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EDUCATORS CONVE

For Third Session at Asbury Park, New Jersey.

HEAR SEVERAL NEW THEMES

Grant Carr, of Oswego, N. Y., Speaks on "How Can Normal Schools Best Produce Efficient Teachers of Elementary Branches." Others Address Crowd.

Ashbury Park, N. J., July 5.—The third day of the forty-fourth convention of the National Educational association opened today with the session of the department of normal schools. Grant Carr, superintendent of practice department, state normal school, Oswego, N. Y., delivered an address under the head of "How Can Normal Schools Best Produce Efficient Teachers of Elementary Branches." Mr. Carr spoke as follows: "Perhaps the most influential factor in the concerted efforts of a number of people working for the accomplishment of a common end, is the central organization which controls them. It is perhaps 'The System' as much as it is Togo or Rojstevensky that wins or loses battles. With regard to the Normal school's best production of teachers of elementary branches it is perhaps difficult to say just what its general policy should be, but the following propositions seem fundamental, viz:

"(1) Educational facts are capable of scientific formulation the same as the facts of any social science.

"(2) The school is a social institution with its own genius, principles and laws; and is the peer of the other great social institutions, home, church, state and property.

"(3) The aim of the Normal school should be one, viz: The preparation of teachers for efficient service in promoting the educational welfare of the communities where they may be employed. To this end the Normal school should propagate what is good in present educational practice, discard that which has been 'weighed in the balance and found wanting,' and put into 'current coin' ideas which are theoretically well

grounded by the reformers, but which have not yet been adopted in regular practice. Pursuant to this end, all connected with the Normal school, both teachers and students, should have education as their chief aim and interest.

"As to the inside workings of the Normal school, teachers of the elementary branches will be best produced through a further consideration of the course of study and the nature of the elementary branches. In the main, as the course of study now exists, the elementary branches are regarded as arithmetic, reading, writing and other technical subjects; and history, literature, manual training, interest in home, etc., are regarded as means of teaching these subjects. In reality, and in the world at large, just the reverse of this is true and history, literature, manual training, music etc., are the primary means of self expression; and these technical subjects—reading, writing and arithmetic, are only secondary means although none the less necessary than the primary means. They have nothing to do with motives and impulses. They are never ends in themselves, self-purposes, but are rather means in the realization of these deeper motives, impulses and instincts conserved and propagated by history, literature, manual training, etc. By placing the technical subjects in right relation to the primary elementary subjects, they will gain immensely in meaning, importance and interest.

"Child Study in Normal Schools" was the theme selected by Frank Webster Smith, adjunct-professor of education University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb. Mr. Smith delivered the first address of the afternoon session. He said: "Happily child-study has come to be an essential subject for all teachers. Its services are so common and so deeply set in our present system that we sometimes forget to refer them to their real source. I would suggest the following points for a course in child study for elementary teachers, with whom the Normal school has chiefly to do:

"1. Study the typical characteristics of each period of life represented in the elementary school, but particularly the period with which one is to be most intimately connected. Relate these periods to physical and especially to physical growth and rate of growth, to certain pathological states, to 'migratory and truant instincts,' to physical culture, including games, to sense development to the development of psychic forces, such as attention, to

social efficiency, and initiative, to his- toric sense, to language power, and to various other powers and interests. Learn to appreciate dominant interests, ideals, and activities; also 'nascent stages' and all they signify. Rudimentary or germinal powers, as well as dominant ones must be studied with a view to their best nutritive treatment. The period beginning about seven and ending about nine needs more attention than has yet been given it.

"2. Distinguish normal characteristics of these periods from those that are the result of in judicious use and handling of the former by unskilled hands.

"3. Study the common and typical physical defects and their treatment. Tactful work here requires some parent study also.

"4. Study subjects of the curriculum, methods of teaching, organization, school hygiene, etc., on the basis of this child-study and in connection with it, determining when different phases of study or method can be taken up, and best accord with child nature and facilitate the most natural development.

