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DEPARTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENCE, KANSAS CITY, MO., FEB. 26—MARCH 3, 1917

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PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENCE

President—John D. Shoop, Superintendent of Schools, Chicago, Ill.

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The following is a general outline of the program of the Department of Superintendence. Rev. Frank Gunsaulus, President Robert J. Aley, United States Commissioner P. P. Claxton, Superintendent William M. Davidson, and State Commissioner John H. Finley have definitely assumed specific topics upon which they will speak.

The first meeting will be held Tuesday evening at which time, in addition to the usual introductory program, an address will be given by a person of national reputation.

At the meeting Wednesday morning, the general topic will be—A Stronger Foundation for, and a Better Command of, Spoken and Written English, with four speakers representing elementary schools, high schools, normal schools, and colleges.

Wednesday evening the general topic will be—Uniform Standards and Correlative Factors in Public School Education, sub-divided into: (a) Standards of School Architecture and Schoolhouse-Construction; (b) Standards of Individual Health Among Children; (c) Standards of Personal Ethics and Individual Conduct Among Children; and (d) Standardized Units of Achievements among Pupils and Measurable Standards of School-Administration.

Thursday morning the general topic will be—Defining the Scope of Education. The papers presented will be: (a) Legitimate Range of Activity of the Junior College from the Viewpoint of Public School Education; (b) Relations between and Differentia Defining Work of Public School Education and Philanthropy; (c) Relations and Lines of Demarcation between Fields of Industry and Public School Education; and (d) Vocational Guidance Based upon Predetermined Mental Aptitude. Following the papers, there will be a report of the Committee on Relation between Boards of Education and Superintendents, after which the regular business meeting will be held.

Thursday afternoon will be occupied by round-table conferences. The conference for state and county superintendents will be presided over by Nathan C. Schaeffer of Pennsylvania. The conference for superintendents of cities with a population of over 250,000 will be presided over by William M. Davidson of Pittsburgh. The conference for superintendents of cities with a population between 25,000 and 250,000 will be presided over by Superintendent E. U. Graff of Omaha. The conference for superintendents of cities with a population under 25,000 will be presided over by Frank T. Vasey, Charles City, Ia. The conference for Directors of Educational Research will be presided over by Walter S. Monroe, Kansas State Normal School, Emporia, and the conference on Compulsory Education, School Census and Child Welfare will be presided over by Superintendent J. M. Gwinn, New Orleans.

Thursday evening the general topic will be—Observable Tendencies toward a Nationalization of American Education, with three sub-divisions: (a) Its Legitimate Field and Its Relation to State and Local Agencies; (b) Plans and Objects: How it Might be Made to Articulate with Local Initiative; (c) Results Which One Might Reasonably Anticipate.

Friday morning the general topic will be—Educational Poise. The first subject presented will be—Variations in the Ratio of Time to be Given to the Mental and Manual Elements in the Different Grades of the Elementary Schools and Their Relative Values in Developing Educational Symmetry: (a) As Related to the Mental Growth of Children; (b) As Related to the Child's Social and Economic Efficiency. The second paper will deal with—The High-School Teacher's Professional Preparation. The third paper will deal with—The Health Problems of the Rural and Village Schools, after which a report will be presented by the Committee on Military Training in the Public Schools.

Friday afternoon the first topic will deal with—Educational Innovations and Experimental Movements: (a) The New Country School; (b) Studying the Child's Educational Opportunities; (c) A New Organization of School Activities. Another topic will be—Kindergarten Training for Every Child. The Committee on Economy of Time in Elementary Education will make its report.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

President—William B. Owen, Principal, Chicago Normal College, Chicago, Ill.

Vice-President—Augustus S. Downing, First Assistant Commissioner of Education, Albany, N. Y.

Secretary—Adelaide Steele Baylor, Vocational Division, State Department of Public Instruction, Indianapolis, Ind.

Executive Committee—A. J. Matthews, President, Normal School of Arizona, Tempe, Ariz.

Executive Committee—Ellen C. Sabin, President, Milwaukee-Downer College, Milwaukee, Wis.

Executive Committee—David B. Johnson, President, Winthrop Normal and Industrial College, Rock Hill, S. C.

The first meeting of the National Council of Education will be held Monday evening. The topics discust will be—A Constructive Program of the National Council, The Control of Educational Progress thru Legislation, and The Control of Educational Progress thru School Administration.

At the Tuesday morning session the subjects discust will be—The Control of Educational Progress thru School Supervision, The Control of Educational Progress thru Educational Experimentation, The Control of Educational Progress thru Professional Preparation, and The Control of Educational Progress thru Professional Organization.

Tuesday afternoon, the Joint Committee on Health of the National Council and the American Medical Association will present a report, following which there will be a round-table discussion conducted by A. Duncan Yocum, University of Pennsylvania, of the Report on the Course of Study as a Test of Efficiency of Supervision.

CONFERENCES ON NORMAL SCHOOLS

State Group

Chairman—J. A. Pitman, Principal, State Normal School, Salem, Mass.

At the first meeting, Charles McKenny of Ypsilanti will discuss—The Teacher's Growth in Service, and William M. Davidson of Pittsburgh will discuss—The Normal School from the Superintendent's Point of View. Franklin B. Dyer of Boston will lead the general discussion. At the second session Payson Smith of Massachusetts will discuss—Standards in Teacher-Training, the general discussion to be led by Fred L. Keeler of Michigan, and Charles P. Carey of Wisconsin.

