

Newsletter130

Keith's Corner/McGill News

November 5, 2021

Rules for Teachers

I found this list of rules, hanging on the wall in the old McGill School building. I had gotten permission to enter the building along with David Robb to take some pictures for an upcoming book on the McGill 6,7,8, grade building, which was called the 'New building' in our time, circa 1940s.



It was in the teacher's lounge. I am sure the teachers of today don't have the same rules,

RULES FOR TEACHERS

1872

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for each day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupil.
4. Men teachers will take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemingly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefits during his declining years so he will not be a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

During those early years in the 1870s, many of the schools in the western US were one room affairs, especially in small towns or on ranches. There was one at Cherry Creek. The Pescio ranch had a small one to educate the Pescio boys. My father told me that when he first went to work for Consolidated Copper (fore runner of Kennecott) on the labor gang, that his crew was sent to the Duck Creek dam area to tear down a one room school house. That would have been in the late 1920s, probably 1926-29. The copper company at that time would hire young men at 15-16 years old and my father was born in 1911.

Many schools used the McGuffey (sp) reader. Textbooks were very limited. The curriculum was a lot different back then. History and government were

important topics along with English and math. I have seen examples of the tests given the pupils in those days and the questions are very difficult. The kids came out of those schools very well educated. It must have been the fact that they all had to sit thru the lectures and actually pay attention. The room was full of kids from various class years. The young ones got a sample of what was to come in their later years and the older kids were treated to hearing the same lessons many times over. Gee, what a concept—teaching and discipline all at the same time.

I presume that this set of old time rules was in the teacher's lounge in the McGill school to remind the teachers of just how lucky they were.

McGill News

The weather has been perfect. Beautiful fall days. But, winter is coming. McGill survived another Halloween.

Rudy's crews have been working on the RV park north of McGill and also some work is being done on the IOOF Hall.

Oldies

1922—Feb. 5—Tommy McBride is the new soda “jerk” at the McGill Club.

1922—July 26---Mr. Jenson from Salt Lake is the new barber at the McGill Club.

During the 1920s prohibition era, the McGill Club relied a lot on the soda fountain, barber shop and pool tables for a lot of income. There were some tables for card games etc and I am sure, that there was a sufficient amount of bootleg booze flowing.

Old Photo



This photo was left off at the McGill Drug Store. There is no date and no explanation on it anywhere. The banner in the middle has the letters, P. S. F. & H. and local 611. The banner on the right has stars on it. I think this photo was taken at the City Park in Ely. Anybody want to help with a date/names??