

OUR SCHOOLS.

PAPER NO. 4.

BY PROF. WILLIAM H. HAND.

Inadequate Supervision—In South Carolina there are three units of school administration—the State, the county, and the school district. "An educational system is a great business." In every organized business there must be machinery; that machinery must be repaired, adjusted, and articulated; and some competent person must supervise that machinery. A successful supervisor must be a capable man, an experienced man, and a courageous man. He must be reasonably well paid, definitely responsible to somebody, and reasonably secure in his position as long as he is efficient. What of the supervision of our educational system? What do we expect, and what have we a right to expect.

What does the fundamental law of the State require in the office of the State superintendent? Does it require that he shall be an educated man, or a man of experience in school affairs, or a man who knows anything of teaching and of teachers, or a man himself qualified to teach? He is expected to direct the educational policy of a State, and to maintain a system of schools for over three hundred thousand children. What salary is offered to a man big enough to fill this position? Nineteen hundred dollars a year. Now does this rank with the salary offered a man big enough to run one cotton mill? How does he get the position, and on what does the security of it depend? What is likely to be his reward for any display of courage in his office? Every second year he is compelled to neglect the duties of his office for at least two months and to spend at least four hundred dollars, to get the opportunity to speak ten minutes in each county telling the dear (indifferent) people that he should be re-elected. Under our present system of electing the State superintendent, and with two-year tenure of office, the entire educational policy of the State may be reversed inside one year. In a recent editorial the News and Courier pertinently says, "In late years the people have shown a growing improvement in their estimate of the place of superintendent of education, choosing as a rule trained teachers for it, but there is no assurance so long as the office is filled by popular vote that incapable men will not be ingratiating manner, or a reward of ingratiation, or a reward for political service."

The superintendent of education should be appointed by the governor or by a commission, after investigation, and the salary should be sufficient to command the services of experts, and at the same time remove them from temptation. A succession of able State superintendents could not build and maintain a system of high schools, unless the county supervisors be good. The wisest policies of a State superintendent would avail but little, unless the county superintendents were able, willing, and courageous enough to carry these policies to success. In the matter of administration the county superintendent is the key to the situation. What do we require of the county superintendent, what do we expect, what do we get, and—what do we give? Do we require that the county superintendent shall be an expert or experienced educator? Is he required to have any knowledge of schools or of teaching? Is there anything to prohibit an illiterate from holding that office? He is not required to be competent to teach, although by law he is required to give his teachers instruction in the art and methods of teaching. Does the county demand that its superintendent be at least the equal of the superintendent in the court house town? To be perfectly plain and honest, have we not had men elected and re-elected to the office of county superintendent, to supervise the whole county, who could not have been elected to any position in the best schools of their counties? Many of them would not

essay to teach in the best schools of their counties. They understand full well that the public does not expect such fitness of them. That is our fault, not theirs. The public mind does not think of a county superintendent as a man of education, experience, tact, and leadership in school matters. It thinks of him as a man who listens to neighborhood quarrels about district lines, and about the appointment and removal of trustees, and who sits in his office one day in the week to sign teachers' pay warrants.

In speaking thus of incompetent county superintendents, I have no intention whatever of being personal. I am happy to count my best friends in the State many of the county superintendents. Many of them are competent and efficient men, sacrificing themselves on the altar of an unappreciative public, for their reward is contemptible. We ask forty-two qualified men to direct over 6,200 teachers, to act as guardians for 314,000 children, and to keep and to disburse nearly a million and a half dollars; we offer them an average salary of \$684, an insult to an official man! The city of Greenville has conceived itself that it is economy to pay its superintendent \$1,800 a year to supervise the work of 44 teachers; while Greenville county pays its superintendent \$700 to supervise 275 teachers. Sumter county offers its superintendent \$900 to direct about 150 teachers. It is a source of wonder how we have as many efficient county superintendents as we have. All honor to the competent man patriotic enough to serve his county on a contemptible salary! But shame upon a people who compel patriotism to crawl in the dust!