City Group

Chairman—R. W. Himelick, Cleveland Normal School, Cleveland, Ohio.

The subjects for discussion at the conference of City Normal Schools will be—Standards for Measuring Teaching Efficiency, Reciprocal Relations of the City Normal School and the City School System, Team work of the Faculty, and a Report of the Committee on Organization.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF EDUCATION

President—Charles E. Chadsey, Superintendent of Schools, Detroit, Mich.

Secretary—Guy M. Whipple, Professor of Education, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.

The Committee of the National Education Association on Economy of Time will issue as a Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education, a second report upon the problem of Minimum Essentials in Elementary-School Subjects.

This Yearbook will be printed in time for distribution before the meeting and certain aspects of the report will be arranged for the annual meeting of the society, which will be held on Monday evening.

SOCIETY OF COLLEGE TEACHERS OF EDUCATION

President—Will Grant Chambers, Dean, School of Education, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Secretary—Guy M. Wilson, Head of Department of Agricultural Education, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

The Society of College Teachers of Education will follow the same general program which it had at Detroit. Sessions will be held in the forenoon and afternoon of Monday and the forenoon of Tuesday, with luncheons on each day.

AMERICAN SCHOOL PEACE LEAGUE

President—Randall J. Condon, Superintendent of Schools, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Secretary—Fannie Fern Andrews, 405 Marlborough St., Boston, Mass.

The regular reception and dinner of the American School Peace League will be held at the Hotel Muehlebach, Thursday Evening, at six o'clock.

CONFERENCE OF TEACHERS OF EDUCATION IN STATE UNIVERSITIES

Chairman—S. P. Capen, Specialist in Higher Education, Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

Commissioner Claxton has asked that the usual conference of teachers of education in state universities be held at Kansas City, and has designated S. P. Capen to take charge of the same.

ASSOCIATION OF PRINCIPALS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS

President—B. F. Brown, Lake View High School, Chicago, Ill.

Secretary—F. M. Hammitt, Mason City, Iowa.

Last spring about seventy-five high school principals met in Chicago and organized the Association of Principals of Secondary Schools, deciding to meet regularly at the same place and time as the Department of Superintendence.

At the first meeting which will be held Monday afternoon, Feb. 26, the president will give an address, and W. M. McAndrew, Associate Superintendent, New York City, will speak on—Needs of a Professional Consciousness Among High School Principals. This will be followed by a banquet at six o'clock.

Tuesday morning, Principal B. F. Buck, Chicago, will speak on—The Relation of the Secondary Schools to the Colleges and Universities; and William C. Wood, State Superintendent of High Schools, California, will discuss—Can the Prerogative of High-School Principals be Defined?

One other meeting will be held at which the subject of High-School Measurements will be discussed by high-school principals.

SCHOOL GARDEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

President—Van Evrie Kilpatrick, Public School No. 26, New York, N. Y.

Secretary—E. Ruth Pyrtle, Principal, McKinley School, Lincoln, Nebr.

The School Garden Association of America will have two regular meetings in addition to its customary dinner and illustrated lecture. At the first meeting the topic will be—School Gardens in Missouri. The leaders in the discussion will be E. R. deVigne, Kansas City, and H. C. Irish, St. Louis. At the second meeting the general subject will be—Who should Support School Gardens? The leaders in the discussion will be Albert Shields, Los Angeles; K. C. Davis, Peabody College, Nashville; and R. V. Steeves, Director of Elementary Agricultural Education, Sussex, N. B.

ASSOCIATION OF HIGH SCHOOL SUPERVISORS AND INSPECTORS

President—J. L. Henderson, Director, Department of School Visitation, University of Texas, Austin, Tex.

Secretary—L. L. Friend, Supervisor of High Schools, State Department of Free Schools, Charleston, W. Va.

Two sessions of the Association of High School Supervisors and Inspectors will be held. At the first, the subject—State High-School Conferences will be discussed by H. A. Hollister, University of Illinois, and C. A. Ives, State Department of Education, Louisiana. J. D. Elliff, University of Missouri, and J. B. Percy, State Department of Public Instruction, Indiana, will discuss—Visitors Reports: Their Forms and Uses. A. B. Meredith, State Department of Public Instruction, New Jersey, and W. Scott Thomas, University of California, will discuss—Methods for Testing High Schools.

At the second session W. C. Wood, Board of Education, California, and E. M. Phillips, State High School Board, Minnesota, will discuss—The Administration of State Aid for High Schools. C. D. Kingsley, Massachusetts Board of Education, and H. H. Horner, University of the State of New York, will speak on—The Inspection of Each Subject by a Specialist, following which the regular business meeting will be held.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS

President—Charles S. Foos, Superintendent of Schools, Reading, Pa.

Secretary—E. M. Carter, Secretary, Missouri State Teachers Association, Columbia, Mo.

The Federation of State Education Associations will hold one meeting Tuesday afternoon at which time the president of the association will present a "Survey of State Educational Associations." The other meetings of the association will be held in connection with the Committee on Organization of the National Education Association.

INTERNATIONAL KINDERGARTEN UNION

President—Catherine Watkins, Supervisor of Kindergartens, Washington, D. C.

Secretary—May Murray, Editor "Kindergarten Review," Springfield, Mass.

