

MORE QUESTIONS IN SCHOOL CATECHISM

Information Contained in Answers Regarding Education In State

Herewith are several more questions and answers from the Public School Catechism issued by the State Teachers Association:

9. Is the school enrollment increasing?
Yes. During recent years it has increased as follows: Enrollment in 1905, 985,134; enrollment in 1910, 1,002,687; enrollment in 1915, 1,064,221; enrollment in 1920, 1,127,560; enrollment in 1924, 1,316,038.

10. How rapidly has the high school enrollment increased?
1905, 48,913; 1910, 63,302; 1915, 87,831; 1920, 127,821; 1924, 217,740.

11. Who must attend school?
All children between seven and sixteen years of age. Exceptions: those physically or mentally unable to attend; those receiving instructions in parochial or private schools equivalent to the work of the public schools; those employed under the provisions of the Child Labor law. The indefinite or ambiguous provisions of our compulsory attendance laws cause a lack of enforcement in many districts.

12. How long are the schools open each year?
Illinois counties range from 142 to 192 days of actual teaching. The 1923-1924 average for the entire state was 182 days. For only the high schools the average was 190 days.

13. How many districts are there?
Illinois has 123 consolidated districts; nearly 500 township and community high schools; 116 two-year high schools; 155 three-year high schools; 658 four-year high schools; 10,085 one-room country schools; total number of districts, unit system and otherwise, 11,916.

14. How many teachers are there?
In 1923-1924 there were in the public common schools 42,865 teaching positions, of which 33,748 were in the

elementary schools and 9,117 in the high schools.

15. Are the teachers adequately trained to teach?
Yes, in some cases; for many parents are urgently demanding that their children shall be given efficient instruction.

In 1924, 70 per cent of our high school teachers were graduates of college or normal, or of normal combined with college; 85.4 per cent were normal graduates or had more extended training. Of the elementary school teachers only 4.81 per cent were graduates of college or of college and normal combined; 33.56 per cent were graduates or normal or had superior training. For all of the 42,865 teachers we find that 18.68 per cent were graduates of college or of college and normal combined; and 44.6 per cent were graduates of normal or had more extended training.

16. Where are teachers trained in Illinois?
In the five state teachers' colleges—

at Normal, Carbondale, DeKalb, Charleston and Macomb; in the University at Urbana; in the Chicago Normal college; also in several other important higher institutions not under state control.

17. How many new teachers are needed each year to fill new positions and to replace those who leave the profession?
Between 4,500 and 4,600 new teachers are needed.

18. How many teachers are adequately trained in Illinois each year?
Only about 2,000 teachers (2,066 in the year 1923-24) are trained in Illinois sufficiently to receive by means of certified credits the certificates of the first or better grade.

19. Where do the other new teachers come from?
Many are hired without the proper training.

For the year of 1924 the following percentages of certificates granted

through certified credits went to teachers trained outside of Illinois; 27.2 per cent of all certificates granted; 35.5 per cent of high school certificates; 24.3 per cent of second-grade certificates; 21 per cent of first-grade certificates; and 28.9 per cent of special certificates.

20. What salaries are paid Illinois teachers?
The 1924 average of all teachers' salaries was \$1,489.35; for men teachers, \$1,679.31; for women teachers, \$1,449.35.

