

### WISCONSIN CITY BARES PUPILS' EXTRAVAGANCE

La Crosse Estimates \$107,660 Goes for Pleasures and Candy In Year; Lesson in Saving

B. E. McCormick, superintendent of the La Crosse, Wisconsin, public schools, has made a survey of the schools of that city showing how much money pupils spend for movies, candy and other amusements. The results of his investigation are being used as the basis of a thrift campaign among the students and parents, the latter through the Parent Teacher associations. The questionnaire sent out covered the period from September 25 to October 2. The following questions were asked:

How many times did you attend the "movies" during the week?  
 How much money did you spend for "movies"?  
 How much money did you spend for other amusements?  
 How much money did you spend for candy and sweets?

The lower grade children would not hesitate to answer these questions. That the result from older boys and girls might be depended upon, teachers were instructed to ask every student to write his answers on a slip of paper and hand it in without his name. It was explained that this was an earnest effort to secure reliable data and all students were asked to be very frank in their replies. At the same time they were assured that the information would not be used to check on individuals. The reports were handed in and the data tabulated as follows:

High school pupils reporting, 970; grades, 3044.

	H. S.	Grades
Money spent for movies	\$ 150.41	\$ 381.40
Money spent for other amusements	817.04	520.46
Money spent for candy and sweets	503.69	387.53

Total .....\$1,471.14 \$1,289.39  
 The survey covered two days of a county fair and as a result figures may be a little more than the average week's expenditures. Using these

as a basis, the children of the public schools would spend during the school year the following amounts:  
 Movies .....\$ 5,865.99 \$ 14,874.60  
 Other amusements 31,864.56 14,874.60  
 Candy and sweets 19,643.91 15,113.67

Total .....\$57,374.46 \$50,286.21  
 Grand total .....\$107,660.67

To emphasize the problem it was pointed out to parent-teacher meetings that the local expenditures of the high school pupils for the thirty-nine weeks on the basis of the data collected would be just \$4,000 more than the total amount of money paid to the high school teachers for the same period, and that the total expenditures of the grade pupils for these three purposes would be about one-half of the total payroll of grade teachers. The total expenditures of grade and high school pupils amounted to about two-thirds of the total city appropriation for school purposes for 1919. The total expenditures of the boys and girls of the city during the period of thirty-nine weeks is within \$27,000 of the amount it is estimated will build a modern junior high school. If the grand total of \$107,660.67 were available for investment in War Savings Stamps, it would amount to \$127,726.67 January 1, 1924. These statements have been made for the purpose of emphasizing the fact that pennies count when saved.

