

CURTIS BOOSTS PLAYGROUNDS

Tells State Teachers that Organized Play is Great Institution.

PREVENTS DREAD TUBERCULOSIS

Playground Helps Form Better Habits, Develops Group Consciousness and Loyalty and Makes for Physical Health.

The third and last day of the Nebraska State Teachers' association convention began with the general session program at the Auditorium, where 2,500 teachers assembled. Henry S. Curtis, Ph. D., was the principal speaker and declared that the salvation of American manhood and the maintenance of industrial integrity depended upon the future status of play. He declared that we have no national game, but kids' games, because the older people cannot play, and advocated in an interesting argument organized play as the only means of reaching the needed reformation.

At the close of the program, applauded by 8,000 teachers, Mrs. Orietta S. Chittenden's kindergarten trainers appeared in the games and dances and folk lore stunts of the various nations. Forty assistants and training teachers of the Omaha schools executed the fantastic and pleasing performance, with Miss Helen Hill at the piano. "How Do You Do, My Partner," "The Shoemaker," "Dance a Little, Partner," "Annie in the Cabbage Patch," "Beans Porridge," "The Circus," and many other games from Swedish, Norwegian, Bohemian and German traditions were played to the intense delight of the schoolmasters and the pretty school-ma'ams.

Dr. Curtis on Playing. Dr. Curtis in his lecture prior to the folk lore games and dances upheld organized play as the only efficient manner of recreation for the young, saying: "You can't turn a vacant lot in a playground by simply calling it a playground. There must be organized supervision. The purpose of the playground is as definite as the purpose of the school, and as important."

Speaking from a wide experience with children who strive to play where desire is thwarted by the city or their parents, an experience beginning in his home town of Worcester, Mass., and extending through periods of service in New York, Washington and Chicago—Dr. Curtis declared that the child who was arrested for playing in the street and later became a criminal, was made so by the delinquency of the city.

City is Responsible. "Turn the children loose to play without a supervisor, arrest them for playing on the streets, as many towns do, and these do not be surprised if these same children develop into criminals. If they do it is the delinquency of the city and the parent that is the cause, and not because the child is predisposed toward the lawless."

"The city that does not promote playgrounds is breeding criminals. The children who do not play where the rules of the game are enforced will begin to cheat and soon will be dishonest—a dishonesty that will extend into business. If there is an umpire—a supervisor—the big boy finds that cheating is unprofitable and soon he will respect the rules of the game and all the boys will have a chance to play."

Mothers Losing Influence. "We have no national game today. The older people do not play, as they do in England. The games are the games of children and we adults forget them. Our games are transmitted by the children because we have forgotten them."

Referring again to the benefits of organized play, he said: "The parents don't know what language some of their children use when they are at play in the back alleys. The language heard even on a new supervised playground if in a poor section of the city is unprintable. But if you will go back to any of these playgrounds six months after they are established you will find that this language has entirely disappeared."

Purpose of the Playground. The speaker declared there were three main purposes which the playground accomplished—the ideal of physical health, the formation of better habits, and, finally the development of group consciousness or loyalty, which is "known as good citizenship in a city and as patriotism in a country."

As the best means of securing physical health Dr. Curtis pointed to the open air playground: "If a child is to grow up healthy and vigorous it must be kept in the open air."

There is no specific for tuberculosis except the open air. Many of the congresses on tuberculosis have expressed the belief that the playground is one of the most effective means of preventing the disease.

Country Folk Eat Too Much Canned Food, Says Condra

"We have sung long enough the praises of the old, oaken bucket, the moss-covered bucket; we should begin to learn the dangers of the old oaken bucket, the slobber-covered bucket," declared Dr. George E. Condra, of the University of Nebraska, in a talk on "Rural Environment in Nebraska," at the science section of the Teachers' Association convention at the Young Men's Christian association Thursday, in which he graphically depicted menace to health in the country.

Dr. Condra, as a member of the Rural Life commission, has scoured Nebraska from end to end ferreting out the causes of disease. Only last week he tramped 100 miles through the state on a tour of investigation.

The lack of pure water, clean milk, wholesome food and also too little play and rest in proportion to work, he named as the chief sources of unhealth in the country.

Dr. Condra emphasized the danger in drinking after a diseased person, in drinking from wells which are located so low as to get seepage from chicken yards and other foul environment, the necessity of keeping windows open in sleeping rooms and the need of wholesome food.

"Too much canned food is being consumed in the country," said Dr. Condra. He also said that farmers' wives need to learn that they cannot raise strong sons and daughters on spices and vinegar. "It is not right that people should die from preventable disease when they are needed for the world's service," said he.

Other addresses of this section were: "Color Photography," Frank H. Shoemaker, University of Nebraska; "Relative Place of the Sciences in the Public Schools," Prof. J. C. Jensen, Nebraska Wesleyan university; "Nature Study in the Public Schools," Superintendent Robert Thomas of Orchard.

