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SCHOOL AND COLLEGE WORK

Active Preparations for the Opening of the School Year.

engo Public Schools-Changes in Faculties and Building Improvements.

A simple and beneficial rule, requiring eye and ear examinations of pupils at the opening of the school year, has been enforced in the public schools of Chicago for several years. Not much noise is made questioned if any school day's work produces equal permanent good for the child. These examinations were introduced eight years ago by Dr. Frank Allport, consulting eye and ear surgeon of the Chicago Board of Education. A system of tests were provided which teachers apply, separately and privately, to members of their class, and the results reported to headquarters. An examination can be completed in five minutes, so that a teacher can readily complete the examination of a class in half a day.

This plan of examination is rapidly finding favor in the United States. It has been in operation in Europe for many years and is a part of the work of the government schools in India. The cost is slight. The charge for printing 1,000 charts is about \$40, and in Chicago, a city of more than 2,000,000 inhabitants, the yearly expense would not exceed \$300. The entire appropriation for the state of Vermont in this matter is but \$600 annually. It is not a matter of expense at all but rather a plan requiring a little intelligent work. In discussing the plan in vogue in Chicago, Dr. Allport is quoted by the Record-

"It should never be forgotten that there are in the United States about 20,school children; that about 8,000,000 of such children suffer from some ear, nose or throat disease, which also impedes their school progress and that a vast majority of such abnormal conditions can be either cured or materially alleviated by early medical interference, and will become chronic or incurable if neglected. There are in this country about 15,000,000, or 80 per cent

of school children suffering from some eye, ear, nose or throat disease which can be easily detected and generally cured if the public health authorities will only decree that this work be done. It is not hard to do. It is not expensive. It is in no way objectionable. It can be easily and effectively accomplished.

"It may also be of interest to know the financial aspect of the situation, as this phase of the problem will often exert a potent influence when all others fail, and the fact that the people of the United States have about \$700,000,000 invested in public schools may add a dignity to the situation and stimulate a desire to have the visible representation of this immense amount of money man ged in the best possible manner, which is quite impossible unless the school children of this country are in good physical condition.

"It may also interest students of ociology to know that there ark in the United States over 300,000 blind people, nany of whom would not have become blind if their disabilities had been detected during school life, and that it costs the public in the neighborhood of \$15,-600,0000 to care for these unfortunates. Reducing the question, then, to the mere sordid standard of money, is it a matter of public economy to neglect the eyes of wchool children?

"The physical condition of our children reaches down to the very substructure and foundation of society. The boy of today becomes the man of tomorrow, to whom we and the succeeding generations must look for the advancement and prosperity of our country. The child cannot act for himself, and often the parent is equally helpless or careless. It behooves us, therefore, who have such matters in charge, to act for him, and to act; Midland faculty, wisely and well. His physical and moral, as well as his intellectual status and progress should be closely watched and guarded, and probably no avenue through which he can be reached is so important graduate of Valparaiso university and the and accessible as the public school. Here he spends most of his waking hours, and it is here that his body, mind and heart should be under strictest surveillance. The school requests, nay, enforces, his attendance, and volunteers to superintend the unfolding of his young life in its critical period. It is, then, the obvious duty of school teachers and authorities to note well their important and self-assumed obligations, and to give the child the benefit of the best and most modern thought and judgment upon this sacred and important subject. Our schools undoubtedly provide opportunities for great intellectual advancement, and I believe that their general

moral tone is of a high quality, but what of the physical condition of the scholar?" MIDLAND COLLEGE, ATCHISON.

Activities of Faculty and Graduates During Vacation. The graduating class of 1908 is turning

out a fine lot of teachers for the Kansas schools. Eara F. Hoffman of Midland, '08, taking the examination for the civil service and professional work of the government

in the Phillippines. At the fall opening of Midland on Wednesday, September 2, the faculty address will be given by Prof. Harold Waldstein Foght, A. M., on the subject, "The Duty of Our Church Colleges to Our Public

Bchools."

Prof. Crouse of the Midland science de partment has been giving his summer vacation to research work at Michigan university. He and Mrs. Crouse have been occupying one of the professors' houses. Midiand will have a trained man for physical director and field instructor the coming year. The college has contracted with O. R. Jeffers for this service. Mr. Jeffers has had university training and also good experience in the Lake Geneva schools of instruction.

For a vacancy in mathematics and astronomy Midland has secured Principal E. M. Stahl, A. M., of Pennsylvania Principal Stahl is a graduate of Gettysburg, with work done at Iowa and Johns Hopkins, and has been for some years at the head of one of the best preparatory schools of the east. He has had two years also in observatory work in astronomy. He will be a valuable acquisition to the

Miss Ida Mae Rieger of Valparaiso, Ind. has accepted a call to Midland as instructor in public speaking and physical culture for the young women. Miss Rieger is a Boston Emerson School of Oratory. She has been at the head of the university school of expression for the last term, and has been a very successful teacher. She

will arrive at Midland on August 30. President Troxell of Midland and other members of the faculty have been at work during vacation in the college interests, and there are prospects for a full opening on September 2. Dr. Troxell has had several chautauqua engagements and closes the summer campaign as speaker at the big annual German-American picnic held in the court house park at Auburn, Neb.

(Continued on Seventh Page.)



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