

THE OBSERVER

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DECREASE IN SCHOOL POPULATION.

Are fewer children born? Do larger numbers die per million of population now than twenty years ago? Or is the average length of human life materially increasing?

These are questions suggested in the introduction of the statistical report of the United States bureau of education for 1911, following the statement that the percentage of the total population enrolled in the schools in 1910 was less than in 1890.

It is pointed out that important methods of gathering statistics account for a part of the loss, but on the other hand other authorities note that compulsory education laws and like social agencies are bringing a greater and greater proportion of children to the school house door.

The introductory statement to the education bureau document says in part: "There was an apparent decrease in the percentage of the total population enrolled in the schools as a whole from 22.54 in 1890 to 21.54 in 1910. The loss may be given in numbers as 919,723. In other words, the grand total of school enrollment in 1910 would have been 20,731,645 if the percentage of 1890 had been maintained in place of the 19,811,922 grand total.

"All this loss and more is suffered by the elementary schools, for the higher institutions made substantial gains and the secondary school showed marked increase in enrollment as compared with the total population.

"There is no reason for the belief that the schools have lost ground in reality. This comparison is with total population, not school population, and it is probable that there are relatively fewer children now than formerly.

"If there are not so many children proportionately, there will naturally be fewer pupils proportionately. Furthermore, it is well known that the constant improvement in statistical methods has resulted in the elimination of an increasing extent of duplicate enrollments. The decrease that results is apparent only and causes no concern."

In further support of this contention, figures are cited which show that had the apparent relative decrease of 919,723 in enrollment been real, the loss would have been more than made up in the increased efficiency of the common schools, for the per cent of average daily attendance increased from 68.61 in 1890 to 71.20 in 1910; the average length of school term increased from 134.7 days to 157.5 days between the same dates. At the same time the average number of day's schooling received by each child of school age increased from 52.9 in 1890 to 80.5 in 1910, while the average number of days attended by each pupil enrolled increased from 86.3 in 1890 to 113.6 in 1910.

NOT SO FOREIGN AS THEY SEEM.

In most of the great cities of the United States the proportion of the population which is composed of two classes—the foreign born and the native-born who are of foreign parentage—looms tremendously large to the average American who glances at the official figures.

He reads that in New York this part of the population is 78.4 per cent; that it is equally great in Milwaukee; that in Chicago the foreign-born and the native-born children of foreign-born parents constitute 77.5 per cent of the whole number of inhabitants, and that in Cleveland the proportions is 74.8 per cent. He finds in Boston those inhabitants who are foreign by birth or by parentage are 74.2 per cent; and in Detroit 74 per cent of the total with other large cities ranging down from 71.3 per cent in Buffalo to 69.9 per cent in Newark, 69.7 in Jersey City, 68.2 per cent in San Francisco and 67.2 per cent in Minneapolis.

But in one vital point these figures do not mean as much as they seem to

signify. They are based upon the curious assumption that the native-born son or daughter of parents one of whom is native-born and the other foreign-born ought to be considered of foreign rather than of native parentage.

There are great numbers of Americans of such mixed parentage and the majority of them have native-born mothers and foreign-born fathers, immigration being always composed more largely of men than of women. Sons and daughters of these native-born mothers grow up under such influences and in homes so dominated by American sentiment and American conditions, as a rule, that they are as much American as the average American who is of native-born parentage on both sides.

But for that matter millions of native-born children of foreign-born parents are so truly and thoroughly American that they might well be counted with the Americans of the older stock. They know no other country, in experience or feeling. All their schooling, their associations and their sympathies are thoroughly American. And in devotion to this republic and love of America, millions of naturalized Americans who were born in other countries cannot be surpassed by any of their fellow citizens, no matter how far back their American ancestry may go.

"WHY NOTS."

Edited by A. Long Mutt.

When you go to a place of business, no matter what kind, Why Not be more courteous to those whose duty it is to wait upon you. They are human as well as yourself even if they are unfortunate enough to be placed in a position where they have to take the discourteous treatment dished out to them by some who are narrow minded.

When you take down the receiver of your telephone and ask for a number but do not get it right away Why Not have a little patience? Central will surely get your number as soon as it is possible to do so, that is what she is there for. So hereafter have a little patience, be courteous, do not say anything you would not say if you were in her presence and life will be more pleasant, day by day, for you and the "Hello, Girl," too. And Why Not?

When you return home after a hard day's work—all tired out—feel as though you didn't care whether "school kept or not" and with considerable grouch aboard, Why Not try and leave all your work and thoughts of being tired behind you. Meet the wife with a smile on your face, be pleasant. She probably has had a "tough" day of it as you have and does not care to hear your troubles of office and shop. Why Not try this just once? you old grouch. I'll bet even you will see the difference.

Why Not chase your hat a couple of blocks last night?

Why Not swear because you forgot to bring your umbrella with you last night?

