

School Notes

There are those who choose darkness rather than light, because it comes cheaper. Some of them are teachers who will persist in teaching by their dim candle of experience rather than call to their aid the best thought of all the ages.

The time is gone when a mechanical going thru the motions of instruction is accepted as a substitute for genuine education, except in communities in which the civic conscience is at low water-mark. The measure of a teacher is his mind and personality, not the width of his mouth, because an empty wagon makes the most noise.

The masters in our craft are those who have method, purpose and a definite aim in all they do and who utilize the interests and activities of their classes in the accomplishment and attainment of their aim. An architect, mechanic and in fact, all craftsmen have definite specifications for their daily work, but too many teachers have no daily method, purpose or aim and many even go before their classes without preparation, depending entirely upon "inspiration," impulse and their "inner consciousness." This class fortunately is growing smaller and smaller as the rigid requirements and professional standards are being advanced in all commonwealths, and he who is not measuring up to professional standards is being supplanted by abler talent.

Never has merit counted for more with those entrusted with the management of large systems than at the present time. The merit system of appointment and promotion is employed in all large school systems and is giving the best results. Friendship, affiliation and political preferment avails the applicant nothing.

Better schools are impossible without better teachers. Better teachers are impossible without better education, better training, better opportunities. Better education and training and the utilization of better opportunities are impossible without better pay for teachers. Reason as we will, bubble over as we do about the nobility of the work and the glorious rewards of it "hereafter" back of the whole proposition must still lie the question of better pay!

The class in Natural Philosophy was given a quiz Friday covering the month's work in atmospheric pressure and specific gravity. The majority of the class is doing work of a high order and one or two members are destined to become Physicists of repute.

The class in Cicero has finished the First Oration of Catiline and was given a quiz on this oration and the Manillian Law. The result was very satisfactory.

The class in Beginning Latin was initiated, Friday, into the quizzes of the High School. The work of this class is highly satisfactory and from present indications will make a strong Cæsar class for next year. Scholarship counts!

Miss Odney has kindly consented to relieve Miss Larson of one half of the Physical Culture instruction. Miss Larson has conducted this department ever since it was organized and certainly deserves a "vacation."

The following had perfect spelling lessons for the past week:

SECOND GRADE

Willie Bowen, Jesse Carpenter, William Hanley, Jamie Iseminger, Hazel Clutter, Frances Lockwood, Annie Meader, Grace Lunding, Zelma Moores, Doris Tillotson.

THIRD GRADE

Sibyl Wamberg, Earl Cassels, Lyle Bowen.

FOURTH GRADE

Ethel Couron, Earle Jefferson, Helen Baker, Alice Carpenter, Grace Harness, Ina Jefferson.

Willow Lake

Those having perfect spelling lessons during last week at school No. 2 are as follows:

Freddie Johnson, Albert Nybo, Aaron Johnson, Lillie Johnson, Lillie Clark, Villie Johnson, Anna Nybo.

Those not absent during the week:

Conrad Johnson, Louis Johnson, Albert Nybo, Aaron Johnson, Lillie Johnson.