W. G. Bishop of University Place, president of the section, presided.

RAGTIME IS NATION'S SALVATION Miss Clark Says that it is a Music Wholly American. Miss Francis E. Clark, president of the school of music department of the National Federation of Musical clubs, spoke on the "Value of Music in Individual, Community and National Life." Charles H. Miller sang a bass solo, Torredor song from Carmen, accompanied by Miss Pearl A. Minick.

"Nationally, our music has been, said Miss Clark, "until very recently a joke. Cultured Europe has said that we have no ideals, no native music, only borrowed productions and producers."

"This was once true, but it is true no longer. The making and enjoying of ragtime, minstrel and vaudeville music has brought us low; tastes have been perverted, standards have been lowered, our planes have been littered by a deluge of trashy so-called 'popular' music of the light opera and musical plays."

While deploring the harm the trashy music has done Miss Clark approved the work ragtime has accomplished in forcing composers to realize that we have a way of our own, speech of our own and a music peculiar to ourselves. She concluded: "Our music must be made more democratic; our plans must be changed to conform to the new ideas. The music must be for all, every single boy and girl, not in the sense of making artists or performers or singers, but just a great nation of intelligent listeners to music—the whole people cultured in the love of good music, the whole country appreciating and supporting our own singers, players and composers."

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- Mens' and Young Mens' Overcoats: 300 button through Overcoats, sizes from 34 to 40, all colors and mixtures, 48 inches long—special for Saturday—\$10.00
Boys' double breasted suits, sizes from 6 to 17, in brown, fancy blue, gray mixed, worth up to \$5.00; Saturday special, at \$2.45
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Underwear: Natural wool Union Suits, sizes 34 to 50; regular \$2.00 values; Saturday special \$1.50
The finest Neckwear in Omaha just arrived, over 300 dozen—at 50c-\$1.00



College Alumni Meet at Banquets

At the University club Thursday night the local alumni of Bellevue college feasted the alumni who are attending the State Teachers' convention. About sixty were present. Charles E. Baskerville of the class of '08, Rev. W. Phelps of the faculty and Ray Crossman of the class of '08 made short speeches. The latter spoke on the enlargement of the Bellevue club and asked the hearty cooperation of the alumni in making the organization a permanent as well as a successful one.

The Doane club, composed of graduates of Doane college, gave a banquet for the visiting Doane alumni. Among the impromptu speakers were President D. B. Herry of Doane college, J. T. House of Wayne Normal college and Prof. John Bennett of Doane. Prof. Bennett acted as toastmaster.

Two hundred members of the Kearney Normal school faculty and alumni banqueted at the Hotel. A. O. Thomas, president of the school, presided. Toasts were responded to by J. J. Tooley, member of the State Board of Education; Miss Alice Hawthorne of Lincoln, Anthony M.

College Alumni Meet at Banquets

Easterling of Omaha, Miss Effie Hill of the Kearney Normal, A. E. Winship of Boston, Judge Kennedy and N. P. McDonald. Two hundred alumni of the Fremont college banqueted at the Paxton hotel last evening. After a six-course dinner, during which old times and college days were talked about, speeches were made by a number of the alumni and a short musical program was given.

"Obstacles" was the topic of an address by J. H. Hanley. Miss Katherine Bloomer talked on "Atmosphere," which was followed by Prof. Roy Eaton on the subject, "That Depends." Miss Nation played a violin solo. The Schoolman Under the X-Ray" was thoroughly discussed by Dr. W. H. Mick. Miss Lynn Forbes gave a reading. Newton W. Preston sang a vocal solo. The program was closed by a few remarks by President W. H. C. Clammond.

RECEPTION FOR DR. DAVIDSON Thirty-Seven Hundred Teachers at Home Hotel. Probably no more prodigious nor more beautiful reception was ever held in Omaha than that last night given by the Nebraska State Teachers' association to Dr. William M. Davidson at the Home hotel. Thirty-seven hundred teachers registered for the reception and probably many more than that number crowded the reception halls and overflowed into the lobby, filling the entire first floor of the hotel.

The reception committee was busy from 9:30 o'clock until practically midnight. The following were members of the committee: Miss Kate A. McHugh, Mrs. Ben Harrison, Mrs. Orietta Chittenden, Miss Mima Doyle, Miss Martha Powell, Mr. Elmer G. Miller and Miss Belle M. Ryan. The feature of the evening's program was a musical program offered by Miss Munchoff and Max Landow. Miss Munchoff, accompanied by Mr. Landow on the piano, gave a beautiful vocal recital lasting from 10 to 11:30 o'clock.

