small. The most of these pupils attend the schools at the Falls. There was an insurance on the building but none on the
books and furnishings. As every thing was destroyed by fire it was an unexpected expense to replace them.

TEACHERS.

You have happily been able to retain the older teachers in the common schools, who have by able, loyal public service proved their worth. In June you re-elected all the teachers for the ensuing year, to their respective positions with the same salaries as paid last year. The following teachers declined re-election; Martin A. Garland, Catherine Hurley, Ruth Maddocks. Abbie Richardson, Vera Seeds, Minerva Jordan, Julia Barron and Lyda True.

Howard G. Moore was elected teacher of school No. 2, Bernice Macomber No. 3, Alice Clough No. 7, Marcia Bellatty No. 8, Rena Sargent No. 13, Wesley Moore No. 14, Annie Clark No. 18 grammar school at the Falls.

Always with a thought for economy as well as efficiency, last winter you decided that it would be practical to dispense with the assistant at the School street grammar, the two teachers cheerfully performed the increased labor this change entailed and the results have proved satisfactory. Adelia Barron the former assistant, was transferred to school No. 11. All these new teachers entered upon their work with an interest that indicates success. With great regret you received the resignation of Bernice Macomber, but failing health would not permit her to finish the fall term. Mrs. Wylia Frost Gibbs, a former successful teacher, consented to complete the term. Parents and pupils as well as the board appreciate the generous spirit with which Mrs. Gibbs responded to an emergency call and the efficient help rendered. Miss Lydia A. True has accepted the position for the remainder of the year.
At the Falls the public spirited citizens continue to pay Miss Phillips of Bangor, for giving musical instruction in all three schools. This year they asked you to buy singing books, which you were glad to do, it would indeed be a happy thing if some such arrangement could be made for all the schools; a recent writer says, "It is a wise step when an elementary course of vocal music is added to the course of study, it will save the teacher much loss of energy in controlling the school and will give the children something of permanent value. The ability to sing the best of patriotic and national songs and many of the familiar folk and plantation songs should be the heritage of the young people when they go out from the schools."

Last June the city government notified you that they had received the resignation of Mr. Harry Crabtree from the school board, Mr. Ralph Eugene Mason was elected to serve the remainder of the municipal year.

TRANSPORTATION.

This seems to be the most difficult problem to solve. By the State law each child is entitled to all the privileges of the public school. The city extends over many miles, the children are scattered in various directions often only one or two in a neighborhood so that the expense of transporting and boarding is a very serious one. The schools Nos. 7, 8, 9, have been continued though they fail to maintain the required average of eight. On one visit this winter, I found two scholars present in one school and four in another.

The expense of transportation has been greater this year just closing, than usual and at the present time there are three new scholars asking for transportation.

The "higher cost of living" applies to school affairs as well as to individual; for coal, wood and nearly every
service we pay for as cleaning, banking, etc., costs more than five years ago.

The new cumulative record cards received from the State superintendent have been distributed to each school and the records made as requested. It is believed that positive gains come to the schools by keeping accurate records of each child.

Every one recognizes and emphasizes the moral responsibility of the public school teacher, but another point of view was brought out at a great meeting last New Year's day, in Cleveland, Ohio, called the Fathers' and Sons' Movement. One speaker said, "Parents are much too apt to allow the schools to take the whole responsibility for the education of their children. They forget that the school controls them only about one-seventh of the child's life, five hours of the twenty-four, five days in the week. If we are to have children educated in the true sense of the word, parents must supervise the six-sevenths of life outside the schools as carefully as the teachers watch and guard the school life. The hours actually spent in the school room are mostly spent in the acquirements of facts. It depends upon the parents to furnish the most important part of a real education, inspiration and moral training that go into the development of a personality".

I cannot miss this opportunity to plead for a longer school year. Certainly there should be at least thirty-six weeks in the school year to properly fit for a high school, that in turn fits for the colleges. Every one interested in education or in the standing of our town as compared with towns of similar size would appreciate the improvement.
TEXT-BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.

Our books are in good condition, no whole new sets of text-books have been purchased during the year, but new ones bought to replace those worn out. New supplementary readers have afforded pleasure to part of the schools and it is hoped that another year will provide for the rest.

There was the unusual cost of buying every thing new to replace the books and supplies destroyed by the Shore road fire, also those burned on account of scarlet fever. Any unlooked for bill though comparatively small makes serious inroads, where the fund is so limited and every dollar is planned for some necessary book or supply. It requires a large part of the appropriation to buy paper, crayon, writing books, erasers, report cards, spelling blanks and numberless things of every day use.