The usual meeting under the auspices of the International Kindergarten Union will be held. Cora L. English, Supervisor of Kindergartens, Kansas City, will have charge of the arrangements. The general subject for the meeting is—Development of Initiative and Self-Government. The usual banquet will be held.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DEANS OF WOMEN

President—Kathryn Sisson McLean, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio.

Secretary—Rhoda M. White, State College of Washington, Pullman, Wash.

Deans of Women will have their headquarters at the Kupper Hotel. Reservations may be made thru Alice M. Whitney, State Normal School, Emporia, Kans.

Daily conferences will be held in the parlors of the hotel at which informal discussions of practical problems will be presented.

At the formal meeting Paul Monroe, Teachers College, Columbia University, will discuss—What Constitutes Training for a Dean of Women; Helen M. Bennett, Manager, Collegiate Occupation Bureau, Chicago, will discuss—Vocational Guidance, and Hattie Moore Mitchell, State Normal, Pittsburg, Kans., will speak on—The Common Tie. Other addresses will be given by Mary M. Talbot, of the University of Chicago, and Gertrude Shorb Martin, Executive Secretary of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae.

EDUCATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

President—Henry G. Williams, Editor, "The Ohio Teacher," Columbus, Ohio

Secretary—Julia Fried Walker, Business Manager, "Educator-Journal," Indianapolis, Ind.

The Educational Press Association will hold its customary dinner, followed by the annual business meeting.

AMERICAN HOME ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION

President—Catharine J. MacKay, Dean, Home Economics Department, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

Secretary—Alice P. Norton, 1326 E. 58th Street, Chicago, Ill.

The American Home Economics Association will have its headquarters at the Kupper Hotel and will hold its meetings on Friday. At the morning session the president will speak. Henrietta Calvin, United States Bureau of Education, and J. H. Francis, Columbus, will speak on—Some Administrative Problems in Home Economics in the Public Schools, and W. W. Charters, University of Missouri, will speak on—Project Work in Teaching Home Economics. The School Luncheon as a Project in Teaching Foods and Cookery in the Elementary and High Schools, will be discust by Essie M. Heyle, Kansas City; Mary McBaker, Memphis; and Jennie Shaw, Chicago Normal College. Mable Barbara Trilling, University of Minnesota, will discuss—Basis of Choice of Projects in Clothing Courses in Elementary and High Schools.

At the afternoon session Elizabeth Sprague, of the University of Kansas, and Josephine T. Berry, University of Minnesota, will discuss—The Fundamental Interrelation of Courses in Home Economics and Other High-School Subjects; Hildegarde Kneeland, University of Missouri, will discuss—Teaching the High-School Students Their Responsibilities as Consumers; Anna Byers, Kansas City, will discuss—A Consideration of the Subject-Matter of Textiles as a Part in the Teaching of Clothing; Miss Holman, Kansas Agricultural College, and Miss Miller, University of Chicago, will discuss—Principles of Design in Relation to the Teaching of Clothing and House-Furnishing.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE INSPECTORS AND SUPERVISORS OF RURAL SCHOOLS

President—Neil C. Macdonald, State Inspector of Rural and Consolidated Schools, Valley City, N. D.

Secretary—L. J. Hanifan, State Supervisor of Rural Schools, Charleston, W. Va.

A conference of the leaders in rural education will be conducted under the auspices of the Association of State Inspectors and Supervisors of Rural Schools. Four sessions will be held.

At the first, President Aley will speak; President Macdonald will speak on—A State Program of Rural-School Education; Commissioner Claxton will speak on—A National Program of Rural-School Education; and C. C. Swain, State Commissioner of Rural Schools for Minnesota, will speak on—Consolidation of Rural Schools. The remainder of the session will be devoted to discussion.

At the second session, L. H. Bailey, of Cornell University, will discuss—Rural-Life Possibilities; C. J. Brown, State Supervisor of Rural Schools for Louisiana, will discuss—Rural-School Development in the South; L. J. Hanifan, State Supervisor of West Virginia, will discuss—Rural-Community-Center Work, following which there will be general discussion.

At the third session, The Training of Rural School Teachers will be presented by C. P. Cary, of Wisconsin, and T. A. Hillyer, of the State Normal School, North Dakota. The Teaching of Agriculture in Rural Schools will be presented by Lester F. Ivins, of the Kent Normal College of Ohio, following which there will be a general discussion.

The fourth meeting will be in the form of a Round-Table Conference, presided over by Harold W. Foght, from the United States Bureau of Education.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

President—R. K. Row, Chicago, Ill.

The Educational Publishers Association will probably hold its meeting on Tuesday Evening.

COUNCIL OF STATE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION

Chairman—Nathan C. Schaeffer, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, Pa.

Three round tables of the Council of State Departments of Education will be held.

At the first, the topic will be—The Standardization and Consolidation of Schools. Mary C. C. Bradford, of Colorado, will present the paper, and C. G. Schulz, of Minnesota, will open the discussion. Harlan Updegraff, of the University of Pennsylvania, will present a Report of the Committee on College Certification of Teachers.

At the second, devoted to the interests of county superintendents and county supervisors of Schools, Albert S. Cook, of Towson, Md., will act as chairman and the general discussion will be on—Present Aims and Methods of Rural Schools. George D. Strayer, Teachers College, Columbia University, will speak on—Improving the Quality of Instruction by Means of the Annual Teachers Institute. Ellen McDonald, County Superintendent, Oconto, Wis., will speak on—Improving the Quality of Instruction by Means of Conferences with Groups of Teachers During the School Year. Oliver J. Morelock, Superintendent of Essex County, N. J., will speak on—Improving the Quality of Instruction by Means of the Organization of a Course of Study for Rural Schools by the Teachers, under the Leadership of the Supervisor or Superintendent.