The following prominent persons made up the reception line: Mrs. Mary Land, Mrs. W. A. Frost of Barre college, Kentucky. Hidden among bowers of yellow, pink and white chrysanthemums bands of pretty schoolteachers presided at the punch bowls, in all corners of the reception hall. For the sake of sociability as well as service each bowl had its presiding head, with a coterie of assistants. Miss Maud Smith presided at the first, with the following assistants: Ruth Robinson, Mable Parker, Marie Ryan, Laura Gostz, Fannie Hurst, Frances Todd, Mary Herbert, Anna Plekard and Blanche Coffman. The second bowl was presided over by Miss Hermine Blessing. Her assistants were: Anna Peterson, May Gibbs, Grace Minor, Helen Rosen, Anna Granbeck, Sadie Kent, Frances McGavock. Miss Anna Milroy presided at the third; assistants: Helen Hittie, Ethel King, Hazel McMillan, Helen Lawrence, Helen Longsdorf, Norma Corns, Louise Slegner, Nettie Newman, Miss Alice E. Land, resided at the fourth table, with the following assistants: Fannie Myers, Cassie Royce, Juliet McCune and Ethel Eldridge.

Heard at Teachers' Convention

In the meeting of the biological section Prof. C. E. Hasey, Prof. Elmore and Prof. Latimer spoke. On Friday over 10,000 postal cards and letters, most of them gathered from hotels and lodging places, were sent out Thursday several thousands card were mailed. A number of these have been mailed without stamps and some without addresses. Prof. Benjamin L. D'Ooge of the Michigan state normal school at Ypsanti, Mich., gave some valuable advice to a gathering of teachers in classical languages at the Latin section of the teachers' convention at the high school Thursday afternoon, in his talk on "The First Year of Latin." F. W. Sanford, president of the section, presided. That worried look on the countenance of Miss Ann Rowley, assistant to Manager Parsh of the publicity bureau of the Omaha Commercial club, is not due to overwork, but to the fact that she is not cutting wisdom teeth. She is not chewing gum, but a piece of rubber. Lincoln schoolma'ams were very assiduous in pinning "Lincoln in 1912" ribbons on the coats of teachers from other places. They even tagged members of the publicity bureau of the Omaha Commercial club.

One of the popular places in the school exhibit on the Auditorium stage was the University of Nebraska booth, where a photograph ground out university yell and songs. Miss Belle Ryan, assistant to Superintendent of the Omaha public schools, was heard during the convention that she says she would like to visit a week. The rooms of Superintendent Graft of the Omaha schools, in the city hall, have

been practically turned over to the visiting teachers. There they are made to feel at home during all hours of the day. Mrs. P. C. J. Moore, principal of the high school at Maxwell, Neb., is one of the best known of the delegates at the Teachers' convention from the fact that she is president of the Nebraska Sunshine society which distributes sunshine in the form of fruits, flowers, comfortable clothing and other articles to brighten the lives of shut-ins and unfortunates. Mrs. Moore was honor guest at a luncheon today given at the Home hotel by the household economics department of the Women's club. William Miller, manager of the Hotel R.C.M., gets credit for paying the best compliment to the visiting teachers that has as yet been recorded. Miller had been strolling around the hotel lobby for several hours frowning. Suddenly he looked up and remarked in an awed whisper to the nearest bystander, who happened to be a reporter, "Gee, when I was going to school, they didn't have such good looking teachers. Golly, if they had, I would be in grade school yet."

Dr. Henry B. Curtis, who came here from Worcester, Mass., to address the Nebraska State Teachers' association, is not a stranger to Nebraska, as he spent last summer at Kearney teaching the students at the Normal school how to play. While Dr. Curtis admits Nebraska children do not need playgrounds and organized supervision of plays as much as the children in the larger cities and the eastern states he maintains that playgrounds under the direction of a trained teacher would produce immediate benefits in Omaha as well as in several other cities of the state. Nearly seventy persons—alumni, faculty and students of the Nebraska Wesleyan university—were present at the banquet at the Hotel Rome yesterday. Addresses by Dr. G. W. A. Luckey of the University of Nebraska, M. J. Cameron of Omaha, James Delsell, state superintendent of schools, and C. A. Elliott, deputy superintendent of schools, were heard. All spoke of experiences from their school life and of their happy days while at school. The banquet ended with college yells and songs, in which even the staid old professors joined.

FIRE CAUSES PANIC IN LOS ANGELES HOSPITAL

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Nov. 10.—A fire originating in buildings occupied by the leper colony at the county hospital here early today threw 650 patients of the institution into a state bordering upon panic. Before the flames were extinguished, Miss Christine Bellows, a nurse, saw the flames and spread the alarm. Doctors, nurses and all hospital attendants aided in putting out the fire and in quieting the fears of the hundreds of patients who feared that the main hospital buildings would be burned.

THEY'RE SHOWING MARY MERRY TIME AT NIGHT

Mary, who is with the visiting teachers, directed an Omaha souvenir postal card to the folks at home, but she failed to put a stamp on it, so the postal employes couldn't help reading it. Mary said, "Omaha is all right, but there is too much doing here at night."

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