# FURTHER DEFECTS IN CITY SCHOOLS

Teaching Forces, and System as a Whole, Deficient, Says Critic.

#### TEACHERS LACK TRAINING

Do Not Have Sufficient Education Nor Take Enough Interest in Their Work to Study-Ugly Buildings and Grounds.

#### FINAL ARTICLE ON SCHOOLS.

Herewith is published the fourth and concluding article of a series written by a prominent Portland educator in which the author has set forth the deficiencies of the local public school system as he sees them. For obvious reasons the name of the writer of the articles is withheld. In this final article the author aims to show that the schools are in the hands of a clique, and that the people have nothing to say regarding the election of members of the School Board, choice being made, he mays, by the City Superintendent of

#### FOURTH ARTICLE.

"What you would have in the Nation other great truism which no one hesitates

In spite of poor teaching, some forge to the front by innate self will. The many, however, need helpful stimulus. Our schools exist for no other purpose than to help the child to come to his beget growth-not to dwarf

To summarize some of the points where our school system is lacking, in our

public consideration: First-Our City Superintendent and his assistant lack broad scholarship, both having no scholarship record above a secondary school, not even a college or university course, to say nothing of post-graduate degrees. So far as we can learn neither, one has ever taken any of the lecture courses in higher pedagogy, offered by such universities as Clark or Columbia, as many of the leading educators of our country have been doing and yield indifferent results.

#### Principals Are Not Ambitious.

shown themselves students of their pro-fession, either by taking a year's leave of absence for study at home or abroad or even for a Summer course at the pedagogical universities, as the principals of other school systems have been encour-aged to do and have done in large numbers. So far as we can learn, with one exception, not a principal is pursuing any individual research work on his own initiative. Such a condition almost out-

ivals Sleepy Hollow itself.
Third—The relation of superintendents to The manager of a shoe far at the other end, all according to pattern. and each head of a department acts only as a cog in the great shoe factory wheel, but principals must be relied upon to know more than to supervise a pegging

and general, are made occasions for let-ture deliverances instead of mutual con-ferences, as they should be a part of the ject to no such rigid accounting of funds time at least. In these meetings ideas as the city must use in its work, are furnished teachers and principals ready formulated, making individual research as needless as it is unwelcome.
To have ideas and express them subjects architect in the thinker to shafts of sarcasm and speedy dismissal. Hearty co-operative effort is practically unknown.

# Self-Abnegation Wanted.

Fifth-The supreme quality wanted in both teacher and principal is blind, un-swerving loyalty and self-abnegation. This is true of the principal, in spite of the fact that he is called once a year before the teachers' committee to be placed on record as to the loyalty and teaching power of his corps of teachers. It is an open secret that those principals who dare to do so shift the undesirable teachers upon their less fortified brothrer of the craft and they, not daring to urge the dropping of such teachers, are discreetly silent, lest their own heads fall. It thus happens that good teachers may come and good teachers may go, but these barnacles of bygone times outride many

First-Every person connected with the school system should be a man or a woman of exemplary character and not pronounced freethinkers and of

doubtful moral influence as some have been and, it is asserted, still are. Seventh—The qualifications for teachers and principals should be raised to keep pace with educational prog-ress and a larger wage. A large per cent of both are teaching subjects becent of both are teaching and property yound which they have made no academic proparation to say nothing of pedagogical equipment. Thus it appears that our children must be led by men and women whose ideas and inspirational power are begotten of research scarcely above their own.

# Teachers Lack Training.

Eighth-Nearly if not quite half of the present corps of teachers were educated in the city schools and have no further training, except in the superha-tendent's teacher hatchery. This con-dition of inbreeding is the ruin of any system and totally out of harmony with prevailing methods of choosing corps of teachers in other large cities of our This inbreeding system has dour schools of initiative, h, cosmopolitan standing and

that esprit de corps which characterizes most school systems. Ninth—The election and dismissal of teachers and principals by the dictum of superintendent alone allows of and has resulted in the depleting of the ranks of strong, progressive teachers or has so handicapped those who re-main that they are robbed of much of

their power as instructors.

Tenth—The summary dismissal of teachers and principals at the extreme close of the year without a stated cause is out of harmony with the almost uni-versal methods of other cities, which elect their corps in the Spring. By the plan now in vogue here a teacher is robbed of his or her good name than which nothing is or can be more valuable. The present methods is good enough for the dismissal of incompetents but vicious when used to drop

or her inability to play the game of "Simon says thumbs up." Teachers "Simon says thumbs up." Teachers have rights which even school authorities are bound to respect.