At the third, the topic for discussion will be—How the State Department of Public Instruction and the County Superintendents may best cooperate for the Advancement of Education in the State. Frank B. Pearson, of Ohio, will present the subject from the viewpoint of the State Superintendent, and Charles C. Williams, Richmond, Ind., will speak from the viewpoint of the County Superintendent.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS AND PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

President—Mrs. Frederic Schoff, Philadelphia, Pa.

Secretary—Mrs. Arthur A. Birney, Washington, D. C.

The regular conference of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations will be held at Kansas City, program for which will be announced in the next Bulletin.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

Chairman—Ella Victoria Dobbs, Assistant Professor of Manual Arts, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.

The National Council of Primary Education will hold its second annual meeting at Kansas City. There will be a discussion of successful methods of overcoming the obstacles in the way of a greater use of activities in the Primary School. The meeting will be followed by a luncheon to which a cordial invitation is extended to all interested in primary education. Complete announcement will be made in the next Bulletin.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

President—Edwin M. Hopkins, Professor of English Language, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kans.

Secretary—James F. Hosc, Head of Department of English, Chicago Normal College, Chicago, Ill.

The National Council of Teachers of English will hold two sessions at Kansas City.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS AGENCIES

President—C. J. Albert, Chicago, Ill.

Secretary—Charles W. Mulford, New York, N. Y.

The headquarters of The National Association of Teachers Agencies will be at the Coates House. An interesting and important program will be announced in the next number of the Bulletin. It is hoped that every Teachers Agency will have a representative present. Inquiries may be addressed to either of the officers.

KANSAS CITY

Historical and Industrial

Thomas Hart Benton, one of Missouri's first senators, in the course of a speech at Randolph Landing in Clay County in 1852, looked at the bluffs to the south and west, where Kansas City now stands, and said; "Here, where these rocky bluffs meet and turn aside the sweeping current of this mighty river, here, where the Missouri after pursuing her southern course of nearly two thousand miles turns eastward to meet the Mississippi, a great manufacturing and commercial community will congregate and in less than a generation will see a great city."

Senator Benton was looking upon a region old in the commerce of the great West. Nearly fifty years before, Lewis and Clark had camped on the spot where Senator Benton stood, and the commercial value of the Missouri River soon became more attractive than its scenery. In 1819, fifteen years after Lewis and Clark saw the mouth of the Kansas River, the region became the center of the fur trade of the Missouri River valley. The same year saw a line of steamers plying between St. Louis and this fur-trading center. The rapid development of river transportation was the one factor which made possible the rapid growth of the district about the mouth of the Kansas.

The "Town of Kansas" got its name from the Kansas or Kaw Indians who originally occupied the land, and for whom the state of Kansas subsequently was named. The village was platted in 1839 and incorporated in 1850 under the name of the "Town of Kansas," which was changed to the "City of Kansas" in 1853, and to Kansas City in 1889.

The incorporation of the village was necessary for greater security at that time, for Thomas Benton in 1852 could see a long line of "fortyniners" in white covered wagons approach the town from the north, cross the river by ferry at the foot of Main Street, and continue their way westward to outfit for the last time with American-made goods before making the long journey to Santa Fe, Mexico, there to take the offerings of Spanish goods from old Mexico which made possible their journey to the coast. This Pacific Coast trade made necessary the railroad. In 1860 the first railroad was begun and five years later trains came to the City of Kansas from the East, and left for the West. The first bridge across the Missouri river was completed in 1869, and the commercial supremacy of Kansas City as a distributing center for the Missouri valley region was assured.

From these humble beginnings Kansas City has become the second largest railroad center in the United States being served by sixteen trunk lines and thirty-two distinct subsidiary lines. Two hundred sixty passenger trains carry on an average 28,000 people to, and from, the city daily. The Union Station which contributes to the comfort of these travelers is the largest in the United States outside of New York, and one of the best equipped in the world. Kansas City has water-transportation to the upper Mississippi, to the Great Lakes, and to the sea.

More than 25 per cent of the population of the United States resides in a rapidly developing territory of which Kansas City is the commercial center. The advantageous location of Kansas City enables her to provide unsurpassed transportation service, either by water or rail, to the great West and Southwest. This has brought to Kansas City many great industries; it has given the city the greatest mule market in the world; the greatest yellow-pine market in the world; the greatest hay market in the world; the greatest winter-wheat export market in America. Only Chicago exceeds Kansas City in its packing-house products. These are only five of the twelve hundred industries that have established themselves in Kansas City. Federal recognition of Kansas City's commercial worth came in the location of Federal Reserve Bank No. 10 which has 958 subscribing banks in the Kansas

City District. The population of Greater Kansas City is over 400,000, standing fifteenth in population among the cities of the United States. Eighty per cent of the population is native-born and 91 per cent is white. Kansas City is located only a few miles east of the geographical center of the United States, and gives promise of fulfilling the prophecy of James J. Hill, the great builder of railroads and communities, when he said, "Kansas City is the destined greatest city west of Chicago, holding an unapproach supremacy of resources and opportunity."