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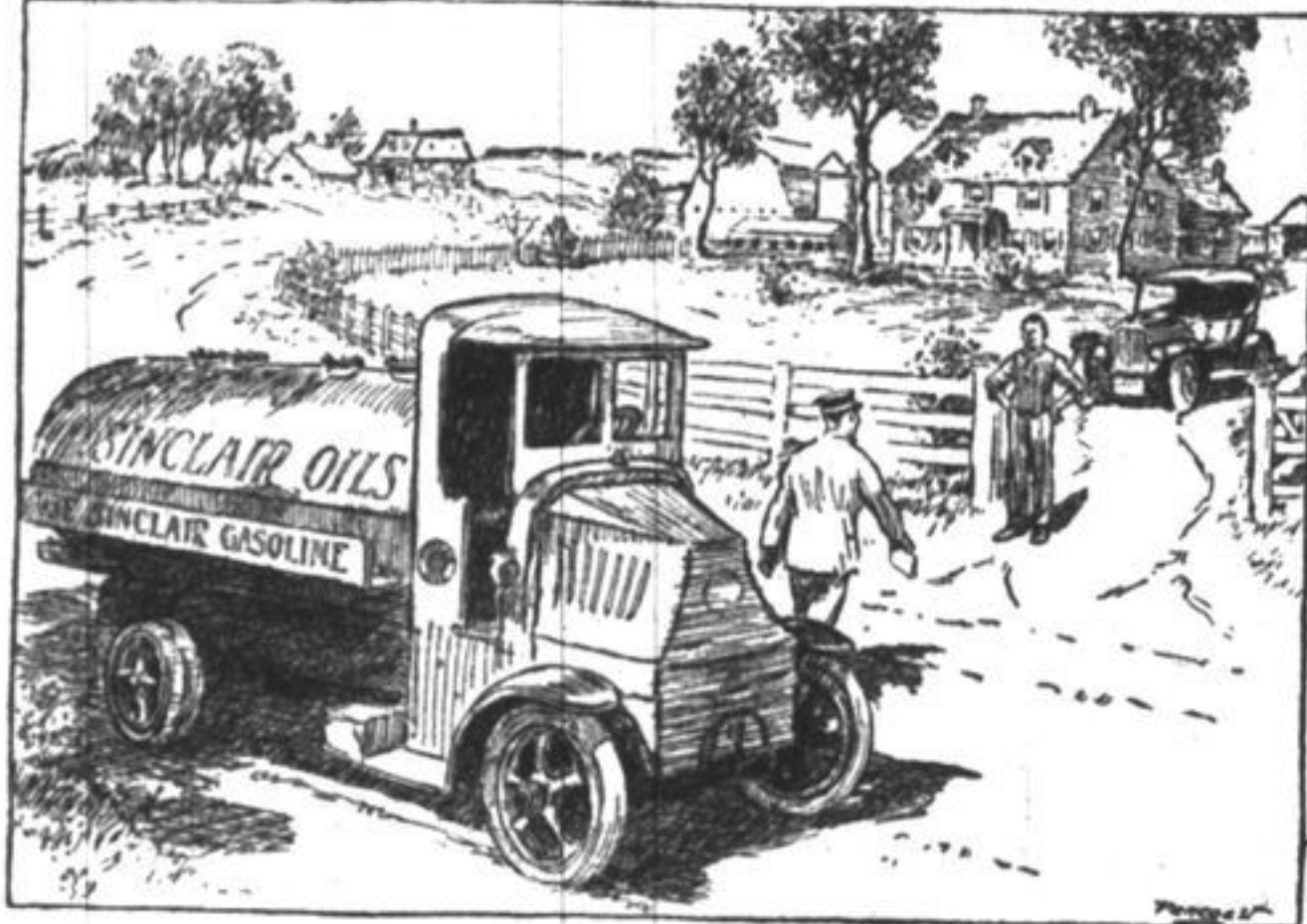
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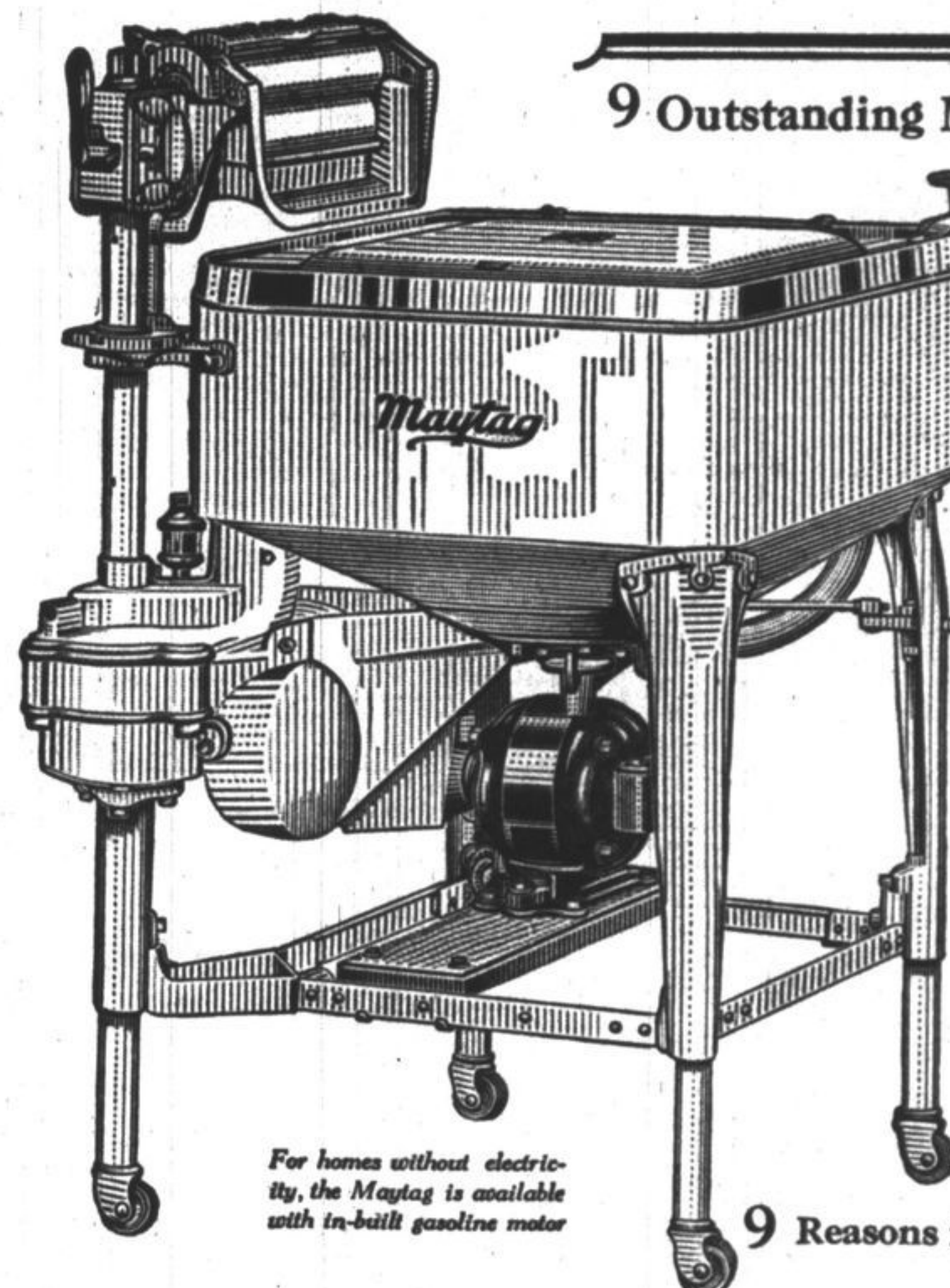
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