EDUCATION AND TAXATION

Expensive Common School Systems Serious Burden to Home Owners.

PLEA FOR THE FAMOUS THREE R'S

Sample Instances of School Fads in Practice-More Men Teachers Needed-Educational Notes and Comment.

A writer whom educational faddists will promptly class as an "old fogy," a "has been" or "a mossback," takes up the cudgels in the Chicago Chronicle in support of simplicity and thorougness rather than variety and superficial knowledge in common school education. His argument applies with equal force in Omaha as in Chicago, particularly respecting taxation and those on whom the burden falls most

heavily. The writer says: "It is said, and with truth, that the burden of taxation falls upon the poor man-All that he possesses is visible. A little house and a bit of ground meets the eye of the assessor in his yearly round, whereas the reverse is true of the well to-do. Moneys, bonds, stocks, invisible wealth are not uncovered to that official's gaze unless the taxpayer is troubled with a conscience, mention of which is very infrequently made in these days. Hence the fact is patent that the poor man pays all that he should pay while his well-to-do neighbor escapes the payment of a just proportion of the tax levied for the com-

mon weal. "From my standpoint it is manifestly unjust to burden the poor man by taking him to educate in the higher branches the children of the more prosperous, those who are abundantly able to give their progeny the advantages of a collegiate course and who may purpose that they shall follow some of the professions or avacations in which a broader and more liberal education is regarded as indispensable. The poor-so vastly in the majority -in the nature of things do not expect their offspring to achieve greatness, although they frequently do by their own individual efforts, but they seek through the common school to fit them for the ordinary transactions of life, and when that is accomplished they feel that they have done their whole duty, and so they have when all things are considered. As I view it, the province of the public school is to instruct in the common English branches, leaving to the universities, colleges and technical schools those branches that aim to fit the student for a more enlarged sphere, a wider range of thought and a broader and more generous culture."

Concerning Fads. Occasionally some voice is raised in New York to protest against what it calls "fads in the schools." Talking on this subject, a teacher of long and tried experience told a couple of stories by way

"I found it necessary in the course of the classes," she said, "to tell my 7-year-olds all about the virco, which you may or may not know is a bird, a small American bird. explained to them how many legs it had and about its bill and generally about its get-up and habits, so that they might remember that a vireo was not an elephant, at any rate. They seemed to grasp all right the facts about what it ate; that appealed to them; but how it ate did not impress them so much, for when I came to ask one of the little girls about that at last began to whimper.

asked, in my most winning way. The whim-'Well, how do you eat?' I thought I would lead up to it by degrees, but the

child blurted:

"'With a spoon,' " "A worse one than that, though, happened when I was telling the class, about 7-year-olds, mind you, about bullets. Why children should be told about bullets I don't know but it comes in the thousand and one things, nowadays, so we tell them. I had told them about the size and weight and shape of bullets, and how terribly fast they went and what damage they did and what happened to people who got in their way. Then I turned to one of the children

'What would you do if you were struck "There was a moment's pause, and then

the answer, in tone of awe: "T'd cry."

"That was not the answer I wanted, of also furnish breakfast. In Hamburg there

effects, and then asked her again: "'What would you do if such a bulle as that struck you?"

" T'd ery more. Pay of School Teachers. American school teachers, as compared with tenchers of other countries, are paid like bank presidents. That may explain

in part their reputation for being the best

teachers. Even the English teachers, who are re garded by teachers of continental Europe as high-salaried workers, earn much less than the American. Differences in conditions, and in the cost of living especially, would have to be considered, but even in the light of all this the American teacher

is the best paid in the world. In spite of this the American teacher wants an increase in salary in many of the large cities-and justly is entitled to it, it is claimed.

While the men principals in England earn about \$650 a year, the women principals earn less than \$410, and the woman

grade teacher earns about \$200. In the Canadian country districts few women teachers receive more than \$4 a week, while in Toronto and other cities, after ten years' service, they may earn as high as \$400 a year. A man principal may earn as high as \$1,500 in the city districts. It must be taken into consideration, however, that in Canada the cost of living is lower than in the United States.