I know that we have some people who claim that our schools are already too much supervised. That depends entirely upon what is meant by supervision. If it means the constant meddling in petty details, or the jealous interference with teachers in matters concerning only themselves, or the insistency upon teachers becoming teachers, or the interference with cheap imitators of a fad-head superintendent, then perhaps we have too much. But if supervision means the readiness and ability to inspire her, the tact to prune and refine and strengthen her, and the manhood to sustain her (and usually does), then I dissent vehemently. All over the State we have young men and women who as teachers ought to succeed, but who are falling because they have no one to advise them and to support them in the crucial moments of trial. This is especially true in the rural and village schools. Is it any wonder that the young teachers flock to the towns?

The rural schools must have better supervision. Nearly seventy per cent of the white school children of this State are in the rural schools. They are entitled to as good and as close supervision as are any other children. Proper supervision can not be given as long as we multiply the one-teacher schools with fifteen pupils each, and permit the popular election of supervisors at a salary of \$684. On a salary of \$684, what can a county superintendent do toward the real supervision of 150 teachers scattered all over a county, in perhaps 100 school houses?

Require that the county superintendent be an expert educator, let him be appointed by a board and responsible to that board, keep him in office as long as he is efficient, and pay him an expert's salary. We shall find the men prepared to do the work. Then we shall stop frittering away the school fund, increase the fund, and we shall get results. Sooner or later our people are going to come to look at this matter somewhat as did Hon. John J. McMahon in his report for 1900.

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NEGROES TERROR STRICKEN.

Georgia Night Riders Burn Churches and School Houses.

A dispatch from Albany, Ga., says there is a reign of terror among the negro inhabitants of a considerable portion of Calhoun, Baker and Miller counties, as the result of a raid by night riders Saturday night, the trail of the outlaws being marked by the blackened ruins of 13 negro churches and school houses.

The following buildings were destroyed: Mt. Zion church and school house, Pleasant church and school house, Christ church and school house, Little Zion church and school house, Belmont church, Mt. Aetna church and school house, New Salem church and school house.

The night riders first made their appearance at a point three miles east of Kesler, where the first church was fired. They galloped away towards the east and before the glare of the first fire had reached its height another was being kindled a few miles away. Fire followed fire and the destruction of every building to which the torch was applied was complete.

Hundreds of negroes went to their church Sunday to attend them, only to find heaps of ashes where their meeting house had stood.

Many of the best members of the negro race in the three counties named belonged to the congregations of some of the hundred churches. This is the same community where a few months ago a number of negro lodge rooms were dynamited and where several lynchings occurred, the last having taken place only a few weeks ago.

TRIED TO BRIBE HIM.

Ex-Senator Pettigrew Tells Bryan of Attempt Made in 1904.

While traveling with W. J. Bryan from Sioux Falls to Mitchell, former Senator Pettigrew publicly announced that four years ago he had been approached by the Republican national committee, through a former United States Senator, with an offer of \$10,000 if he would deliver ten speeches at such places as the committee would dictate in support of the candidacy of Thomas Watson, of Georgia, the People's party candidate for President. Senator Pettigrew declared that he declined the offer and conducted an investigation with the result that he satisfied himself that the Republican party financed in a large measure Watson's campaign.

GREAT DAMAGE BY FLOODS.

Heavy Loss of Life and Property in East India.

A Bombay dispatch says thousands of native houses were washed away and heavy loss of life occurred in the Hyderabad and Deccan districts as the result of floods which followed unprecedented rains.

The river Musi rose sixty feet. All the bridges were carried away. The country was devastated for many miles. Corpses were strewn everywhere, scores of bodies being found in trees where they were lodged by the swollen waters.

The native hospital at Hyderabad was undermined by the waters and collapsed and all the inmates were buried in the wreckage.

SHOWS UP TEDDY

Bryan Willing to Leave the Issue to the People.

QUOTES THE RECORD

Influence of Trusts and Other Managed Interests Not a Personal Question—His Enforcement of the Law Would Not Be Spasmodic and Discriminatory.

Replying to President Roosevelt's most recent statement, W. J. Bryan, in a letter addressed to the President, which was given out last night at Rock Island, Ill., points to his record and declares that it is sufficient answer to the insinuations of the Chief Executive that he is in connection with or controlled by the trusts.