Why Not go to the carnival when the tents are all blown down?

Why Not have a girl out in the country and get good and wet coming to the carnival?

There are a number of other things that could of happened last night had it kept on raining and blowing and still they say it never blows or rains here. I would like to know, Why Not?

Why Not go to Sherry's?

Why Not go to the Arcade?

Why Not go to the Elite?

All of these show houses are putting on shows that are good enough for anybody's old dime. Good place to forget your trouble, and spend an hour of good educational entertainment. Take the wife and "kids." They will enjoy them; their appreciation will be shown in many ways afterwards. So, Why Not?

Do you attend church regularly on Sundays; if you don't why Not? Surely you could not go anywhere where you would be more benighted. We have good ministers for each church in town and plenty of churches and I know the ministers would be glad to see your face in their congregation next Sunday. Why Not? if you never have, try it just once, and if you are not satisfied, and the "preacher" has said bad things about

you, hunt me up and I will beg your most humble pardon.

If you intend taking a vacation this summer and are going to California or some other seaport, Why Not boost the county fair? Why Not boost La Grande? Why Not boost Union county? Why Not boost the state of Oregon? Any of these places are worth coming to see whether you are old or young, ugly or good looking, married or single. Tell them all about it and if they are "from Missouri" bring them home with you and show them, And Why Not?

If you get sore or disgruntled at anything I have to say in these columns from day to day and think that it is a personal matter that I am making out of it, Why don't you hunt me up and tell me what you think of me. Probably you will feel like taking a "poke" at me, but I will tell you one thing: I mean every word I say. You just study each one of these little squibs every day and I think that some of them will be shaving pretty close. But Why Not? You need it once in a while.

Young man, why not interest yourself in the work of the Y. M. C. A. which has recently been launched in this city. Time spent in such a manner will bring a reward, while if you idle the moments away you will see the day, you will wish that you had affiliated with this or some like organization. Why Not do it now? "Time and Tide wait for no man."

Union People Wed.

In the office of Justice of the Peace A. C. Williams yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock Thomas W. Plunkut, a machinist of Union married Mina A. Cunningham.

POSTPONE GAME FOR DARKNESS

BANKERS AND RAILROADERS PLAY GOOD GAME UNTIL THIRD

Darkness Then Causes Ragged Play and Game Is Postponed.

At the Twilight league game last evening two good innings of ball were played and then darkness interfered to such an extent that the game seemed to be played by 12-year-olds. At the end of the second inning there had been no hits and but one run marked up in favor of the Railroaders. In the third Stout walked the first man up, then struck out two straight, Stang next knocked out a three bagger, then followed three errors each of which let a man on first and then a two bagger by Carpy. The third out came with a long fly to centerfield after five men had crossed the plate.

It was the same story, only more so with the railroaders and when they had brought in four runs, making the score five all. Umpire Harding postponed the game on account of darkness.

There are several things that should be looked into by the management of the league. First—To start the games promptly and play ball as fast as possible. Second—To see that each captain has his men on the grounds and does not have to pick up spectators to fill the positions. The Palmer Hill team is the best in the league in this respect at least. But the greatest improvement would be to find a regular umpire. Since McCarthy left a new umpire has been used with every game except that Dr. Lincoln umpired two last week. It is not that the umpires are not doing good work but they are often players in other teams, or others who don't feel that they can use the authority they should. Last night's wrangling and several other little things that occurred caused the term 12 years to be applied and will quickly lead to disruption of the league.

SCORE BY INNINGS.

Bankers . . . . . 0 0 5
Railroaders . . . . . 1 0 4-5

SUMMARY.

First run, Railroaders 2; home run Stout; three base hit, Stang; Irwin; two base hit, Carpy; first or balls, off Stout 1, off Grady 1; struck out by Grady 4, by Stout 5; left on bases, Bankers 2, Railroaders 1; wild pitches, Grady 2; passed balls, Berry 2; first base on errors, Railroaders 1.

Bankers 3; sacrifice hit, Irwin; umpire, Harding.

RAILROADERS.

Table with columns AB R H PO A E and rows for Garry, 2b; Ralston, 1b; Irwin, cf; Stout, p; Fitzgerald, ss; Foster, lf; Elsworth, c; Brown, 3b; Thompson, rf; Charlton, cf.

BANKERS.

Table with columns AB R H PO A E and rows for Squires, ss; Stange, 2b; Wenzel, 3b; Geddes, 1b; C. Barry, c; Carpy, rf; Jacobson, lf; Grady, p; Scroggins, cf.

\*Two out when game postponed on account of darkness.

ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING.

Baker Lad Accidentally Shot in Right Arm While Hunting.

Baker, Aug. 14.—(Special)—Warren Adleman of this city was found about 8:30 o'clock this morning by Robert Donald and Alexis French, on the shore of Smith reservoir in a semi-conscious condition as a result of a gunshot wound.