In Belgium a teacher starts with \$192, in addition to free rent. Advances in salary are made with good conduct. The advance is not rapid, but at the end of five years an addition of \$20 a year is made; at the end of ten years, \$40; at the end of fifteen, \$50, and after twenty years, an addition of \$120. Although Prussia has traced three victorious wars to its school teachers, the kingdom continues to reward these services with "encomlums," and not with salary. The condition of the Prussian teacher is not one of luxury, nor is it calculated to foster extravagant habits. In the country the average is \$218 and in the cities \$341. Saxony requires two years of apprentice

ship in school teaching, and after these years grants a salary, which may be \$120 a year or \$180, according to length of service. French teachers are no better paid than the Prussian. The French Parliament recently has consented to raise the salaries a little, though the increase is to be made gradually, and it will take four or five years to complete the reform. As a beginning it has been decreed that no teachers shall be employed at less than \$200 a year. This applies to assistant teachers, and the regular teachers are to receive no less than \$220.

Italy is trying to be honest with its chool teachers, but Parliament has refused thus far to do much in the way of pensions, and salaries remain low, the maximum in the city schools being \$232.

In The Netherlands the state of public education is of a high standard and salaries are in harmony with general conditions. There is no compulsory religious education in the public schools and the state maintains a number of richly endowed institutions for the education of teachers. No teacher receives less than

Portugal pays ridiculously low salaries, the minimum being \$96 and the maximum, in cities like Lisbon and Oporto, \$135.

Norway and Sweden were the first Euro pean countries to pay decent salaries to men teachers, but even in these countries the services of women are undervalued. According to the law of 1848, men are paid \$126 at the start, together with free lodgings and fuel. From this the salary increases part of it, she hesitated a good deal and to \$800 a year. In addition, in the country districts, the teacher is given his hom 'Now, how does the little bird eat?' I free and the maintenance of two cows. Feeding School Children in Germany.

United States Consul Warner, at Leipsic, Germany, in a report to the Department of

Commerce, says: "In the large German cities there are many children who must attend school, be-ginning at 8 o'clock in winter and 7 in summer, who do not get enough to eat for breakfast, especially in the winter months. Consequently, arrangements have been made in a number of places for providing the necessary food for those in need in order that they may be better able to profit by the instruction given them.

"With the exception of Berlin, Barmen Brunswick and Nuremberg, not only the poor, but the sick and infirm children were also given breakfast. In Madgeburg food s only supplied in very hard winters. Instend of breakfast, dinner is given to the children in Dresden, Munich, Stettin and Strassburg, but in Munich it is projected to

course, so I explained again the terrible is attached great weight to providing proper speed of the bullets and their destructive dinners for the children, the expense of which amounts to about 28,000 marks (\$5,984) annually. In Brunswick, Breslau, Cologne Kiel, Posen and Nuremberg dinner, in ad-

dition to breakfast, is also furnished. "In Breslau, Charlottenburg, Dusseldorf Halle, Mannheim and Madgeburg the food is distributed by public institutions, while in the other towns it is furnished by charitable societies. The municipal authorities of Danzig, Dortmund, Hamburg, Hanover Konigsberg and Posen contribute toward

these funds, however. "The breakfast is not always the same For instance, white bread, dry or buttered, and milk; milk, with coffee and bread coffee or soup and bread; or soup made of flour and white bread. Usually the children receive milk, the quantity given being from three gills to a pint. The last-mentioned quantity is provided in Kiel."

Plea for Men Teachers.

"One of the crying needs of the public schools, not merely in this city, but throughout the country, is for men teachers," says the Brooklyn Eagla. "Our fathers, with their district schools, understood the matter in a rough way. They hired a man teacher for the winter months, when the big boys went to school, and passed around the summer school for the girls and little boys among their own daughters, frequently choosing a girl who expected to get married and needed the not a high ideal of education, but it did more than keep order in the school house in the winter, the theory on which the man teacher was hired. It set before the growing boys in their formative period a man would understand the difference between mere youthful high spirits and meanness and fundamental wickedness. As we have grown more civilized it has become easier to preserve order in schools and the man teacher has disappeared. During the civil and since that time the precedent then eshas become hardened into almost universal man model during their last years in the grammar school and through their high school course far more than country boys ever did. A considerable pertion of our school children come from the homes of immigrants where no English is spoken. The refining influence of American womanhood, the value of the American standards of manners, as exemplified by our woman teachers, is worth as much to those children as the lessons they learn from their books. But the boys of such homes ought to be brought into close contact with an educated American man before the law permits them to go out and become bread winners. They would absorb more of the best American citizenship in that way than they can ever get in any other."

