

SCHOOLS ARE CROWDED MORE BONDS TO COME

Believed That Board of Education Will Ask for Issue of \$500,000.

High School Begins Second Half of School Year With 125 New Pupils.

All of the public schools opened for their last half of the year Monday and there was an increased attendance at the High school of 125 and increases in all of the graded schools.

In the Omaha View district the day was a happy one because the children all reported at the new Omaha View school at Thirtieth and Blaney streets, and no longer must imperil their lives in the ramshackly old building at Thirty-second and Corby streets.

The board of education has an option on vacant property at Twenty-first and Channing streets, and it is the plan of the board to use the material from the old Omaha View school in building a shop for the superintendent of buildings and a supply depot for the schools on the new location.

The old Omaha View site will be on the market for sale, as will the old Pacific school site and building, which is now the shop and depot. The building has been condemned as unsafe.

The overcrowding of the school buildings, and the necessity of replacing some of the present school buildings with new ones, is emphasizing with the members of the board the necessity of calling for a new \$500,000 bond issue. The board is the one body in the city that has a sufficient sinking fund to pay off bond issues, and in two years it will have \$385,999 accumulated to pay off a bond issue of that amount then falling due. Therefore a \$500,000 bond issue would mean but a comparatively small increase in actual indebtedness.

The present High school building, even with the south wing added, is overcrowded, and to complete the quadruple with the west and north wings would necessitate the tearing out of the old red brick building, and then the capacity will be about the same as at present. Inasmuch as the old red building is unsafe the board desires to remove it as quickly as possible and to complete the new building.

To relieve the prospective congestion at the High school there is a rapidly growing demand for a north side High school, and the board members generally agree that one must be built in the near future. There is also a demand from the south side for a High school, but owing to the fact that South Omaha has a fine High school building, the board members believe that the building of a new south side High school should be held in abeyance in the belief that consolidation of the two cities will soon come about and that the situation may be relieved by sending the students from the south end of Omaha to the South Omaha building.

The most urgent necessities in the way of grade schools now are for a new building at Miller park, an addition to the Central Park school, an addition to the Windsor Place school, an entirely new building to replace the present Castellar school, which is an old and flimsy structure, and an entirely new building to replace the present Bancroft school, which is also a flimsy structure, and not large enough.