

# WAUSAU PILOT

E. B. THAYER, Editor and Prop.—VOL. XXXIV.

WAUSAU, WIS., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1899.

## WAUSAU HIGH SCHOOL.

Completed and Opened For School Purposes Yesterday Morning.

The Finest High School Building in Wisconsin, and One of Which We Are Proud.

Nothing could have been more appropriate for the opening of the new High School than the ideal autumnal weather of yesterday. The scholars old and young, reflected the joy of the day in their delight over the appointments of this great temple of learning. The long weeks of anxious waiting had at last ended, and now the reward had come in the form of a school building that has few equals in the Northwest and an assembly room without a peer anywhere.

When the electric program clock sounded the call to order, at 8:30 A. M., almost 300 pupils took their seats in the large assembly room,—the room that is to be the study room of the high school, county training school and eighth grades, and where they are to be seated when not reciting their lessons.

At 9 o'clock the electric clock sounded the signals for the pupils of the first floor and within a short time six of the eight rooms were filled, there being a kindergarten, a sub-primary, a first primary, a fourth grade, a sixth and a seventh seated in these rooms. From the remarkable growth of our city it looks as if the two remaining rooms would soon be filled.

Now that the building is practically completed it might not be out of place to give a more detailed description of it than has heretofore been presented.

The building is constructed of red pressed brick and Bedford limestone and is finished in red oak, the floors being maple. It is in the English collegiate style of architecture and is arranged primarily for practical school purposes, no detail of lighting, ventilating, or warming being overlooked. The seats are all adjustable so that each pupil has a seat that fits him. The light in every case falls over the left shoulder, while the practical Venetian blind protects the eye from the glare of the sun. The ventilation is assured through the operation of a large Blackman fan, run by two water motors. The whole school operates as a unit through the absolute precision of a Frick program clock which rings all signals, and operates secondary clocks placed in the various rooms so that all teachers have exactly the same time. Each floor has its toilet rooms so that there is no unnecessary running up and down stairs. Electric light fixtures everywhere indicate that the building can be used at night for various purposes.

But let us step into the basement. Here we find a large south room which is some day to be fitted up for manual training. It runs over 80 feet in length. This room has its counterpart in the south rooms, east of this, which are to be used for instruction in domestic science. Thus the industrial side, so often neglected, yet constituting the larger part of a city's life, is here recognized and will some day receive its proper dues. At either end of the basement is a bicycle room, the one at the west for the boys, the east room for the girls. Here are also shower bath rooms and dressing rooms which lead to the gymnasium. This spacious



NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING OPENED MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 23d, 1899.

room is 75 by 35 with a running track and gallery, and although five feet lower than the rest of the basement it is as well lighted as the class rooms.

There are four large entrances from the street to the building. The south and north entrances are used by the pupils on the first floor. Besides the eight class room there are on this floor a teacher's room, a text book room and two toilet rooms.

The east and west entrances are used by the pupils of the eighth grade, high school and county training school. This arrangement separates these pupils from the grades below, and permits them to go directly to the second floor.

On the second floor are found eight recitation rooms, to be used by the county training school, high school and eighth grade scholars, the officers of the Board, the City Superintendent, the High School Principal and the Principal of the Training School. Three hundred lockers are disposed along the corridors. The best room of this floor, and in fact of the whole building, is the magnificent assembly hall. Its sloping floor, its arched ceiling set off in oak panels and studded with electric light clusters, its generous stage, the charming views secured from its windows of our beautiful city, make it an inspiration to earnest study and

better living. Other high school assembly rooms have flat ceilings, and which give a depressing effect, but this ceiling running in a graceful curve is an elevation to the spirit. Twenty years from now strong men and fair women will look back with pleasure to the happy hours spent within its cheerful walls.

The third floor contains the business training rooms. These overlook the city south and west. Rib Hill looms up in the distance. The tables in this room and the teachers' desks throughout the building are made of quarter sawed oak and add much to the building. The rest of the south rooms on this floor overlook the city and part of east hill. Two of them are laboratories, one for physics with dark room in connection with it, and one for biology and botany; a third is a science lecture room, with sloping floor. These rooms are all piped for water, gas and waste. The southeast room is a beautiful recitation room, and another adjoins it on the west. For drawing there are two north rooms, thus securing the best light for this purpose.

The building covers over 15,000 square feet of floor space and is located on a site covering six and one-third acres, giving ample room for out door play and sports. It is the pride of our citizens and reflects great credit upon our Board of Education and Common Councils.

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