"5. The study should be carried on in the midst of children, at work and at play, and under the constant guidance of an expert teacher, herself constantly in touch with children. This work should be supplemented by the reading of standard literature on the subject, suited to the development of the teacher-students, and by class discussions of observations and readings.

"6. It is advisable that elementary teachers should have a general knowledge of the results of the study of adolescence.

"Practical child-study will insure stronger pupils and aid in eliminating waste and indefiniteness in school work"

Following Mr. Smith, Miss Wilhelmina Seegmiller, director of art instruction, public schools, Indianapolis, Ind., addressed the assembly on "Handwork in Primary Schools." Miss Seegmiller said in part:

"Since the congregation of the masses of people into great urban centers, children are deprived of sharing in the industrial occupations which on a time were necessary to the existence of the home.

"Spinning and weaving, felling trees, tending stock, chopping wood, carrying water were occupations which tended to the development of sterling qualities.

"When the 'No Admittance' signs are prominent above the great portals of the centers of industrial activity of to-

day, there is little opportunity for children to enter into a sympathetic understanding of the present industrial forces.

When the home no longer provides opportunity for industrial occupations and the centers of industrial activity are practically closed it behooves the school, for social, educational and industrial reasons to make provisions for bringing children into sympathy with the great industrial forces which move the world and to provide opportunity for a measure of creative work in the use and beauty.

"The school recognizes the need and educators who have at heart the highest development of the three royal H's the Head, the Heart and the Hand, are earnestly endeavoring to provide for it.

"Gathering together from widely scattered parts of the great continent we have varying experiences.

"Some base their creed upon race development and from an historical study of the part industry has played in the upbuilding and maintaining of social life are furnishing stimulus for interest that children may re-live the experience of the ages and the industrial development in the manner of the race.

"East and west and north and south there are special schools provided with every possible equipment. To those who are unhampered by difficulties we look for help in the establishment of ideals.

"There is the problem of the great cities where work must of necessity be carried under restrictions.

"Among problems of interest are these:

"(1.) What types of industrial work and materials are suited to primary schools?

"(2.) Is it best for girls to work with boys in the shops and for boys to cook?

"(3.) What can be done to interrelating manual work with art, study, games, music, history, literature?

"(4.) What is being done in gardening?

"(6.) To what extent may manual work be used as seat occupation work in grade schools?

"As manual work will demand much of our future educational endeavor these questions are of special import."

The attendance today was very good but it is expected that the session on July 17 will be unusually popular in so far as President Theodore Roosevelt is to address the members of the association.

ACT ABOUT ASTORIA AND ITS INDUSTRIES

Astoria today is a city of 15,000 people. This is a most desirable point for the manufacturer of lumber. The advantages offered by this city as a milling point are beginning to attract the attention of millmen who desire to operate economically, and before long Astoria will rank as the largest lumber producing port on the Pacific coast.

The growth of the salmon industry will likewise prove of great benefit to Astoria. By means of artificial propagation, this magnificent business has come to stay. It will be built up, within a few years, to four times its present magnitude, and will then mean more than \$10,000,000 annually to the city. Several Alaskan salmon canneries are owned and operated here and each year bring large sums to their home office. The possibilities of Astoria as a fishing port or center in other lines of fishing industries are also of great importance, and the attention of capitalists is called to this city as a deep-sea fishing center; also to the great runs of genuine French sardines which come into the river by the hundreds of billions every year.

The lower Columbia river district, with its mild climate, offers unsurpassed inducements to dairymen, farmers and small-fruit growers. While small-fruit growing has not been extensively engaged in, those who have followed it have been most successful, and one enterprising grower is now harvesting two strawberry crops a year—the only instance of the kind known in this section of the country. Settlement of the productive lands of the county will work wonders for the city and assist materially in its upbuilding.