Reverting to the charges against Governor Haskell, Mr. Bryan says: "The President, in response to his request, did not begin to suggest a tribunal which could determine those charges, but instead proceeded to pass judgment upon him and informs the President that the occupant of that high office can not deny to the humblest citizen the right to protect his reputation and vindicate his name in the courts."

"I am willing," says Mr. Bryan, "that all your charges against me shall be submitted to the voters of the county and with your charges I submit denial of any knowledge of information that could, in the remotest way, connect me with any trust, monopoly or law-breaking corporation. My record is sufficient answer to your insinuation. I have lived in vain, if your accusations have lost me a single friend. I challenged you to name a trust official who is supporting me, and after searching the country, you produce the name of one man, not a trust. Without inquiring whether he votes for me because of his fear of business adversity under Mr. Taft, you accept his statement that he will vote for me as conclusive proof that I am in league with the trusts, although you admit that trust officials are supporting the Republican ticket. You compliment me when you measure me by higher standards than you do your political associates, for you insist that Mr. Rockefeller's contribution to Governor Hughes' campaign fund was no reflection upon him and I take it for granted that you do not criticize Judge Taft's recommendation of a Standard Oil attorney to the Federal bench, a place where the judge might have to pass upon the charges against the very trust for which he had been an attorney. While the trust attorney to whom you refer is not an official of a trust, I will warn him and through him his clients that if I am elected I will not only vigorously enforce against all offenders the laws which we hope to have enacted in compliance with the Democratic platform, but that I will also vigorously enforce existing laws against any and all who violate them, and that I will enforce them, not spasmodically and intermittently, but persistently and consistently; they will not be suspended even for the protection of cabinet officers."

"You say the attitude of many men of large financial interests warrants you 'in expressing the belief that those trust magnates whose fear of being prosecuted under the law by Mr. Taft is greater than their fear of general business adversity; under me will support me rather than Mr. Taft. You have attempted to word that statement in such a way as to claim the support of all the trust magnates, and yet put it on the ground that they are supporting your party for patriotic reasons rather than for the promotion of a selfish interest. That is ingenious, but it is not sound. The trust magnates are supporting the Republican party and the Bible offers an explanation, 'the ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib.' You admit that you gave permission to the Steel Trust to absorb a rival; and thus increase its control of the output of steel and iron products. I will leave the American people to pass judgment upon that act and compare your position on the trust question with mine."

"But your letter presents a defence of your party's position and an accusation against the others which emphasizes an issue already prominent. You are the first conspicuous member of your party to attempt an explanation of the party's opposition to publicity, before the election, and the admission which you make will embarrass your party associates. Your position is that the publication before election of the contributions made to your campaign fund would furnish your political opponents an opportunity to give a false impression as to the fitness of the candidates. You cite as illustrations the contributions made to Governor Hughes' campaign fund, the contribution collected by Mr. Harriman and the contributions which are now being collected for Mr. Taft's campaign fund. You charge in effect that the people are so lacking in confidence that they might condemn as improper contributions which you declare to be proper. If the voters differ from you on this question, are they necessarily ignorant and wrong? Must the members of the party organization act as self-appointed guardian of the people and conceal from the what is going on lest the people be misled as to purpose and effect of large contributions? Is this your explanation of the action of the Republican leaders in the national convention in voting down a publicity plank? If you will pardon the suggestion I believe that a better explanation can be found in Holy

Writ, for do we not read of men loving darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil?