Eleventh-Education by women alone s lacking in power inasmuch as the mind of women necessarily lacks many points of view reached by men mov-ing among men. A man's instruction should provoke thoughts and stimulate a mental activity not gained by our American systems. With the passing of men as princi-

pals and instructors, a step already under way in Portland, it comes about that the boy from the first grade to his graduation from the high school gets but little instruction from the man whose firm hand and challenging mental attitude at once steadles the boy's judgment and begets a power of wholesome reflection for his sister of equal years.

Twelfth—The isolated position occu-pled by our schools in their tardy adop-tion of handcraft instruction reflects tion of handcraft instruction renects either a superintendency incapable of appreciating what the educational world long ago accepted as of the highest value or a board of education equally unprogressive, for our city never was, nor is now unable finan-cially to give her children the very best in education. This birthright hastened to an effectual condition we believe Portland will give to her children when she is stirred to think of

Thirteenth-The present plan of certifying teachers by the superintend-ent alone is productive of several serious results: First, it opens the door to charges of favoritism; second, it allows of too low a standard; third, it fosters the pupil teacher plan of a recruiting station whereby young girls become fully certified teachers with inadequate academical and professional training, with but little experience, and even this gained under principals' supervision of very doubtful value.

# People Do Not Elect Board.

Fourteenth-The election of board members is by the City Superintendent, this coming from the fact the uperintendent and certain board members always nominate the new mem-bers and the dear people—just a few of them only—coached by the aforesaid interested parties assisted by their "What you would have in the Nation, first put into the schools," said a noted and duly ratify their action. Thus by default of public interest in school matters these machine-chosen nominees are Great is the power of the So it is that our school ship sails true to the chart, there being bu

one master, by the superintendent and his faithful friends on the board. By default of pub-Ilc interest in school matters these nominees are duly elected. Thus the school ship of state sails true to the chart, there being one master. Everybody pedagogi-cal jumps aboard. The bell rings, tickets are made ready, properly countersigned!
Fifteenth-Other cities have schools with principals of not only state but interstate reputation as leaders of educational thought and practice, but Port-

land boasts not one. Sixteenth-Music and drawing, thoroughly established almost a generation ago in other cities of our size and age are with us scarcely out of the experi-

## Kindergarten Work Neglected.

The kindergarten, long since accepted as a most valuable moulder of childlife at that age when it is most plastic-a teacher of those arts and graces which go so far to nuture the child in happi-ness-to discover himself amid his fellows and his relation to the nature world around him—this part of other school systems does not appeal to Portland. Indeed our superintendents assert that the kindergarten unfits the child for the serious work of the first year in school. And there's the rub, for the first years are all too serious, with their number work crowded into unwarranted promiprincipals is dictatorial and autocratic rather than helpful, stimulating and coprimary schools are far too serious and force too early development and too early taxing of mental and physical powers.

Eighteenth-The size of our School Board is too small for a city of our size, inasmuch as it gives too great power to two or three adroit manipulators within the circle of five. The School Board exdepartment.

Fourth-Teachers' meetings, both local enue in a year as the larger and more

# School Buildings Ugly.

Nineteenth-The employment of one architect by the Board has given architect by the Board has given rise to a monotonous sameness in all our school buildings with little or no architectural beauty, and instead of being a stimulus in city adornment they often fall below the standard architecturally of

bids accepted has been the source of heavy expense to the city. It is alleged that jobbery has found a place in this part of civic affairs as well as in the construction of sources.

nstruction of sewers. Twenty-first-Many of the schoolyards of the city are a disgrace to any city making any pretentions toward civic neatness. Most of them neither afford utility nor display beauty. If they were used as playgrounds where children could used as playgrounds where children could get relief from the confinement of poor-ly ventilated rooms, they would serve a far better purpose than as a meadow lot where hay is made two or three times a year. Instead of beautiful grass plots kept in ideal condition the year around, encouraging a like neatness in all the neighborhood, our schoolyards are often allowed to grow up to weeds, and thus reflect our rural and oldline provincial-ism. The writer would be glad to see at least half of each schoolyard given up to a playground, and the rest, if there must be any grass plot, kept as a lawn should be—the pride of the children and citizens generally. Even the Ladd School grounds, in the choicest part of our city, surrounded by beautiful lawns, were last year a digrace to all concerned, for grass, weeds and brush ran riot during much of the year. Many schoolyards this year are unkept and a standing advertisement of our lack of appreciation of city adornment. The nolding of a rose carnival last July, all. agree, was a good step in the right di-rection, but this display was sadly out of harmony with the condition of some of our city parks and other public prop-erty at the time. Let the movement ex-tend next year to an awakening of pride in city lawn-keeping as well. in city lawn-keeping as well.