AUSTRALIA GOES BACKWARD Steamers Leaving the Country Are Crowded with Passengers-Cause

of the Exodus.

The exodus from Australia, according to the English press, is causing alarm in the ommonwealth. The steamers leaving Australian ports have their accommodations booked for weeks ahead. In the first six months of 1962 the departures from New this is at last the real thing, the grim commonwealth reached 16,327, exceeding the arrivals by 2,115, and in addition there Wales and Victoria to western Australia. Britain are receiving Australian immi-

'mostly a class who have been born or long settled in Australia, many being steady, competent tradesmen; not a few belonging to the ranks of master craftsmen, others being pastoralists, farmers, station hands-in fact, the very men of whom the commonwealth stands most in need. Scarcely any are trade unionists. The nonunionist, under the new order of things, has no place in Australia. The New South Wales industrial arbitration court and the Victorian wages boards each refuse to recognize his existence. He must either join a trade union or starve."

The population of New South Wales was almost stationary in the ten years between 1891 and 1901, and since then it has sharply declined. In the ten years ending with 1901 112,579 more people left Victoria than entered it. The principal states of the commonwealth are overloaded with debt, and when it is proposed to launch upon new public undertakings to supplant private enterprise, the answer to any question as to where the money is to come from is: "Increase the taxation on capital." "No wonder," says the English observer. "the capitalists as well as the laborers are anxious to leave a country in which they are treated as enemies of the public

Australia is declared to be capable of supporting the population of Europe sevsolely in the interests of the worker, whose politicians leave no stone unturned to meet countries in the world, it might be thought that labor had found its elyslum, and yet the workingman, as well as his employer, finds he cannot make a living in it."

The population of the greater part of Australia is stationary or declining. The only substantial increase is in the new mining region of western Australia. With an area almost as great as that of the United States the entire commonwealth does not have as many people as Ohio.-New York

No Cause for Doubt. Two girls clung to the strap in the trolley car from custom, and while doing so talked fact also from custom.

"Have you ever had your fortune told?" asked the elder of the girls to her com-"Never." was the emphatic answer, while blush betrayed the mendacity of the

"Well, I went to a fortune teller once, but t was a long time ago," said the girl who and asked the question.

"You are to marry, of course?" "Of course. The fortune teller described o me as the man I was to marry one who would have the seat next to me on the left "How long ago did you say it was since you were told this?" inquired the friend

with sarcastic emphasis. "Five years."
"And I suppose you will keep on believing the prophecy?" "I have no reason to doubt it," was the

"Not after five years?" "No man has sat next to me on the left," explained the other, "for I have never had a seat."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Adapted Aphorism. Bettsr a dinner of herbs and contentment than a "stalled" auto in a far country.

You must walk a long time behind a ganler before you find a peacock feather. It's an ill wind that escapes from the tire Despise not a small wound, an insignificant enemy or a pinhole puncture. A rolling stone gathers no moss, but it

loses rough corners and will in time become a perfect sphere.

No circus is as big as it's painted.—
Everybody's Magusine.

JUST BEFORE THE BATTLE | Mand.

What a Naval Engagement Means on a Modern Battleship.

TRYING SUSPENSE OF OFFICERS AND CREW

Preparations Methodical to the Last Degree-Relief Comes When the Boom of the First Gun is Heard,

Lieutenant Charles Cleig, formerly of the British navy, describes in the Chicago Chronicle the suspense to which officers and crew of a battleship are subjected during the moments preceding a battle.