EYE AND EAR TESTS.

In compliance with the State law, with the assistance of the teachers, I have tested the eyes and ears of all the pupils in the city and rural schools, the results are filed in the office of the superintendent.

In every case where the sight or hearing fell below a certain standard the parent or guardian has been notified.

IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE.

Many of the schools have continued the work in the LEAGUE though the rural schools maintain more vigorous life than the city.

The money raised has been spent for various things needed in the school room, some schools have bought the new silk flag of the STATE OF MAINE. Nos. 13 and 14 deserve special mention, No. 13 under Miss Sar-
gent gave an entertainment much enjoyed by parents and scholars and with the money had some things repaired, painted the old blackboards and bought a new clock. No. 14, under Wesley Moore with the assistance of pupils gave an entertainment, with the money raised bought a clock, mirror and several needed articles, at Christmas time the parents joined the school and had a fine tree with gifts and goodies for all, the room was appropriately decorated, much enthusiasm was shown.

SCHOOLHOUSE AND REPAIR.

Last year the city government generously increased the appropriation for this branch of the work to one thousand dollars, this noticeable increase was greatly appreciated, and surely you can give a good account of your stewardship.

The State superintendent makes a very strong recommendation that a special report on the condition of all the school buildings, particularly in reference to heating, lighting, ventilation, sanitation and danger from fire, shall be given. Believing, that many towns having an exact statement of conditions, would provide for reasonable improvement that are necessary to safeguard the comfort, health and safety of school children.

Many minor repairs have been made on different buildings: No. 2 has had new windows; No. 4 had cellar wall laid over, underpinning repaired, new cellar windows; No. 7 new windows, plastering repaired, interior painted and kalsomined; No. 18, the wall and underpinning repaired, new posts and some new flooring, the fire escapes on the School street and Pine street buildings have been scraped and painted and new hard wood floors laid in the primary and intermediate rooms. Pine street, all the buildings at the high school received two
new coats of paint on the outside, such a marked improvement has been noticed and enjoyed by all that pass that way, also new steps were built.

The first of August the city government notified you, that they had decided to take the old State street schoolhouse, which had been condemned by the board of health as unsanitary, for a store house, it was then necessary to provide a room for the scholars who had formerly attended that school. The city could ill afford to build a new schoolhouse, finally you decided to remodel two unused rooms in the School street building.

This involved quite an outlay, as a projection and several windows were added, partitions torn down, a radical change in the plumbing, new blackboards, walls and ceiling painted, furniture varnished and many small changes and repairs. But all was in readiness for the September term. The room though rather small for so many scholars will accommodate them until the city is able to provide better quarters.

The outside of this building very much needs painting to preserve it, you made a vigorous effort to accomplish that this year and asked for sealed proposals to estimate the cost and found the funds would not permit it. The interior of building No. 15 needs thorough renovating; this year you asked for sealed proposals to estimate the cost of installing a new heating plant and modern, sanitary plumbing, but the lowest bid was greater than the resources would allow.

It is important that these two pieces of work shall be done next year. At the last moment in January, when we felt so much had been accomplished and had kept within the appropriation, one of the furnaces at the Pine street house gave out entirely, there was only
one thing to do if the school was to continue, that was to have a new furnace, which was accordingly done and when the mercury dropped twenty below zero, all were thankful the new furnace was in readiness. Another year No 6 should have all new windows as the room is very cold, No 7 needs shingling, No 8 needs painting, many minor repairs that would make the rooms more comfortable and attractive could be done for a small amount of money. The buildings all need poles or some means of flying the flags the city has purchased.

HIGH SCHOOL.

That Mr McLellan remained principal of the high school is a cause for congratulation to both students and citizens. Under his efficient, faithful guidance the school has steadily progressed and the year been satisfactory not only in regard to actual work accomplished in the text books, but in the general condition of the school.

With regret you learned that Mr Packard and Miss Brown declined re-election to their positions in the school.

Mr. Alfred S. Adams, A. B., graduated from Colby was elected sub-master. Miss L Pearl Mitton, also graduated from Colby, was elected second assistant; both came well recommended and had had successful experience in high school work. The new course required a fourth teacher and one of our own young ladies was elected, Miss Nellie Frances Drummey, who entered upon her work with enthusiasm, also, which from a financial standpoint is of almost equal importance; she is willing to come in for two periods a day, the salary of a teacher for the full day would have been prohibitive.
The school is in class A and ranks well with the other schools in the State; the laboratory, though meagerly equipped with physical and chemical apparatus is sufficient to do the required work, but an increase in this department would be profitable. The new COMMERCIAL COURSE added this year has proved popular. The board has voted to award a special diploma to any student completing this course, which has been opened for a small tuition fee, to persons not members of the school.