Mr. Adleman is about 18 years old and was hunting on the reservoir when the accident happened. According to the story that he told the boys, the accident happened while he was in the boat and was lifting the gun with the barrel toward him. In some unaccountable way he managed to get to the shore and about 100 feet back but could go no farther.

It is impossible to tell how serious groans attracted the attention of French and Donald who were also out hunting. They thought at first that the noise was caused by some animal. After finding the young man French stayed with him and Donald came to town for the nearest telephone and called for help. By the time Dr. Huff and Chief of Police Riley had reached the scene other men had gathered and were bringing the injured man into town. He was taken to the St. Elizabeth hospital.

It is impossible to tell how serious the injury is as the physicians were unable to probe for the shot. The charge of the gun, entered in front of the right shoulder and ranged upward and it is quite possible that a part of it lodged in the upper part of the right lung. He bled very little and seemed to be suffering more from the shock of the accident than from the injury. The patient was given some stimulants and will be allowed to recover as much as possible before a probe for the shot is made.

It appears from the broken fragments of the story which the young man is able to give that he and a companion went hunting this morning about 3 o'clock but that early in the morning the companion had left. Adleman alone and he went out in the boat. The attending physician thinks it more probable that the accident happened when he raised his gun to lift it out of the boat. The shot was No. 5. As yet it is impossible to tell whether the boy will recover.

SENATOR McCOLLOCH MARRIED.

Baker Couple Prominent in Society, and Politics, Are Wedded.

Baker, Aug. 15.—(Special)—Last night at 7 o'clock at the home of the bride's parents, Judge and Mrs. M. D. Clifford, at 2628 Washington avenue occurred the wedding of Senator Claude C. McColloch and Miss Erma Clifford. The wedding was a quiet affair and only the immediate

In a Big Tent Friday, August 16, 1912 ADAMS AVENUE NEAR HEMLOCK STREET WEST BROS.' RAILROAD SHOW. A TEXAS RANGER SEE THE Cowboys, Soldiers, Indians, Mexicans, Rangers and Cowboy Girls. Watch For the Cowboy Band ONE PERFORMANCE AT NIGHT ONLY. Friday, August 16

relatives of the contracting young people were present. Rev. F. C. Stannard of the First Baptist church conducted the simple ring ceremony.

The bride was gowned in a beautiful, charming wedding dress daintily trimmed in lace and carried in her hand a bouquet of sweet peas. The bride and groom had no attendants. Mrs. John A. Trotter played the wedding march. The bride was given away by her father, Judge M. D. Clifford. The bride and groom will make their home in Baker after a wedding tour.

Both are well known young people of this city where they have lived for a number of years. The bride is a charming young lady and a university girl, has nearly completed her course in the University of Oregon, and the groom is one of Baker's leading attorneys, as well as a successful politician, having been elected to the state senate at the last election. Their many friends of this city will join in wishing all the happiness and success of which they are capable.

BROCK IS HONORED.

Man Who Captured Detroit Is Remembered With Statue.

Brockville, Ont., Aug. 15.—A monument in honor of the memory of General Sir Isaac Brock, who was in command of the Canadian forces against the Americans in the war of 1812, was unveiled in this city today, with interesting but modest ceremonies. The principal address was delivered by Col. Samuel Hughes, the Canadian minister of militia and defence.

The date for the unveiling of the memorial was appropriately chosen, since it will be just 100 years tomorrow since the surrender of Detroit, with which event the name of General Brock is most closely associated with

in American history.

General Brock was born on the island of Guernsey in 1769 and had a brilliant military career in the British service before he was sent to Canada. Nearly two years before the outbreak of the war between Great Britain and the United States he realized that the conflict could not be averted, and he began to put the province in a condition to meet hostilities. As soon as war was declared he advanced upon Detroit.

General Hull, the American commander—had retired to Detroit after a brief attempt at an invasion of Canada. The war department had made no adequate provision for the defense of Detroit, and upon the appearance of General Brock the American commander surrendered his entire army, with all its cannon, arms and stores. With the surrender of Detroit the whole of Michigan fell into the hands of the British.

General Brock was made a knight of the Bath for his victory at Detroit, but he survived his honors less than two months. An American force of 6,000 gathered on the Niagara frontier after the fall of Detroit and there General Brock gave battle near the middle of October. He was pierced by three balls while leading his troops and died where he fell. An imposing memorial column surmounted by a statue of the general marks the place of his death on Queenstown heights.

Elks, Attention!

The funeral of our late brother, Leo Herring, will be held at the Elks' auditorium Friday, August 16th at 2:30 p. m. All Elks are requested to meet at Elks lodge room at 1:30 p. m. sharp to attend the funeral.

T. J. SCROGGINS, Exalted Ruler.

LOST—Ladies Watch, initials A. K. C. Leave at this office and receive reward. 7-14-3t

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