He says: A fleet of six gray battleships is steaming rapidly in a calm sea. Far ahead of the fleet can be distinguished the hulls and slender masts of several cruisers. These are the scouts, the "eyes" of the fleet, upon which the admiral relies for news of the enemy's movements. Other cruisers, out of sight of the battle fleet, are scouring the seas upon some prearranged plan. Let us, however, confine our attention to the battle fleet. The six great armorelads money for her 'setting out.' That was are all of one type, forming a homogeneous squadron. Each is of 15,000 tons displacement, of equal speed and carries simflar guns. To the eyes of the landsman they are like as half a dozen dried peas and their similarity is accentuated by the model; it put over them a superior who gray paint that covers them from truck to water line. They are formed in two divisions, not as yet in order of battle. The two leading ships each flies an admiral's flag. The divisions are six cables apart (1,200 yards), but the space between each unit is but 400 yeards and this inwar he could not be spared for teaching terval, you will notice, is maintained with an accuracy won by constant practice. tablished of saving money by hiring women Little smoke issues from the tall, gray funnels. In the smooth sea the heavy practice. And yet the boys in cities need a ships have no perceptible motion, though you can see they are making progress by the white foam at the bows and by the broad ribbon of foam churned up by the twin screws of each vessel.

Sighting the Enemy. Presently a red and white "answering" pennant streams from the masthead of the flagship. One of the scouts is signaling. It begins to close with the squadron. One perceives that other and more to the fleet. We guess the reason long before our keen-eyed signalman can distinguish the message. The enemy has been sighted some twenty miles to the eastward. Such is the welcome news. At once the flagship runs up a signal: "Pre-

pare for action; form the order of battle." For in these days of fast steaming twenty miles' interval affords but comfortable breathing space unless the enemy decides to run away. If he is bearing down upon us we may be within range of him in a quarter of ar hour. Such, it seems, is his design, so our ships must form at once into single line.

Let us note what preparations are being made for the coming battle. The game has been rehearsed often enough-so often, indeed, that we can hardly realize that South Wales alone for ports outside the reality. Take any ship at random. The same preparations are being made in all. Seven hundred men are going about their was a large emigration from New South ordinary business. Suddenly a bugle blares out the familiar call to "general quar-Canada, South Africa and even Great ters," and ere the harsh notes have died away every man begins to run to his appointed station. Some make toward the This movement is attributed by the Lon- great babettes, where the 12-inch guns ion Globe to the socialist labor legislation are snugly sheltered; some for the armored in New South Wales and Victoria. The casements isolating the 6-inch weapons people who are leaving are described as others run to the light, quick-firers, mounted upon the superstructure. Others, again, and these mostly noncombatants (if any such can be in a ship of war), hurry below to the shell rooms and maga-

The great shells for the barbette guns are being placed on the hydraulic lifts. A lever is pressed and up they go. Another moment and they have reached the breech of the gun. A gunner closes the heavy mechanism of the breech with one hand. "Run out," orders the officer of the turret. Another lever does the business. The enormous weapons glide smoothly outward. their long necks projecting overboard as the barbette is trained. A dozen men and one officer complete the crew of this pair of heavy guns. The officer stands upon a little iron platform, peering above the turret, with a voice tube at his ear. The captain of the turret is peering through the

telescope sights. Glance into one of the isolated case nates. The thick, armored door is shut low, inclosing the six-inch gun and its crew in a box of steel. The gun has been cast loose, trained on the beam and loaded within four minutes of the bugle call. Re serves of shot and shell are being whipped up into the casemate through a round aperture leading to the shellroom below. eral times over. It is a "country whose Twenty or thirty rounds soon accumulate state industrial institutions are now run and the gun's crew will stake their lives against the entry of a shell through the casemate. Here, too, is an officer waiting his every demand, in which, out of all directions through a voice tube. The men have stripped to their flannels and trous-Down in the bowels of the ship the tor-

ers. A tub of limejuice stands in a corner pedo men are clustered around their submerged tobes. With great care they are adjusting the Whiteheads, and their movements are slower than those of the gun ners, since the chance for a shot will not come early in the fight. Yet a lucky shot from the enemy might explode the torpedo in its tube. They accept the risk, these quiet looking men, and long for close range later on. Then they will show the gunnery branch what a Whitehead can do.