The school at the opening of the September term was larger than for many years. Naturally there has been a falling off in the number, as many Freshmen find the required amount of work greater than they are willing to give often greater than they have mentalability for. But each student had to be supplied with all the new books for the different studies, which materially increased our expenses.

To establish the new course three typewriters, a Remington, Smith-Premier and an Underwood were purchased. These, with the tables, text-books for bookkeeping and stenography and all the necessary outfit, noticeably increased the expenditures, but this fundamental outlay will not have to be repeated, and for every dollar expended there has been an equivalent return.

This course affords a grand opportunity for our young people. As has so often been remarked, only a very small proportion of pupils pursue their studies farther than the high school. Until this course was offered the boys and girls had to go out of town, incur the expense of travel, board and tuition besides the inconvenience of being away from home, to fit for any special work.
The insistent demand of the modern business world, that the man or woman whom it employs must be well fitted, makes this opportunity of such value that it justifies the outlay.

Last term for the first time in many years the students issued a school paper, the "Recorder." This paper has been judged by persons not connected with the school to rank above the average school publication and is a source of increased interest. There is also a press committee whose duty it is to send notes of affairs to the weekly "American." The school spirit seems to have developed in a wholesome manner; the students manifest interest in the Literary club and Athletic association. They are now planning a series of entertainments to raise money to buy a new encyclopedia and reference books that are seriously needed and we never have money enough to get them. We appreciate the fact that it is the influence and efforts of the teachers that has stimulated the students to higher ideals.

Education is three-fold in its nature, dealing with the mental, physical and moral nature of the pupil. The schools may give excellent mental training, but the best results can only be attained when the home and school are one in this important task.

A circular letter received from the State Superintendent calls attention to a movement which has for its object more simple and rational graduation exercises for secondary schools. These exercises have become in many schools highly artificial and unduly expensive, wholly inconsistent with the fundamental purposes for which our school system is maintained. The public high school is a democratic institution and should countenance no customs or traditions that are beyond the reasonable
means or effort of any boy or girl. I am only too happy
to endorse the purpose of this movement, in fact, every
year since I have had the care of the school work, I
have protested against undue extravagance and expres-
sed a desire for less elaborate and less expensive gradu-
tions and believe that public opinion will sustain any
effort to make the graduation exercises simple and rep-
resentative of the real work of the school.

We earnestly desire the co-operation of the parents
and wish their visits to the school could be often enough,
for them to keep in touch with the work demanded by
the different courses, also the work actually being
accomplished by the pupil. It would give new courage to
the teachers. I beg leave to quote a part of the Teach-
er's Creed by Mr. Grover, "I believe in boys and girls
the men and women of tomorrow, I believe in the curse
of ignorance, in the efficiency of schools, in the dignity
of teaching and the joy of serving others, I believe in
beauty in the schoolroom, in the home and in out of
doors."

I thank you, gentlemen of the school board, for your
cordial cooperation and unvarying courtesy throughout
the year. By State law the demands on the superintend-
ent's time and energy seem to increase each succeeding
year, but the burden of responsibility has been lightened
by your wise counsel and ready response in all matters
affecting the welfare of the school. I am glad to express
my appreciation of the loyal and sympathetic support of
the teachers, glad also for this opportunity to thank the
members of the city government for many favors and
their generous efforts in increasing the appropriations
last year for the school and schoolhouse funds, which made possible the many improvements reported.

Respectfully submitted,

CLARA OSGOOD HOPKINS,

February 10, 1914.
COURSE OF STUDY FOR COMMON SCHOOLS

GRADE I.
Reading—Word teaching from chart, book and blackboard. Arnold Trimmer.
Numbers—Count to 100. Combine numbers to 12.
Writing—Write all small letters with pencil on practice paper. Write own name.

GRADE II.
Reading—First reader, Stepping Stones to Literature. Have pupils tell the stories that they read in their own words.
Spelling—Oral and written. Select from book.
Numbers—Teach pupils to read and write numbers to 1,000. Combine Numbers to 30 in simple addition and subtraction.
Writing—Use Book No. 1. Use practice paper in connection with the book.
Oral lessons in both grades in kindness, morals and manners, singing, physical culture and marching at each session.