#### Teachers Do Not Use Libraries.

Twenty-second—The use of the city libraries by teachers and pupils does not show a teaching corps alert to the de-mands of their profession or the encouragement of the proper use of books on

the part of children Twenty-third-Physical training. alled, should be done in well-ventilated at least a part of the exercises shall be at least a part of the excluses are recreative to teacher and pupil alike, rather than wearying as now, due to the need of concentrated effort.

Twenty-fourth—All school buildings the system.

the need of concentrated effort.

Twenty-fourth-All school buildings should be ventilated by a fan system, whereby the child is not robbed of his precious life-force by breathing air charged with disease germs and robbed of vitalizing power.

## SCARE AMOUNTS TO NAUGHT

Boys Think They Find Ghostly Mystery, but Police Clear It Up.

For one hour last night the Portand police thought they were confronted with the biggest sensation of the season in the shape of three bodies, reported by two boys as having been discovered on Ross Island, in the Willamette River, to the south of the city. Startled beyond measure at their find, the youths hurrled to headquarters and unwound their yarn to Captain Moore. Almost in the twinkling of an eye he had Harbormaster Speier and Detective John Price rushing to

and Detective John Price rushing to
the scene in the launch recently purchased by the municipality.

That one of the most startling,
blood-curdling sensations of the year
was about to be exposed in all its
ghastly details was the supposition in
police circles, and every one held his
breath in anticipation of particulars
from the scene. The whole department
was to be put onto the case and the
flendish perpetrators run to earth, had
the thing panned out.

the thing panned out.

However, the fact of the matter was found to be very tame, when the searching party returned to police headquarters, bringing J. Jones, a clerk for the Woodard, Clarke & Company drugstore, and a satchel filled with skulis and portions of bones. He and Dr. O. A. Thornton, of the Good Samaritan Hospital staff, had been at work on the island making the at work on the island making the specimens ready for use in medical rooms, and for a while the bones and were exposed yesterday after noon. It was then that they were dis-covered by William Earl, of 363½ First street, and Vern McIntyre, of

308 Sixth street.
Chief of Police Gritzmacher released
Jones, after the latter had explained the situation at length.

# Supreme Court Rules Published.

SALEM, Aug. 26 .- (Special.) -- The new rules of the Supreme Court have been published in pamphlet form and Clerk J. C. Moreland has sent a large number of them to lawyers in various parts of the state. If any lawyers who desire copies have been overlooked, they will be supplied upon application to Mr. Moreland.

Metzger's eye glasses, \$1, 342 Wash. st.\*

Varying Reports Gathered in Inland Empire.

# CROP BUT HALF GATHERED

If Stormy Weather Continues, Damage Will Be Heavy-Hail Has Injured Many Fields in the Northern Idaho District.

SPOKANE, Wash., Aug. 26 .- (Special.)-Reports from the grain fields over the Inland Empire show that heavy damage has been done to the wheat crop by the rains of the past few days. At 10 o'clock tonight the Palouse country reported clear weather with prospects of resuming harvest tomorrow morning. Ritzville also reported a light shower, but indications are that weather in Adams County will allow of the early resumption of the harvest work. The weather was threatening in Lincoln County. At Davenport, the harvest was stopped in the afternoon by heavy rains and late at night the indications are that more rain might follow.

Reports from Sprague were to the effect that there had been a very heavy rain so and no harvesting could be done for several days. In the vicinity of Davenport the schoolroom, and be so modified that owing to the fact that the grain there is there has been little damage done as yet all Spring wheat and is not ripe yet. Around Sprague the crop is more forward, and it is thought the damage will be greater. Growers in the vicinity of Colfax say that they do not believe there has been damage that will cut in heavily on the output. There will be some shattering and this is the most serious proposition up to date.

Reports in the North Idaho country say that there will be heavy damage from

that there will be heavy damage from the ball storms which have visited that country quite frequently this season. Some fields are beaten down and almost ruined. Belated reports show that or Saturday the damage from hail was quite

In Adams County, this state, especially in the Southern part, the rains of Satur-day and Sunday were extremely heavy. In places there were cloudbursts, which swept away many fields, and there was hall which did heavy damage. On the whole, there is apparently little to base a forecast for good weather for the remainder of the season. Probably the harvest is half completed, taking the Inland Empire as a whole.