In no way is the wise foresight of the men who planned for the future Kansas City better shown than in the provision for the education and happy environment of its future citizens. Kansas City's school system controlled by a non-political school board is described below. To provide good surroundings for the youth of the city, advantage was taken of the natural scenery on the bluffs south of the Missouri River to develop a magnificent system of parks and boulevards not surpassed by any city in the world. The 2,600 acres in nineteen parks, and the sixty miles of connecting boulevards included in this system give Kansas City the reputation of being one of the most beautiful cities in America. Eighty per cent of juvenile delinquency has disappeared in the neighborhoods adjacent to these parks.

Kansas City, tho not built on as hallowed ground as that on which the "embattled farmers stood" is not wholly lacking in historical interest to the student of post-civil-war days. The Old Wornall homestead used as a hospital for Union soldiers after the battle of Westport, "The Gettysburg of the West," and located in the beautiful Country Club district, is still occupied by the Wornall family. The Harris home in old Westport, once a famous hostelry for the prairie-schooner travelers to the West, now is a store house; and the Benton rock from which he prophesied the greatness of the city, tho still to be seen by the traveler, is nearly submerged beneath a great city wholly new to Benton's time.

Education

Kansas City, fifty years ago, had only 16 teachers and 1,200 pupils in its newly organized public-school system. Now it has 1,370 teachers and an enrollment of 51,755. The city takes pride in its complete system of public-school work, extending from the kindergarten to the junior year in the university, and consisting of 81 elementary schools, 6 high schools, a junior college and a city teacher-training school.

The school district of Kansas City is a corporation entirely separate and distinct from the city. It comprises a territory of 55 square miles whereas the city contains 48 square miles. The freedom of the school district from city control, its independent taxing power and its bipartisan board of directors remove it entirely from local, political influence. The official organization of the district is very simple. The government and control of the school district is vested in a board of directors consisting of six members who are elected two each biennial period for terms of six years. This plan of organization has been in operation for forty years, during which time only thirty-six men have served on the board of directors. One member served twenty-eight years, another served for nineteen years as president of the board, and James M. Greenwood served as superintendent of schools of this city for thirty-nine years. The organization of the school district contributes to continuity of policy and progress. Visitors who come to Kansas City next February will have an opportunity to see the work that has been done and is being done by an independent system of schools. They will see a school system that has not solved all its problems but a system that is now courageously engaged in meeting the multiplicity of problems that have arisen in the readjust-

ment of education to meet the new conception of the functions of a public-school system and the new demands of modern society.

Kansas City has the second largest school system in the United States that maintains a seven-year elementary school course only. From this plan several advantages accrue to the community: first, one year is saved for the pupil in his elementary-school time; second, a large percentage of pupils enter and complete the high-school course. Last year the high schools of Kansas City enrolled 14 per cent of all the pupils in the schools. Fifty-eight per cent of all the pupils in the elementary schools continue to the end of the elementary-school courses, and 19 per cent to the end of the high-school course.

The seventh-grade pupils in Kansas City have been measured by means of a number of standard research tests and their scores seldom fall below, and generally exceed, the scores of eighth-grade pupils in eight-grade school systems. It is believed that visitors will find that the high school work of Kansas City, tho based on a seven-year elementary school course, compares favorably with that of any other city in the country. The graduates of the eleven-year course take high rank in the colleges and universities of the Central States and also of the East.

In the organization of the elementary schools, much freedom is granted the principals. The majority of the schools are organized by placing one teacher permanently in charge of each room of children. However, some schools use the departmental plan in the grammar grades, others, the semi-departmental plan, and two of the elementary schools are organized on a modified-Gary plan and are departmentalized above the second grade. In five elementary schools, prevocational work is given in grades six and seven.

Physical education in Kansas City is making progress. All the new school buildings are provided with gymnasium, assembly rooms, and large playgrounds. The physical-education work is in charge of a supervisor and two assistants, together with twelve teachers of physical education, who conduct the gymnasium and playground work in the elementary schools, and assist the medical inspectors. In addition to this work, all the elementary teachers understand calisthenics thoroly and give a ten-minute drill each day. Medical and dental inspection is under the supervision of the municipal board of health which maintains three free dental clinics for the deserving poor of the entire city.

The city maintains one school for the deaf, three open-air schools, two schools for subnormal children, one problem school for boys, one school of mechanical trades for boys of the sixth and seventh grades and the first two years of high school, and the McCune Parental Farm Home for boys who are wards of the juvenile court. The McCune School provides homes for about two hundred boys and is very successful in caring for and reclaiming wayward boys. The Girls' Parental Home is being developed on the same general plan as McCune Home.

During the last four years Kansas City has given much attention to school gardens. Last year, gardens were maintained in 62 schools and there were 3,004 home gardens and 994 vacant-lot gardens under the supervision of the commissioner of agriculture of the school district. A central garden of 38 acres designed for demonstration work for both school and community has been secured.

A director of vocational and manual-training instruction has supervision of all instruction in the industrial, manual training, and household-art subjects. He is assisted by a supervisor of household arts and a supervisor of manual training, and the instruction in these subjects in the elementary schools is given by special teachers. All girls in grades four to seven are given work in household arts and all boys in these grades are given work in manual-training and vocational subjects. In music, in addition to the usual course of study in grade music, special attention is given to chorus work and school orchestras in the elementary schools.

There are now nineteen elementary-school orchestras. In drawing, the aim of the department for a number of years has been to avoid copy and abstract work and to give courses of instruction that will function in the lives of the pupils in their homes and in the industrial world.

