

School Notes.

The profession of teaching is capable of developing the best that is in us. The grandest, noblest and the most lovable men and women with whom the world has been blest have been the teachers of the human race who have lifted mankind to the highest ideals by word, deed, act and living examples.

There will never be any real progress in the appointment, tenure and promotion of teachers on a basis of pure merit until people know what really constitutes merit. The present procedure in these important matters is governed too much by personal considerations. Merit—namely executive ability, organization, personality and brains—not friendship, should determine the appointment, tenure and promotion of all teachers. When the schools of the state, of the nation will have attained this status of management, efficiency will be at a premium.

The Board of Education is the most important factor in the educational life of a community, and is the best gauge of a community's higher interests. Hope State High is fortunate indeed in having such progressive, public-spirited business men who are willing to sacrifice their time in looking after the best interests of the public schools. The success or failure of a school system depends largely upon the individual members of the Board of education.

Plato, the Greek Philosopher and teacher, states that the purpose of education is to give to the body and to the soul all the beauty and all the perfection of which they are capable. This philosophy was equally emphasized by the ancient Romans when they advocated the importance of a strong mind in a strong body. These two requisites are inseparable.

It is usually presumed that public school buildings are designed for purposes of the school five days of the week for thirty-six weeks of the year and six hours each day. This is not and should not always be the case. When the building is located in a community that can use it all the time, it should be so used. Such a building would be likely to have a day school that requires the facilities that would be needed by people who could make use of it for other purposes. The gymnastic club meets every Monday evening. Join the class. The exercise is a good tonic.

Rev. Hitchcock visited the seventh and eighth grades Monday morning during the American History recitation in which the students were studying the American Indian and if all reports are true, the reverend gentleman came near being tomahawked!

The chemistry class is now doing the subject "water" and separating oxygen and hydrogen by means of electrolysis. By chemical affinity or chemism O and H combine to form water in the proportion of two molecules of the latter to the one molecule of the former.

The class in Physics is now applying the Principle of Archimedes which states that a body immersed in a fluid loses exactly as much of its weight as is equal to the weight of the fluid it displaces. This important truth was discovered by this noted mathematician and philosopher, about 240 B. C.

The class in Solid Geometry has finished the sixth Book and taken up the seventh which treats of Prisms and Parallelopipeds. At present the class in working "originals."

The members of the advanced English class have begun to practice the art of verse making. If their efforts meet with the hoped for success, we shall expect to have an opportunity of enjoying a perusal of their productions in the near future.

The class in General History has taken up the study of Greece—after having carefully reviewed the history of the most important people of the ancient countries of Egypt, Chaldea, Assyria, Babylonia, India, Persia and Phoenicia.

Great interest is being shown by the majority of the Algebra class, in the solution of original problems. A few of the pupils find their powers of reasoning in a rather inactive condition, but are gradually waking up to the fact that Algebra means, 'reason.'

SPELLING

Second Grade:

Jesse Carpenter, Ralph Clutter, Glen Ebeling, Jakie Fullmer, William Hanley, Jamie Iseminger, Percy Olson, Teddie Reynolds, Hazel Clutter, Annie Meader, Grace Lunding, Zelma Moores, Doris Tillotson, Hazel Bailey.

Third Grade:

Sibyl Wamberg, Clara Stark, George Sussex, Carl Cassels, Lyle Bowen, Paul Roney, Floyd Johnson, Leslie Moote.

Fourth Grade:

Marion White, Ethel Couran, Grace Harness.

Thought Him Real.

It is easy for the public to think that Conan Doyle has been writing of real people in his Sherlock Holmes stories. The publication of "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" brought the publishers a letter, interesting as showing how completely Doctor Doyle has made his characters live. The writer dates his letter from a little Pennsylvania town, and says:

"One story gives a description of Horace Harker, in whose house a man had been murdered, in London. I am much interested in the Harker family, and would be awful glad if I could get in correspondence with some of the Harker family in England. My father's mother was a Harker, who came to this country with her parents when she was quite young. Do you think if I would write to Doctor Watson, in London, who seems to have been Mr. Holmes' constant companion, that he would answer my letter, and try to place me in communication with some one? Can you give me Doctor Watson's address in London? Yours very truly."

Forcing Spiders to Spin.

Certain green ants in Queensland, which also make their nests of leaves and flowers spun together, are said to keep spiders to spin for them. Whether these latter do it spontaneously, or require to be held as the larvae of the other species, does not seem to have been determined. In the devices of these ants there is surely one of nature's hints to human inventors. Since the days of the spider artist in the University of Lagado, spider silk has been a dream. The difficulty of its realization has been chiefly the pugnacious nature of the spider, which prevents them being kept together. But a machine has been invented which seems to overcome the difficulty. It is described as a sort of frame containing twenty-four miniature guillotines, the blunt knives of which descend on the waists of the spiders and hold them fast. A number of threads are secured together on a hook and slowly drawn out.—London Globe.

Only One Car Would Be There.

One day as he was leaving his office in Portland the late Thomas B. Reed was accosted by a stranger who had been imbibing so freely that he was "seeing things double." After apologizing profusely the stranger managed to ask the congressman where he could get a car for the depot.

Mr. Reed replied: "Go to the next corner; there you will see two cars; take the first one, the other one won't be there."

Original of Jim Bludso.

H. E. Bledsoe, son of the man whose life suggested to John Hay the poem, "Jim Bludso of the Prairie Belle," is living in Denver. The elder Bledsoe lived in Warsaw, Ill., nearly all his life and was a sawmiller among river men in the old days. The old man, who died three months ago, always kept up correspondence with Mr. Hay.

Inventions for Automobiles.

Inventors are now turning their attention to the smaller details of the automobile. One of the most recent patents is applied to a wire frame arranged to sweep the rubber tires. This, it is claimed, will avoid many punctures, since it will remove tacks and bits of glass as soon as picked up.

In Trouble.

"He's sorry now that he quarreled with his wife."
"She has gone home to her mother, I suppose."
"No, she's had her mother come home to her."

To Swim English Channel.

Montagu Holbein will make another effort to swim the English channel this year. Burgess, the French champion, who did so well last year, is also to make another attempt.