There are many other resources which will combine to bring about the future greatness of Astoria. Here are to be found opportunities for men in every walk of life—capitalists, small investors, farmer, dairymen, fruit-grower and laborer. This new country, where fortunes await the energetic, offers to those seeking location the best advantages of any section of the west.

In every respect Astoria is metropolitan. It enjoys splendid facilities of all kinds, is a pleasure-loving city and thoroughly up-to-date. Thousands of strangers visit Astoria every month, and during the summer season it is the Mecca of those who live in the interior. It has its different quarters, like the larger cities, and, best of

all, it is the healthiest spot on earth. Astoria wants more people. Its natural resources will easily support from 250,000 to 500,000 population, yet there are only 15,000 people here to reap the benefits that nature has so generously placed at their disposal. The homeseeker will find no better place to locate, and few equal places. Labor is always in demand, at the highest wages, and there is much encouragement for the man who wishes to engage in business. Strangers often remark the uniform courtesy of the people and the general effort on the part of Astorians to make matters pleasant for visitors. The home-seeker or investor who fails to visit Astoria will make a great mistake, for no other community in the Pacific northwest offers such opportunities as the lower Columbia river district.

Astoria has a \$300,000 gravity water system, a paid fire department, electric street car service, gas and electric lighting systems, free public library, unexcelled transportation facilities, complete school system, 40 civic societies, three daily and six weekly newspapers, excellent telegraph and telephone service, three banks carrying deposits of about \$2,000,000, two express offices, first-class theaters, 14 churches, labor unions representing every branch of trade, two energetic commercial organizations, two social clubs, admirably conducted hospital, miles of manufacturing sites, plenty of fine residence and business property; is the only fresh-water seaport on the Pacific coast; is situated at the mouth of a river that drains an empire; has a harbor large enough to accommodate the combined shipping of the Pacific coast; has a trunk-line railroad connecting it with four transcontinental railroads; is the uttermost railroad extension point on the American continent; is 200 miles nearer Yokohama and other oriental ports than any other Pacific coast port; is 160 miles nearer the Cape Nome mining country than any other port on the Pacific coast; is the salmon shipping center of the world; is the center of one of the greatest possible dairy industries that the country today possesses.

It is the only place where the royal chinook salmon is packed; has substantial public and business buildings, factories and handsome residences.

Astoria's school system is not surpassed by that of any other city of the size in the west. At present there

are six large school buildings here. The schools are conveniently located in all sections of the city, and in every respect are modern in their appointments. Well-appointed schools are to be found throughout the county, and children living on farms and in villages enjoy educational advantages almost equal to those afforded city children.

Astoria's Water System.
Astoria possesses a \$300,000 gravity water system, which is not equalled in equipment by any other system in the Pacific northwest. The water works are operated by the municipal government as represented by the water commission, and constitute the city's most valuable asset. The water is brought from Bear creek, about 19 miles distant, which has its source in the mountains.

The reservoir is situated on the plateau back of the city, where the supply is regulated. The water system of Astoria is extensive enough to supply the needs of 100,000 people, besides affording fire protection to all parts of the city.

The Lumbering Industry.
The mouth of the Columbia river has the greatest body of timber tributary and available of any point in the world.

The lumbering business is the largest in the Pacific northwest; it outranks in value of product any other line. Production of wheat is a close second, being worth \$17,000,000 a year, while the value of the lumber output is \$18,000,000. Coal, gold and silver, fruit, cattle and sheep, wool and fish, all of which are produced in great abundance, fall far below, nor hardly equal in the aggregate, the wealth derived from the forests. The town, therefore, that commands the greatest resources available of fine timber must have a great outlook. Demand for timber will not decrease, but become greater with every year.

The timber trees of the forests tributary to Astoria are, in order of quality; Douglas fir, commercially known as Oregon pine; hemlock, spruce and cedar. There are also soft, or birdseye, maple, vine maple, alder, wild cherry, willow, etc.