The city maintains four cosmopolitan high schools, one manual-training high school, one mechanic-arts school and one high school of commerce. In the cosmopolitan high schools and in the manual-training high school, the group elective system is followed. In higher education, the city maintains a junior college with an enrollment of over three hundred students and a city teacher-training school for training teachers for the elementary schools, with an attendance of eighty pupils.

During the past four years the sum of \$4,000,000 has been expended on new school buildings and new equipment. The total value of the school property is now \$11,000,000. In this time two new modern high schools have been built and eleven new elementary schools. Additions have been made to several elementary schools. The largest of these elementary schools cost \$225,000, and contains 24 classrooms, 2 gymnasiums, shower baths, assembly hall, open roof for playground and open air rooms, library, play rooms, dispensary and teachers' rest room. Two of the elementary schools are of the one-story type with lighting from above. The rooms are arranged around a court which serves as gymnasium and assembly room, making a very beautiful, economical, and convenient type of school building.

SUGGESTED CHANGES IN PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

During the last four years, the Secretary has endeavored to study the organization of the National Education Association with the idea of suggesting ways in which changes might be made in the interests of efficiency and with the idea of securing a greater interest in the work of the Association by the rank and file of the teaching fraternity than heretofore. He has made a careful study of the plans of organization of other national associations and has submitted most of the suggestions which follow to the Committee on Organization at meetings held in Detroit and New York.

Under our charter, provision is made for three classes of members—active, associate, and corresponding. Our present by-laws prescribe an enrolment fee the first year for active members. This provision should be retained, for it permits the person who desires to take an active part in the management of the Association from the beginning to do so. However, every year a large number of persons take out associate membership. These members never become very firmly attached to the Association, and only a small percentage retain their membership in after years. A provision under which active membership would automatically accrue to associate members who had maintained their associate membership for a period of three consecutive years would have a tendency to increase the active membership from a class of teachers who would be sure to retain their interest for a considerable length of time.

Under our present by-laws, an active member of the Association is a member of every department. During the last two years, we have had the same person elected as an officer in two different departments at the same time. The organization would be strengthened if voting rights were restricted to a single department in addition to the general Association.

There is a wise provision relating to the National Council of Education which restricts the number of members which it may have from any one state. Another provision would be wise, to the effect that every department of the Association should be represented in the National Council of Education by at least one member interested in that particular phase

of education. If any branch of education is sufficiently valuable to warrant the Association in establishing a department, it ought to be sufficiently valuable to warrant the Association in requiring that its selected educational body contain a representative of that type of education. Provision might also be made that only persons who have maintained a membership in the Association for a period of five years should be eligible to membership in the Council.

For ease of administration, the fiscal year should close on June 1, and the Executive Committee has recommended that such a change be made.

The First Vice-President of the Association should be Editor-in-Chief of "The Journal of the National Education Association."

Provision should be made by which the final selection of the meeting place for the Department of Superintendence would be vested in the Executive Committee and President of the Department, following the vote of preference taken at the regular business meeting.

The present plan of operating the nominating committee does not secure the interest of as large a proportion of the active membership as it should. The increase in summer school activities has lessened the attendance of active members upon the summer meeting. The attendance of active members on the afternoon of the first day when members of the nominating committee are chosen is usually very small. A large number of active members could be secured at the time of the meetings of the state teachers associations. If the meetings of active members were held at that time, there would not only be a larger number present, but the fact that the call for such a meeting was printed in the program of every state association would increase the interest in the National Education Association. Such a meeting should be permitted not only to select its representative in the nominating committee or electoral college, but also to select its member of the Board of Directors. It has been suggested that with an active membership from the different states varying from 13 to 764, it would be much more democratic if each state were given a vote in the nominating committee or electoral college on the basis of a definite number of members. If this were done, each state could elect as many representatives as it was entitled to votes, or elect a single representative with power to cast its entire vote, just as it chose. Permitting the elections to be held at the time of the teachers associations would necessitate a provision for electing alternates, in case those first chosen were unable to be present at the summer meeting. The work of the electoral college should be to ratify the nominations made by the several states for directors, and to select the officers now named by the nominating committee. Under our present plan, it always happens that some states are not represented on the nominating committee, owing to the fact that the person named could not be notified, altho the annual program contains the notice as to the time and place of meeting. With the members chosen in this manner, it would be possible to print the list in the program, and it is probable that a larger attendance would be secured. Certainly a larger number would take part in the selection of state representatives.

For the purpose of securing a widespread representation in the officary, the membership might be divided into four zones: eastern, southern, western, and north central. The officers to be chosen by the electoral college are: President, twelve Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer, in addition to the directors, the nominations of which by the several states would be ratified. The provision requiring the retiring President to be the First Vice-President is a wise one. It might be wise to provide that the President each year should be selected from a different zone than the one for the preceding year, and that the Treasurer should be selected from a different zone than the President and First Vice-President. Since the present plan of organization was adopted, only two Treasurers have been elected

for a longer period than a single year, and the above provision would be in harmony with the custom.

Provision could be made for a system of nominations to these offices in advance of the meeting of the electoral college, and these advance nominations might be printed in the June Bulletin, so that members of the electoral college would know in advance the names that were to be presented for consideration.

Institutional active membership is recognized by the Association, and such members may be represented by duly accredited delegates, but such representatives should not be eligible to hold office in the Association or its departments.