Waiting for the Signal, The captain and the gunnery lieutenan are in the conning tower-a cramped little structure bristling with voice tubes. It containes a small steering wheel, and is in communication with both batteries, the several groups of guns, and with the engine rooms. Reports are constantly being made through these numerous voice tubes. Thus: "All water-tight doors are closed, sir." "Barbettes ready for action." "Steam ready for eighteen knots, sir." and so forth. The chief quartermaster, a bearded veteran, sprucely dressed, grasps the spokes of the steering wheel and keeps an attentive eye upon the captain. Not a man can now be seen upon the upper deck, but in the thinly protected top or the foremast a few hands and a middy are clustered around a three-pounder gun All is now ready. The fleet increases speed and the cruisers, closing in, one after another, take station to the rear So we wait-a period of anxious suspense since scarcely a dozen men of the 700 car see the approaching enemy. At last the twelve-pounder, which is our best range finder, rings out with sharp report. We know that the hour has come. The captain gives an order through the tubes to each of the barbettes: "Leading ship of the enemy on the port bow, range 4,000 yards." "All ready, sir," comes the reply. A moment later the two pairs of neavy guns are simultaneously fired. The ship quivers under the shock of the discharge. The battle has begun. The 700 men think swiftly of home, of mothers, wives, sweethearts, of little children. A shell from the enemy crashes through a lightly armored section of the hull, bursts and knocks two large boats into matchwood. Again the ship quivers and rushes on. Home is now forgotten. The men

turn their minds to the bloody work in

HOLD TO BARBARIC USAGES Decoration of Philippine Churches and Cemeteries Exceedingly Unique.

"One of the great curiosities to Americans who first visit the Philippines," said an army officer who has just returned after a three year's detail in the archipelago, "Is the method of decoration used in the churches and cameteries, especially in the matter of the statues of Christ and the Virgin. Almost all the statues of the Savior in countries whose population is dark-skinned are of an Ethiopian hue and bear the facial characteristics of the natives. It would never do to depict a Filipino Christ as a white man for the reason that the natives would not understand or respect it as highly as they would a divine leader of their own race. And it follows that the mother of Christ must also be a black or at least of a dark

"But one of the funniest things that ever caught my eye was a statue in a cemetery in Luzon. There was a glass case as high as a man and perhaps four feet square placed in a prominent part of the city of the dead that caught and held the eye. Upon closer inspection the case was seen to contain a statue of a woman. She was gowned in the most elaborate fashion known to the Filipino dressmaker, and a modern hat of the Gainsborough type was set jauntily over her ear, the broad rim falling away in a dashing style from her left eye. The hat was the most attractive feature of the whole thing, being a really stylish creation, copied, without a doubt, from some fashion book of New York styles.

"At the feet of this wonderful statue were representations of many of the animals of the Philippine forest, all coming up to worship it, and as a curiosity it had no competitor in the entire island. But the officers and soldiers of the army who were in the neighborhood, and who all went to see it, were at a loss to understand its meaning until a padre came to the rescue. He explained that it was a statue of the Virgin Mary, and the consternation of the Catholic soldiers may be imagined when they looked upon what they thought to be a desecration of a

sacred subject. "The padre, however, soon quelled their anger by explaining to them that the Fildistant cruisers are also steaming back ipino wanted as much decoration for his religious subjects as he could get, and that he would not appreciate a statue of the Virgin clad in the garments that are familiar to us as the raiment of purity. He demanded more than a simple garment wound about the form, and the priests had to respond to the demand in order to have their teachings command respect. The customary garb of the Virgin is too much like that worn by the natives to appeal to them, and they would not readily admit the superiority of a being whose dress was not more elaborate than their own. So it is as much a custom of the country to dress the Virgin in fine raiment as it is to paint the face and body of the Christ to correspond with the hue which is familiar to the natives, and I have heard of several other cases where statues of the Virgin are finished in the very latest creations of the modisto's and milliner's art."-Washington

> Pointed Paragraphs. Men who love women only for their good

manners never marry. No girl is quite as pretty as she thinks a man thinks she looks. Some people seem to think the Almighty is making a mistake in not leaving the

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