

SCHOOLS WILL OPEN?

**BUT WAIT—READ THIS ARTICLE
CLEAR THRU.**

Such Difference of Opinion Develops Among the Opinionated. Doctors Disagree, Also Others Who Are Not Doctors.

Our public schools in Gunnison and throughout the county will open on Monday, January 6th, but the High School and Normal opening has been deferred for a short time thereafter.

This decision was reached at a joint meeting of those in authority held yesterday afternoon. Members of the school boards, teachers, Board of Health officials, physicians, town trustees and county commissioners and others were in attendance. There was much opposition to opening of the schools at all, and it looked for a time as tho those who advocated it would lose out after mature counsel, the decision was made as above.

In Gunnison it is proposed to have a physician regularly on duty to inspect every pupil early in the day, and see that none are admitted, who show any trace of cold or possible flu symptoms. In this manner it is believed the schools instead of being a source of infection, will prove a positive way of detecting the disease should it start in any family that has little folks, as it can be traced immediately to the home. Dr. F. D. Sanford, has been selected as physician while Miss Fredelia Lamar, of the Normal school faculty, physical director and a trained nurse, will assist in examining the children and in giving physical exercises suitable for the climate and the circumstances.

Undoubtedly there are some parents who feel strongly about the possible danger and will prefer to keep their children at home for a time, but on the other hand many parents feel just as strongly that children will be in more danger on the streets than under medical supervision of the public schools.

They argue that why the decision to close the schools for the three months just past, was made in good faith and according to the best light at the time, it is now evident there was no reason why they should not have been running right along. It is doubtful whether very many cases are anywhere traceable to the schools, and it is certainly better to spend some money for daily inspection by physicians than to let the children run the streets and pay ten times the money for teachers sitting in idleness. Moreover, if resumption of school work were delayed much longer it would have to be abandoned for the year, since it would be impossible to graduate the pupils, and this is true of the High School and Normal students as well. The time limit has very nearly expired. They say it is a very serious thing to deprive two thousand school children of a year's study, and throw many of them permanently out of an education.

It is hoped that if the situation continues to be favorable that by the time the public schools have run a week or two, the Normal and High School can be safely opened. There is of course, no more danger from these than from the city schools, for students who might come from a distance, if given the quarantine treatment will become one with our community and could not possibly carry the disease.

We understand it is not the intention to release the quarantine on the town at all on the individual case or the family of those affected.

Altho the decision as above was supposed to have been instantly agreed to yesterday, we learn just as News-Champion goes to press, that Dr. A. W. Bachelder has resigned his position as county health officer in charge of the quarantine, stating that a divided quarantine will fail. Dr. H. S. Ryan, city health officer then announced that he had changed his mind about yesterday and favors the opening of the city schools.

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