The Executive Committee is the body that represents the Association during the period between meetings. It is composed of the President, First Vice-President, Treasurer, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and a member chosen by the Board of Directors. If, as suggested, the President, Vice-President, and Treasurer represent different zones, a provision might be inserted that the member chosen by the Board of Directors should be chosen from the fourth zone, and thus each section of the country would have a representative on the Executive Committee.

The Board of Trustees, the body charged with the handling of the Permanent Fund and the election of the Secretary, consists of four members, elected one a year by the Board of Directors, and the President of the Association, ex officio. A provision requiring that each zone should be represented on the Board of Trustees would be in harmony with the other suggestions, and a further provision that automatically the chairman of the Board should be the member whose term next expires would give each member of the Board one year's experience on the Executive Committee during a term of office.

In the same way that nominations for President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer were filed in advance for the consideration of the electoral college, nominations could be filed in advance for Trustee and a Member of the Executive Committee, to be considered by the Board of Directors, and during the last year of every term of office of the Secretary, nominations for Secretary could be filed for consideration by the Board of Trustees. The effect of these advance nominations would be to bring to the attention of the respective bodies the names of a larger number of available members than are secured under our present plan, with the result that elections would more nearly represent a deliberate choice after a careful consideration.

A SUGGESTION

The "Western Teacher" in its November issue reproduced a letter written by a superintendent of schools a few weeks before he started for the meeting of the Department of Superintendence at Detroit. He sent a copy of the letter to each of the eighth-grade rooms. Will it not be a good idea for each of the more than 1,000 superintendents who will be attending the meeting at Kansas City next February to present a somewhat similar problem to their eighth-grade children?

"To the Eighth Grade:

"I am planning a trip to Detroit. To what books can you refer me, giving information concerning Detroit? Please state the page in each and the important points covered.

"What institutions should I visit? What industries should I see? Is it merely by chance that these industries have been located at Detroit?

"How shall I go to Detroit? What will be the advantages of the route which you suggest? What will be the character of the country through which I pass and how can I arrange my traveling so as to see much of it? What are the important industries along this route and what cities are centers of each?

"An early reply will be appreciated.

"Yours very truly."

1917 MEETING

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held at Albany, N. Y., Monday, December 18, at which all members of the Committee were present except Mr. Pearse, who was unable to be present owing to the death of his wife, it was unanimously agreed to hold the next convention at Portland, Ore., provided satisfactory railroad rates were granted by the Trans-Continental Passenger Association.

In a tentative vote cast by the Board of Directors at New York, Asbury Park was given first choice and Portland second choice. When the Executive Committee met, it considered in addition to those two cities, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and Washington. It was recognized by the Committee that each of the cities was able to take care of the convention and that each possessed advantages which would make a meeting at either place a success.

In planning summer vacations, teachers usually consider three items: the meeting of the National Education Association itself, the nearness to summer school advantages, and the possibility of travel in connection with the meeting. It was felt that Asbury Park offered the same conditions so far as summer schools and travel were concerned as were offered by the meeting at New York last year. In the judgment of a number of members of the Association, Asbury Park is located so close to New York City that it would be almost like holding two successive meetings in the same place. On the other hand, Portland is situated in a territory bounded by Minneapolis and St. Paul on the east, and Denver, Salt Lake City, Oakland and San Francisco on the south, within which a meeting of the Association has never been held. The Universities of Oregon, Washington and Idaho and the State Colleges of Oregon and Washington offered to arrange their summer schools with special reference to National Education Association members in case the meeting was held at Portland. European travel is closed to teachers at this time and it was felt that it was an opportune year for us to hold the meeting in the Great Northwest Territory. In addition to the wonderful natural scenery which is to be found within the borders of our own states, Canada and Alaska will open additional travel routes for the members of the Association.

We hope to present some details with regard to our arrangements in the January Bulletin.

THRIFT

Letters have been sent to every county superintendent in the United States and in those states not organized on the county-unit basis, letters have gone to the various township and district superintendents explaining the essay contest on the subject of Thrift for this year. It is proposed to award a medal to the writer of the best essay on that subject in each county, under such special rules as may be determined by the county superintendent. The suggestion has been made that the essays be limited to 1,000 words each as last year, and that each school in the county, whether public or private, rural or city, be permitted to send to the county superintendent the best essay written in that school. Last year as near as we can estimate, 20,000 different school children participated in the contest for which prizes were only awarded on a nation-wide contest plan. With the contest this year a county affair, it is expected that a much larger number will participate.

Copy for the monograph on Thrift has gone to the printer. This monograph will contain the seven essays receiving prizes as the result of the adult contest last year and a synopsis of the essays presented by the other contestants. In the January Bulletin, we will be able to announce the price at which these will be sold.

DEPARTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENCE

The next meeting of the Department of Superintendence will be held in Kansas City, Mo., from February 26 to March 3, 1917. The general meetings will be held in Convention Hall. The Commercial Exhibits and Registration will also be centered there. Convention headquarters will be located in Hotels Baltimore and Muehlebach.

The various passenger associations have taken action with reference to an open round-trip rate in connection with the Kansas City meeting as follows: Tickets will be on sale within the territory of the Western Passenger Association, the Central Passenger Association, and the Trunk Line Passenger Association February 24 to 26, and returning to reach the original starting-point not later than March 7. The New England Passenger Association has agreed to the open-rate proposition but has not fixed the dates of sale and final return limit. Practically all of the roads in the Southwestern Passenger Association have agreed to offer on open round-trip rate. The Trans-Continental Passenger Association offers its regular tourist ticket as being the best available for persons from the extreme western coast. Nothing definite can be announced with reference to the territory of the Southeastern Passenger Association. Full detailed announcements will be made in the January Bulletin.