"I do not mean to say that Mr. Hughes was influenced by the contributions made to him by the trust magnates whose names were given in the after-election report. I do not mean to say that you were influenced by the contributions collected by Mr. Harriman, neither do I mean to say that Mr. Taft will be influenced by the contributions that are being made to him by the trust magnates; but I do mean to say that the American people have a right to know what contributions are being made; that they may judge for themselves the motive of the givers and the obligation imposed upon those who receive. The reflection upon those people involved in your charge that they would misuse the knowledge which publicity would give is unworthy of one who has been elevated to so high an office by the votes of the people, and I venture the assertion that you can not procure from Taft an endorsement of your defence. He is now before the people; he is offering himself as a candidate for the Presidency; he dares not tell the people to whom he appeals that they have not sense enough to form a just and correct opinion as to the purpose which leads parties interested in special legislation to make big contributions. You fear that we would misrepresent the motives of those who are contributing to the Republican campaign fund, and cast an unjust suspicion upon Republican candidates if the names and amounts were known before the election. Your argument, if sound, would prevent publication after the election, for why should an unjust suspicion be cast upon officials after the election any more than before? Does not the secrecy before the election increase this suspicion? We are going to give you an opportunity to misrepresent the motives of those who give to our campaign fund, and to arouse all the suspicion you can; we are going to prove to the people that we are making a fight for the whole people and not for those who have been enjoying privileges and favors at the hands of the government, and we expect that the honest sentiment of the country will rebuke the party whose convention refused to endorse any kind of publicity and whose candidates are not willing that the people should know until after the polls are closed what predatory interests have been active in support of the Republican party. With great respect, etc., yours truly

CALLED OFF MEETING.

Negroes of Maryland Town Had Things Fixed to Knife Taft.

There was to have been a meeting of the colored Republican club at Brentwood, Md., a suburb of Washington, on Wednesday night, but the meeting was not called to order. It became known next day that the reason that no meeting was had was that the president of the club refused to call it to order; because he knew that if the meeting was had, the president of the United States would be severely arraigned by resolution, and Bryan would be endorsed. It was the intention of a majority of the members to pass such a resolution, and the chairman did not want it. The meeting had been called as a Taft and Sherman rally. When the chairman found that a large number of members had signed an agreement to support a resolution condemning the president for his activity in the campaign and advising the negroes of the State to vote for Bryan and Kern, he announced that the meeting had been postponed.

SHOT DOWN AT CHURCH.

Drunken Men Use Pistols as Services Are Ended.

One of the bloodiest affairs in the history of East Tennessee occurred north of Anthon postoffice Sunday. The scene was the Baptist church, within fifty yards of which a "blind tiger" has been operated for months. Services had closed and nearly all the congregation had emerged from the church when a crowd of drunken men who had visited the "blind tiger" began firing into the worshippers with pistols.

John Bennett, J. W. McKinley and Edward Thomas were shot down at the church door and died almost instantly. The preacher was mortally wounded. Another worshiper was also shot down in front of the church, but is not dangerously wounded.

KILLED HIS WIFE.

At Williston and Then Made Good His Escape.

A special dispatch to Augusta Chronicle from Williston says Monday night about 10 o'clock a negro by the name of Andrew Washington, living right in the village, shot and killed his wife. The load from a gun fired at short range penetrating the abdomen, tearing the intestines into fragments. Some of the neighbors got to the scene of the killing in time to see the murderer fleeing across a cotton field. This is the second murder he has committed in this community, and the negroes are greatly excited over the affair.

COTTON CROP VERY SHORT.

The Georgia Output 800,000 Bales Under Last Year.

"The cotton crop in Georgia will be the shortest in years," said Commissioner of Agriculture Hudson at Atlanta Tuesday. "A conservative estimate of the total yield is 1,300,000 bales, against 2,000,000 bales last year." According to Commissioner Hudson's statement the decrease for the year will be 800,000 bales.

SIZING UP TEDDY

ROOSEVELT A SHAMEFUL DEMAGOGUE SAYS CHANCELLOR DAY.

Rockefeller's Champion Says Degeneracy is Made Contemptible By Revelation of Glaring Inconsistency of Chief Booster.

That the Standard Oil Company remains under the venomous hatred of President Roosevelt, for reasons best known on the inside, while the steel corporation, the greatest trust in America, receives his approbation and consent to increase its holdings, was the statement of Chancellor James Roscoe Day, of Syracuse University.

The chancellor charges that not only did Roosevelt, when a candidate for president four years ago, hobnob with trust magnates and urge them to secure money to elect him, but that after his election he appointed to a position in his cabinet a man who held at the time a retaining fee from a large corporation, that man being still a member of the cabinet.

The interview follows: "The things that I predicted more than two years ago, and that are on record, have come true, and other sequences are hurrying to their conclusion."

