

Highland Park News-Letter

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Our Schools As Models For England

One day when Mr. Alfred Mosely, the English philanthropist, whose attention was attracted to the United States by Mr. Gardner Williams, was visiting a Pittsburg factory he said to a young superintendent:

"What strikes me most about your country is that your workshops are filled with college-bred young men like you. At home a varsity man is graduated into a frock-coat and gloves. Here he is educated into overalls."

"Well?" said the young superintendent.

"Why, that seems to be the keynote of American education. It trains for efficiency. And the keynote to America seems to be education."

The more he studied American life, first on a tour with a group of trades-union officers, and later with a commission of men prominent in the British educational world, the deeper became Mr. Mosely's impression that our industrial success is the result of our system of education. Very lately he declared.

"The Americans believe intensely in the education of the masses. Three striking figures are: first, the large amount of money devoted to educational purposes, the magnificent buildings, and the lavish equipment; secondly, the teachers are enthusiastic; and, thirdly, there is a thirst for knowledge shown by pupils of all ages which is largely lacking in England."

Now, fortified by the reports of the educational commission which bear out his observation, he has arranged a tour of investigation in the United States for parties of English school-teachers. Presumably the teachers have read the reports of their superiors, but he believes that they will learn more from a two weeks' visit to our schools than from any number of volumes of reports. Several thousands of teachers have applied for an invitation, from whom five hundred in different parts of England will be selected. Groups of fifteen or twenty will come over at a time, at the rate of about one hundred a month. They will examine the New York schools, and then some will go east, some west, and some south. Each party will spend about twelve days in the country at Mr. Mosely's expense. Every teacher will write a report on returning, and suggest in the light of experience, ways in which the admittedly bad English system of education can be improved.

So mediæval is the English common school system that Great Britain can hardly be said, in one sense, to have popular training at all. The visiting teachers can learn something from even our poorest city schools, and much from the better schools, like those of Menominee, Wisconsin, in the Middle West. But now that our schools are in a fair way to become models for a foreign nation, we might well engage in their long needed improvement. When our country schools give as good a training as our best city schools, and our city schools pay as much attention to hygiene as they do to perfection in the three R's—for both objects are compatible—we shall be prouder of them.

—[The World's Work.

Greatest Of Expositions

Of all exhibitions held in the United States since the Philadelphia Centennial in 1876, the Jamestown Ter-Centennial to be held on the shores and waters of Hampton Roads, near the cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth and Newport News, Va., April 26 to November 30, 1907, is to be the most unique, and in originality and novelty will completely eclipse all previous expositions.

The celebration commemorates the most important event in history—the founding of the first English-speaking settlement in America, at Jamestown, Va., in 1607, where Captain John Smith and a small party of colonists established a village from which has grown America, with nearly one hundred million population. The celebration will show the remarkable position attained by the United States in history and education, together with the marvelous industrial development and commercial expansion during three hundred years. Contemporaneous with the exposition will be held on the waters of Hampton Roads the greatest naval pageant ever witnessed in the world, in which every type of war vessel from the natives of all foreign nations will participate. Another attractive feature will be the international military encampment in which detachments of troops of European countries will unite with the soldiers of the United States in a series of drills, maneuvers, parades, etc.

The site of the exposition is located within twenty minutes' ride of the Tidewater cities of Virginia, reached either by trolley or steamer, and nature has combined with the ingenuity of man in making a beautiful and picturesque spot. The grounds cover more than 400 acres, with two miles of water front facing the greatest waterway in the world, and commands an unsurpassed view of innumerable points of national and historic interest.

The scheme of landscape decoration will be novel and elaborate, one of the attractive features being the floral fence which surrounds the grounds. It is made of trumpet vines, trained on meshed wire, intertwined with honeysuckle and crimson Rambler roses, the effect being an artistic triumph of flowering beauty.

More than twenty-five exhibit palaces are now nearing completion, comprising Auditorium, Manufacture and Liberal Arts, Mines and Metallurgy, Marine Appliances, Machinery, Food Products, Arts and Crafts, Transportation, Social Economy, etc., in addition to the government and States buildings and pavilions. They will be of semi-permanent construction and in appointments will excel any similar group of buildings ever erected. In architecture they will all be of the colonial period, forming an appropriate setting to the natural beauties of the environment.

Another attractive feature will be the government pleasure pier extending 2,000 feet into Hampton Roads. At either end it will be surmounted with light towers and a working exhibit of wireless telegraphy. The entire structure will be illuminated by thousands of arc and incandescent electric lights, affording an unexcelled view of the naval display. Amusements have not been lost sight of, and the "Warpath," covering more than a mile, will offer a diversified class of original novelties.

In assembling the exhibits, especially those representing the varied industries and the liberal arts the managers of the Exposition have been careful to select such as show the latest and best attainments in every line of industry. Hence, it will be the first "selective" Exposition ever held in the United States, in which every phase of commercial and industrial development will be displayed, so arranged and classified that visitors may obtain an intelligent understanding of the history and growth of any specific branch of the trades and industries, without the necessity of visiting other buildings to inspect another part of the same exhibit.

Many reasons combine to make the celebration the most successful ever attempted, and when President Roosevelt touches an electric button April 26, of next year, signifying the formal opening of the gates, the thousands of visitors will not be disappointed in the wonders and attractions of the Jamestown Ter-Centennial.

Pure Food Candy

In these days of "Pure Food" investigations people are discovering that one of the easiest and most common forms of adulteration is in connection with candies. It has been known for years that much of the coloring matter, the paraffine, starch and glucose used in such candies as chocolate creams was particularly injurious. But when everybody adulterated, what was the poor victim to do? One can't extract his "sweet tooth."

A partial answer is to be found in the really pure and delicious home made candies being made by a young lady in Syracuse, New York, and by the Craftsman's Guild of Highland Park, Illinois. The success of these individuals in making absolutely pure candy and packing it daintily ought to be an object lesson to the large concerns which claim that people will not pay eighty cents a pound for pure candy, when they can buy the adulterated candy for forty cents a pound. Perhaps not.

Mrs. T. M. Wilder will accept violin pupils. She is a former student of Wm. Lewis and Carl Becker, and has had much experience in teaching. Inquire Rice street, Ravinia, Ill. 11-10 3

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