# STEAMER OFFICER DROWNS

#### Second Mate on Quinault Lost From Small Boat in Fog.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Aug. 26 .- (Special.) -Carl Rudolphson second mate of the steamer Quinault, was drowned while the steamer was entering the harbor. The Quinault ran on a sandbar during a fog and the captain sent the mate and three sailors to ascertain the location of the channel. A wave upset the boat. Rudolphson was an expert swimmer, while the others could not swim, but while the sallors were being rescued Rudolphson drifted away in the fog and could not

# WIFE DESERTER IS RETAKEN

#### Man Who Left Deaf and Dumb Woman for Girl Now in Jail.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Aug. 26.-(Special.) -W. O. Metcalf, of Bellingham, who deserted a deaf and dumb wife and eight children and eloped with a 19-year-old girl, has been arrested here. Metcalf says the girl accompanied him to California and back to Portland and that he does not know where she is. He has a watch and a ring which belong to her.

# Machinists Will Not Strike.

SPOKANE, Wash., Aug. 26.-There will be no strike of the machinists employed by the Northern Pacific and Great Norththat portion of the city in which they are located.

Twentleth—The changing of plans of Metzger & Co., opticians, 342 Wash, st. by the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Pacific and

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# At the Vaudeville Theaters

#### Grand.

F YOU have never been within the paddock, or even in the stand, and yelled with the crowd, "they're off," then go to the Grand this week, see the bill, "The Race Tout's Dream," and get a little inside information on the sport of kings. It is a good one, and that man Miles Mc-Carry, the tout, has a varied assortment of racetrack English, that would put the average bookle or track dopester to shame. The act is a good one, the

feature of the performance, and some-thing unique on a raudeville stage. Another top-notcher is John Walsh, "The Man With the Hod," a clever monologuist. His jokes are enough to make the sourest cynic sit up and take notice and he can keep the average person in a paroxysm of laughter during his whole paroxysm of laughter during his whole time on the stage. Morrissy and Rick, two excentric funmakers, do good work, and Bradley and Davis, "The Comedy Kids With the Gum Feet," help out the performance. Joe Thompson, in an illustrated song follows, and the bioscope follows, the bull. finishes the bill.

## Pantages.

ROM start to finish, the bill at the Pantages this week is one of the best that has graced the boards at the popular vaudeville-house for a long time. There are eight good acts, every one a top-notcher, each one the nonparell of its line in vaudeville performance. But the funniest, the most amusing and most original of this splendid line of attrac-tions is the clever playette, "The Dummy Husband," with a typical husband-hunt-ing old maid, a globe trotter of the hobo variety and a department store wax model making up the cast. It is funny enough, entirely new and original, one of the best produced vaudeville skits seen

on a local stage for a long time.
"Fitzgerald." the quick-change artist,
makes a decided hit with the audience, and wins applause by his realistic im-personations of famous people. Tyson, Tinnell and Tyson, a clever trio of dancers and singers also make good, and come forward with some of the latest songs.

Joseph Yarrick, a sleight-of-hand performer and magician, mystifies the audience by his tricks. Jean Wilson sings one of the latest pathetic ballads this week; the moving pictures are up-to-date, and in all, the bill is good, the best for a long time.

Laborers Wanted at \$3 a Day. NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Aug. 26.— (Special.)—The highest wages ever paid for common labor in this terri-

tory are being offered by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, which is endeavoring to get 300 men to do grading work at Ellensburg at \$3 per day. Fruit pickers are badly needed here, and can carn first-class meney with at least one month's work shead the paper of the junta, was discharged from custody because there was no evidence connecting him with any offense. For a hearing in the cases of Ricard Flores, Magon, Librado, Rivers and Angel Village. with at least one month's work shead

## HAIL REBELS AS PATRIOTS

Spectators Cheer Mexican Conspirators in Court at Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Aug. 26 - Follow ing proceedings in the Police Court to day, the four Mexicans held as alleged conspirators against the Mexican government today appeared in the Superior Court upon habeas corpus proceedings. Modesto Diaz, editor of La Revolucion,

tonio Villareal was postponed until to

The prisoners, during their appearance in court, were greeted by the Mexican spectators as would-be liberators of the Mexican Republic.

What's doing at Washington? Read this month's article in the September Pacific Monthly by Ira E. Benneti-"Western Affairs at Washington." It will give you a line on National affairs. \*

Colombia is grid-ironing its territory with railroads that will open up the entire country.

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# ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC GROUNDS ARE BEING GRADED IN PIONEER FASHION



PRIMITIVE MOTIVE POWER BEING USED TO GRADE GROUNDS OF ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC

OXEN BETTER ADAPTED THAN HORSES.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 22—(Special.)

For grading purposes an id-fashloned manner of securing power is
being used. At the Alaiza-Yukon-Pacific
Exposition grounds oxen are being employed to drag the plows. This primitive means of furnishing mothe power
is attracting much attention. There is
a good reason for the employment of the
oxen, however.

The exposition site, b. ng covered with
its original growth of timber, has never

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