"Never has this country known such a condition politically. Never has it seen its president descend to such a shameful degeneracy of demagoguery. Most of its high moralists, far above trusts, which it considers the sum of all villainy, are made contemptible by revelations of the glaring inconsistency of the chief booster."

"For Senator Foraker to procure a loan for political friends who wish to purchase a paper for contesting the election shocks Mr. Roosevelt. But the president was very 'practical' when he wanted \$260,000 to put it where it could do most good when his election was involved. What was such a great sum to be used for? It is a sign of political corruption for Senator Foraker to have correspondence with an officer of the Standard Oil Company, but only the direction and privilege of Mr. Roosevelt to call to Washington a 'practical' man, the head of the greatest railway corporation in the land, to confer with him before he announced his 'policies' to congress."

"The Standard Oil remains under Mr. Roosevelt's venomous hatred for reasons well-known on the inside, but the greatest trust in America receives his approbation and consent to increase its holdings."

"A representative of predatory wealth is intimate counsel and in co-operation with Mr. Hitchcock until discovery becomes inevitable. Then he is forced to resign, not because of the sin, but the sure discovery of it by political enemies. The glass houses seem to be cracking with ominous sound. The Foraker-Archbold incident is shocking to hypocrites. But honest and thoughtful men who are not hiding facts to promote a cause, remember the conditions of brigandage in the legislature when every State held up industrial and transit corporations, and demanded their money or their lives."

"Fortunately the culmination from the White House carry no conviction. So prejudiced, unfair and untrue are they. They are humiliating, not because they are from Mr. Roosevelt, but because they are from the president. The office is disgraced. The people are covered with shame."

"The little postmasters are removed for engaging in politics. The most of the business of the presidential office is devoted to a political campaign. Cabinets are called, interviews are furnished, telephone and telegraph wires are kept hot, the clerical force is worked far into the night—if the newspaper special correspondents are to be believed—and our square deal president is chaffing at the bit to go on the platform."

"I know that no corporation resisted this mauling more successfully than Standard Oil."

"Charges against Mr. Foraker for practicing as an attorney when in office is absurd. The very salary paid a senator proves that the country expects him to employ his spare time in some legitimate business."

"The eye of the American people are opened wide. They are not all deceived. What they need is to exercise themselves in the judicial temperament. They are too easy stampeded by the frenzy of the mad reformer."

"The American citizen cannot return too soon to Constitutional government and the re-inforcement of business with his confidence."

A DARING ROBBERY.

Knocks Down a Man and Locks Him In Vault.

Concealing himself in the vault of the office of W. D. Allen Manufacturing Company, Chicago, a thief Wednesday stole \$500 after committing a murderous assault on Henry Gibbs, the superintendent. The robber struck Gibbs on the head with a revolver when he opened the door of the vault to get the money which was part of the payroll.

Trusting the superintendent into the vault and making him a prisoner by turning the combination knob the robber leaped toward the door. The way was blocked by the company's stenographer and bookkeeper. "If you raise a hand to stop me I'll kill you both," the thief said as he leveled the revolver.

Springing over the railing the robber, who was masked, reached the door before Miss Walter or Gallagher could attract the attention of a large force of employes who were within hearing distance. He ran to a nearby street, where it is thought a horse and buggy were waiting for him.

BLIND STAGGERS

AGAIN MAKES ITS APPEARANCE IN THIS STATE.

Dr. Powers, State Veterinarian, Gives Some Advice as to Curing Animals Affected With the Disease.

The fatal disease of horses commonly called "stagers" has again made its appearance in this State, cases being reported in Barnwell and Hampton counties. No cases have been reported in Greenville county. This disease has appeared sporadically in South Carolina for many years, but no serious outbreak occurred until the epidemic of 1901 and 1902.

During the fall of 1901 a few cases were reported in Lancaster county, and in January 1902, it again broke out in Orangeburg county. During the following six months losses were reported in Anderson, Pickens, Oconee, Spartanburg, Cherokee, Greenwood, Orangeburg, Barnwell and Berkeley counties. At that time it was estimated that the losses during this short period greatly exceeded \$10,000.