Members of the Association who have not already made advance reservations for the Kansas City meeting and who desire to do so, will find it to their advantage to correspond directly with Otto F. Dubach, Superintendent's Office, Kansas City, Mo., who is chairman of the entertainment committee. Several of the hotels are already filled and you will save time and secure better accommodations by corresponding with him.

Some of the members of the National Education Association who expect to attend the meeting of the Department of Superintendence in Kansas City have written protesting against the conditions enforced in making reservations as well as, in some instances, against the prices charged. The following facts are stated for the information of our members: The number of rooms available at Kansas City in hotels of the class in which headquarters have been placed is limited so that the local people consider it necessary for every such room to accommodate as many persons as its capacity permits. If it is a double room it must house two persons. If the room is one ordinarily intended for three or four persons, that number of persons must be put into it during the meeting. This is the only way in which the membership who will be present can be taken care of. Those who attend, therefore, since the number of single rooms which are available is limited, should expect to pay the regular prices and to room with one or more persons. Any visitor who insists on having a room to himself, which is large enough to take care of more than one person, must be willing to pay the capacity rate of the room. It is, therefore, desirable to secure your roommate in advance if you are unable to obtain a single room. This is the same arrangement which the American Bankers' Association, which recently met at Kansas City, felt obliged to adopt after a careful study of the hotel facilities. This statement does not indicate that members will be unable to secure rooms. The local committee will be able to take care of all who apply but accommodations in large hotels of headquarter style are limited.

The Committee on Organization will have a conference with representatives of the various State Teachers' Associations on Thursday at a place which will be designated in the final program.

The following is the schedule of hotels:

BALTIMORE

11th, 12th, and Baltimore

Double Room, without bath	\$2.50-\$3.00
Double Room, with bath	4.00- 7.00

BRAY

12th and Baltimore

Single room, without bath	\$1.00
Single room, with bath	1.50
Double room, without bath	1.50
Double room, with bath	2.00

COATES HOUSE

10th and Broadway

Single room, without bath	\$1.00-\$2.00
Single room, with bath	1.50- 3.00
Double room, without bath	2.00- 4.00
Double room, with bath	3.00- 7.00

DENSMORE

912 Locust

Single room, without bath	\$1.00
Single room, with bath	1.50
Double room, without bath	1.50- 2.00
Double room, with bath	2.00- 2.50

KUPPER

11th and McGee

Single room, without bath	\$1.00-\$2.00
Single room, with bath	2.00- 3.00
Double room, without bath	2.00- 3.00
Double room, with bath	3.00- 6.00

MERCER

12th and McGee

Single room, without bath	\$1.00
Single room, with bath	1.50- 2.00
Double room, without bath	1.50
Double room, with bath	2.50- 3.00

MOORE

9th and Central

Single room, without bath	\$1.00-\$1.50
Single room, with bath	1.50- 3.00
Double room, without bath	2.50- 3.00
Double room, with bath	3.00- 6.00

RASBACH

12th and Wyandotte

Single room, without bath	\$1.00-\$1.50
Single room, with bath	1.50- 2.00
Double room, without bath	1.50- 2.00
Double room, with bath	2.00- 3.00

MUEHLEBACH

12th and Baltimore

Double room, with bath	\$3.00-\$7.00
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SAVOY

9th and Central

Single room, without bath	\$1.00-\$2.00
Single room, with bath	1.50- 3.00
Double room, without bath	2.00- 3.00
Double room, with bath	2.50- 5.00

SEXTON

12th and Baltimore

Single room, without bath	\$1.00-\$2.50
Single room, with bath	1.50- 3.00
Double room, without bath	2.00- 3.50
Double room, with bath	3.00- 4.00

SHERMAN

9th and Locust

Single room, without bath	\$1.00
Single room, with bath	1.50
Double room, without bath	1.50
Double room, with bath	2.50

VICTORIA

9th and McGee

Single room, without bath	\$1.00-\$1.50
Single room, with bath	1.50- 2.00
Double room, without bath	1.50- 2.00
Double room, with bath	2.50- 3.00

WASHINGTON

12th and Washington

Single room, without bath	\$1.00
Single room, with bath	1.50
Double room, without bath	1.50
Double room, with bath	2.00

WESTGATE

9th and Main

Single room, with bath	\$1.50-\$2.00
Double room, with bath	2.50- 4.00

WHITE

9th and Wyandotte

Single room, without bath	\$1.00
Single room, with bath	1.50- 2.00
Double room, without bath	2.00
Double room, with bath	2.50- 3.00

The Buffalo Public Library is anxious to secure a copy of the Proceedings of the National Education Association for 1872. If anyone knows of broken sets containing that volume, he would confer a favor by writing Walter L. Brown, Librarian.

The National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education has announced its meeting for Indianapolis, February 21 to 24. This time was chosen in order that a large number of teachers who are interested in the work of that Association as well as in the National Education Association might be able to attend both meetings with a minimum sacrifice of time. The decision to hold the meeting at Indianapolis was made because it will come at the close of a complete state educational survey which is being made by the State Board of Education. Arrangements will be made for special train service from Indianapolis to Kansas City following the close of their program.

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