The fir is both red and yellow. It grows five to 14 feet in diameter, and 150 to 200 feet tall; 351 feet is said to have been measured on one fallen tree in the coast mountains. Considerable noble fir, or larch, and some white pine are found on the highest of the coast

mountains, but little near Astoria. The spruce, of the tideland species, is found only on the west slopes of the coast mountains. It attains a diameter varying from about an average of six feet to 16 or 17; and specimens 57 and 63 feet each in girth have been measured—19 to 21 feet in diameter. Hemlock occurs as a mixed or smaller growth with fir and spruce, trees seldom being of great height, although often very large. Yet cedar is not plentiful in this section. In general estimates of timber production 20,000 feet to the acre are allowed. Single acres have been known to produce ten times this amount. Quarter sections of timberland on the market are usually estimated at 3,000,000 to 8,000,000 feet each, board measure.

Mills and Manufacturing.
Although manufacturing is as yet in its infancy in Astoria, more than 4300 persons are employed in the institutions now doing business here. The salmon industry employs by far the greatest number of persons, but the seasons extend over a period of only about six months, and at other times those engaging in it follow other lines of pursuit. The lumbering industry, including box factories, barrel factories, etc., is rapidly assuming proportions, and will, within a few years, outrank the fishing interests.

Astoria wants more manufacturing concerns, and offers the very best inducements to capitalists. Here are to be found unexcelled sites, with the advantage of both rail and water connections, and the intending investor in western properties should look over the Astoria situation. Sites can be secured at very low prices.

More than \$3,000,000 is invested in manufacturing plants here, while the value of the yearly product exceeds \$8,500,000. In all, 4341 persons are employed, receiving annual wages that aggregate \$2,053,800.

Salmon Industry.
Astoria owes its existence largely to the great salmon industry of which it is the center. Year after year the Columbia river has given up its wealth of fish, and in the past 25 years has yielded \$75,000,000, nearly all of which has been placed in circulation in this city. Where other crops have failed, the salmon supply has maintained its average of production, and in this respect can be classed as one of Oregon's

greatest resources.

The annual salmon yield of the Columbia river is valued at \$2,000,000. The spring fishing season lasts only about four months—from April 15 to August 25—so it means \$750,000 monthly to those interested in it and those who live at and near the seat of the industry.

The Dairying Industry.
Dairying in Clatsop county is in its infancy, and very few dairymen realize the natural advantages of this country. The climate, coupled with the productivity of the soil, makes it an ideal district for production of butter and cheese; dairymen are taking more interest in the breed and care of stock. With the genuine butter cow, such as few here have as yet, much better results may be obtained, though even now the luxuriant pasturage enables the cows to furnish an abundance of rich milk, with more than an average of butter fat. A modern equipped creamery is in operation in Astoria, furnishing the farmers a ready sale for their cream, at an average price for the year of 22½ cents per pound for butter fat; and the cows yield, under good care, about 225 pounds of butter fat per year. There is general interest in increasing the dairy business; many of the dairymen are preparing to enlarge their herds, and new dairies are being started. Ever-growing grass and the best market in the world make this an inviting field for those who understand the care of cows.

All the Oregon coast country, especially that near the mouth of the Columbia river, is very similar to the great dairying sections of Europe, such as Denmark, Holland and the Channel islands. The winters, however, are milder and the summers dryer.

The lands best adapted to grass-growing are the tidelands, which are river bottoms adjoining the Columbia or its branches, and overflowed by the highest tides. These lands may be reclaimed by diking, at an expense of about \$10 per acre. By diking large tracts by machinery—with steam dredges—the expense may be reduced, and more substantial dikes erected. One acre of tideland has been shown to be ample for keeping one cow the entire year. There are still in Clatsop county about 20,000 acres of tideland to be diked, much of it being easily cleared after the diking is done. This is no experiment, as many of the best dairy farms have been made on diked tideland.

For further information send \$1.00 for a year's Subscription to the Weekly Astorian.