After this severe outbreak, no cases were reported until 1906, when the disease was again reported in Hampton, Marion, York, Pickens and Oconee counties. Outbreaks of the disease were also reported in Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Georgia, Louisiana and Kansas during the same seasons.

Leuco Encephalitis is the proper name for this disease, although it is also called Cerebro Spinal Meningitis in many localities. The exact cause is as yet unknown, despite the investigations of many prominent scientists. It has been attributed to microorganisms, poisonous plants, impure water, mouldy feed, etc. One investigator has produced these symptoms by feeding damaged grain containing a fungus, the spores of which enter the circulation and set up inflammation and often abscesses of the brain.

State Veterinarian Powers of Clemson, in talking of the disease, said:

"Mules are seldom attacked; in fact, I have never seen one so affected, although some cases have been reported. In all cases investigated by me, I have found lesions of the brain. In many instances there has been softening and degeneration of large areas of the brain tissue, while in others there has been severe congestion of the blood vessels and meninges of the brain."

"The symptoms are similar to those observed in nearly all other forms of so-called staggers, viz: dullness, delirium, in-coordination, etc. Death usually occurs within one or two days, and the few animals that recover are of little value, owing to the changes in the nervous system."

"Every effort should be made to check the spread of the disease. Upon its appearance, all other horses should be removed from the stable, and the entire stable should be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and abandoned for two or three months. Complete change of water and feed is of the utmost importance, since many authorities believe that diseased hay or grain or impure water is the cause of this disease. In past outbreaks we have noticed that new cases developed after these precautions were observed."

"Medical treatment is most unsatisfactory, as animals die so suddenly after the symptoms develop. Upon appearance of the first symptoms, severe purgatives should be immediately given, 1 oz. of Aloes with 2 drams Ext. of Belladonna being very satisfactory for this purpose. The administration of drugs is often impossible, owing to the delirium of the horse, but purgative can be given hypodermically. Whenever a competent veterinarian can be procured, he should be called immediately, as treatment is very unsatisfactory and practically useless after the symptoms are well developed."

"If the animal can be handled, the following drench may prove of some value: Powder's Sol. Arsenic. Phenacetin, 2 drams. Strychnin Sulph., 1-2 grain."

HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE

In the Coal Mines of the United States.

Accidents in coal mines of the United States during the last calendar year resulted in the death of 3,125 men and injury to 5,316 more, according to statistics just made public by the geological survey. The death record among the coal miners during the year was greater by 1,033 than in 1906, and this is said to have been the worst year in the history of the coal mining industry. The figures do not represent the full extent of the disasters, as reports were not received from certain States having no mine inspectors.

West Virginia reported the heaviest death rate in 1907—12.35 per thousand employees and this State also showed the lowest production for each life lost—65,969 tons. New Mexico stood next on the list with a death rate of 11.45 and a production of 77,322 tons for each life lost. Alabama was third with a death rate of 7.2 per thousand and a production of 92,535 tons for each life lost. Missouri had the lowest death rate, heading the roll of honor with .95 and 499,742 tons of coal mined for each life lost.

Statistics do not bear out the popular idea that most mine disasters result from explosions. Of a total number reported during the last year 947 deaths and 843 injuries resulted from gas and dust explosions, and 201 deaths and 46 injuries were caused by powder explosions. The chief cause of death among the miners, the report explains, was due to the falling of mine roofs and coal. Such disasters caused 1,122 deaths and 2,141 injuries.

ANOTHER ONE CAUGHT.

Republican Leader Admits His Connection With Trusts.

Charles Nagel, of St. Louis, who in the absence of Chairman Hitchcock, is in charge of Republican national headquarters at Chicago, Tuesday gave out a statement admitting that the law firm of which he is a member is acting in a professional capacity for the Water-Pierce Oil Company.

Aque, 4 oz
Sig: Give this drench three times daily.

The bodies of all affected animals should be opened and the organs, especially the brain, carefully examined. The appearance of this disease, together with report of the post mortem examination, should be forwarded to this office. All possible advice and assistance will be furnished to assist in control of this outbreak.

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