GRADE III.
Reading—Second Reader. Drill in simple punctuation marks.
Spelling—Words from reader and selected list.
Writing—Use Book 2, with pen and ink. Practice forearm movements, first with pencil on practice paper.
Language—Have pupils write short stories and rewrite after corrections.
Teach Memory Gems.
General exercises as in Grade II.

GRADE IV.
Reading—Third Reader.
Arithmetic—Part II of Book 1, Milne's Arithmetic. Review thoroughly.
Language—McClintock and Rafter's series, 1st term to page 40; 2d term, page 40 to 68; 3d term, page 68 to 97.
Geography—Book 1 of Natural Introductory Geography.
Spelling—The Champion Speller, Part 1, section 1.
Writing—Practice forearm movement with pencil, Book 3 with pen and ink.
GRADE V.

General exercises as above.

Reading---Fourth Reader.

Arithmetic---Finish Milne's Arithmetic, Book 1 and review.

Grammar---Page 97 to 122, 1st term; 122 to 153, 2nd term; 153 to 193
3rd term.

Geography---Book 2, Natural Introductory Geography and review.

Spelling---Champion Speller, Part 1, section 2.

Writing---Practice forearm movement with pen and ink. Use Book 3.

GRADE VI.

Reading---Fifth Reader.

Arithmetic---Part 1, Book 2, Milne's Arithmetic.

Grammar---Page 173 to 200, first term; 200 to 226, 2d term; finish book
3rd term.

Geography---Take to countries north of United States, page 87. Part 1,
Natural School Geography.

Spelling---Champion Speller, Part 1, section 3.

Writing---Insist more on correct position. Use Book.

History---In 3rd term take to page 84, Beginner's American History.
Compositions twice each term. General exercises.

GRADE VII.

Reading---Sixth Reader.

Arithmetic---Part II, Book 2, Milne's Arithmetic.

Grammar---1st term, Book 2, part 1, to page 19.
    "        "        "        "        II, " 103.
    "        "        "        "        1, " 19-36.
    2d term, "        "        "        "        II, " 106-188.
    "        "        "        "        1, " 36-53.
    "        "        "        "        II, " 188-213.

Geography---Finish Part 1 of Natural School Geography. Review.

Spelling---Champion Speller, Part II, section 4.

Writing---Book 4.

History---Beginner's American History, 1st term, pages 84-184; 2d term, finish book and review; 3d term, begin Mowry's Essentials of United States History; take to page 63.
General exercises. Compositions.

GRADE VIII

Reading—Seventh reader.

Arithmetic—Milne's, Book 3. 1st term, begin at Percentage page 192 to 230; 2d term, 230 to 258; 3d term, 258 to 287; omit Exchange.


Geography—Book 2, Natural School Geography; take to page 131.

Spelling—Champion Speller, part 11, section 5.

Writing—Book 5.

History—Essentials of United States History, pages 65-125, 1st term; pages 125-140, 2d term; pages 140-252, 3d term.

Physiology—Overton's applied. Twice a week for a year.

GRADE IX

Reading—Stepping Stones. Reader for higher grades.

Arithmetic—Milne's Book 3. 1st term, pages 387-327; 2d and 3d terms, complete and review.


Geography—Complete and review Book 2, Natural School Geography.

Writing—Book 6.

History—1st term, pages 252-312; 2d term, 312-378; 3d term, review book.

Map drawing should accompany the studies in Geography. Familiarize the pupils with the map of Maine. Teach local geography.

Pay special regard to Composition work in connection with Grammar Recitations are required twice per term of each scholar.
## COURSES OF STUDY—ELLSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL.

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<th>LATIN—SCIENTIFIC</th>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
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<td>Geology</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Latin</td>
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<td>Commercial Geography</td>
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<td>or Astronomy</td>
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The figures at the right of each study indicate the number of recitation periods per week.

* German given only when entire class takes it.
# List of Teachers

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<th>No</th>
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<th>Grades Taught</th>
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<td>Margaret G Drummey</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Surry Road</td>
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<td>Infant Street</td>
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<td>Adelia W Barron</td>
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<td>Wesley M Moore</td>
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<td>Olive W Davis</td>
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</table>

High School, Howard A McLellan, A B, Principal $1,100.00 per year.
Alfred S Adams, A B, First Assistant, $900.00 per year.
L Pearl Mitton, second assistant, $500.00 per year.
Nellie F Drummey, third assistant, $250.00 per year.