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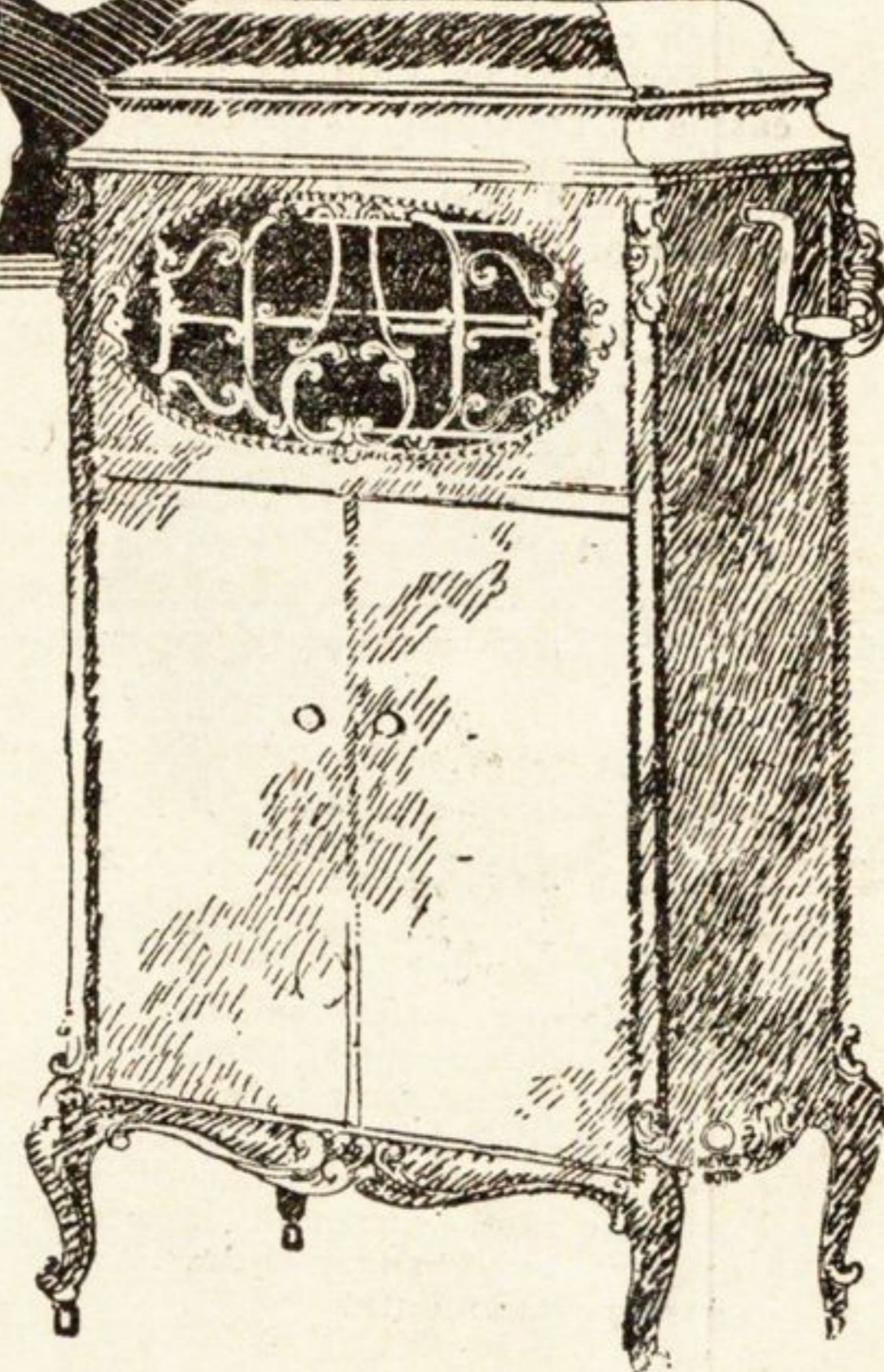
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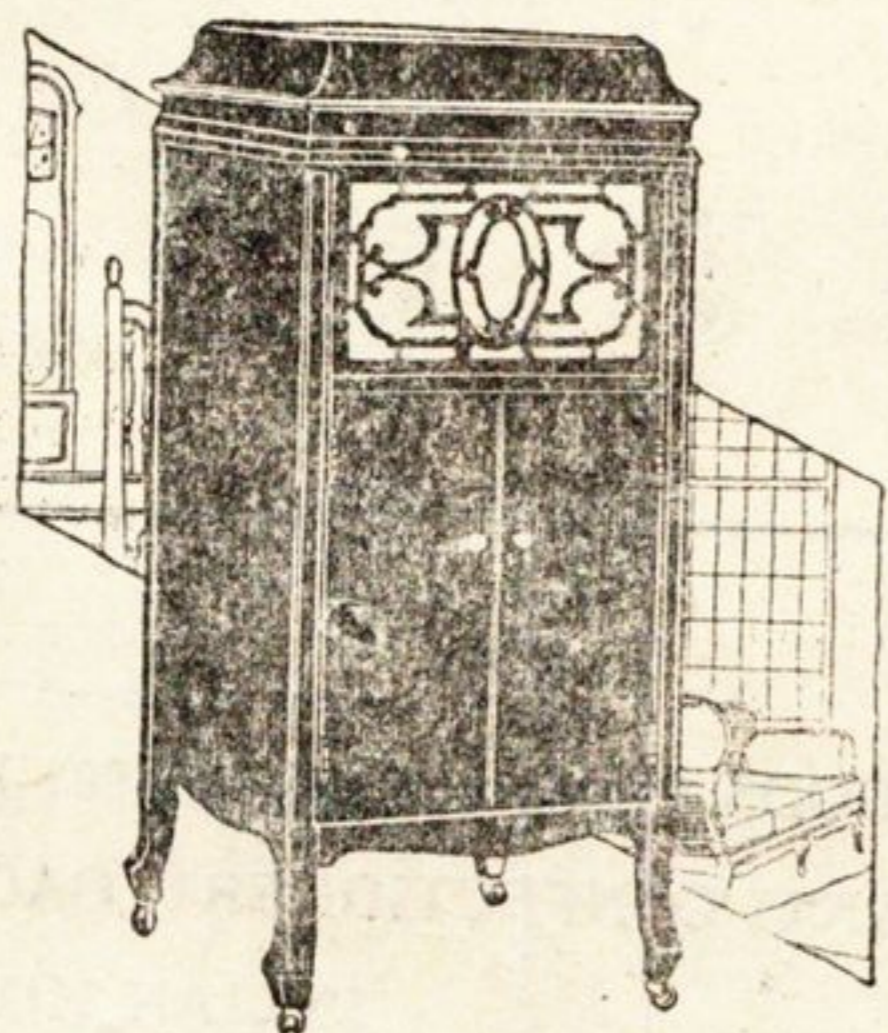
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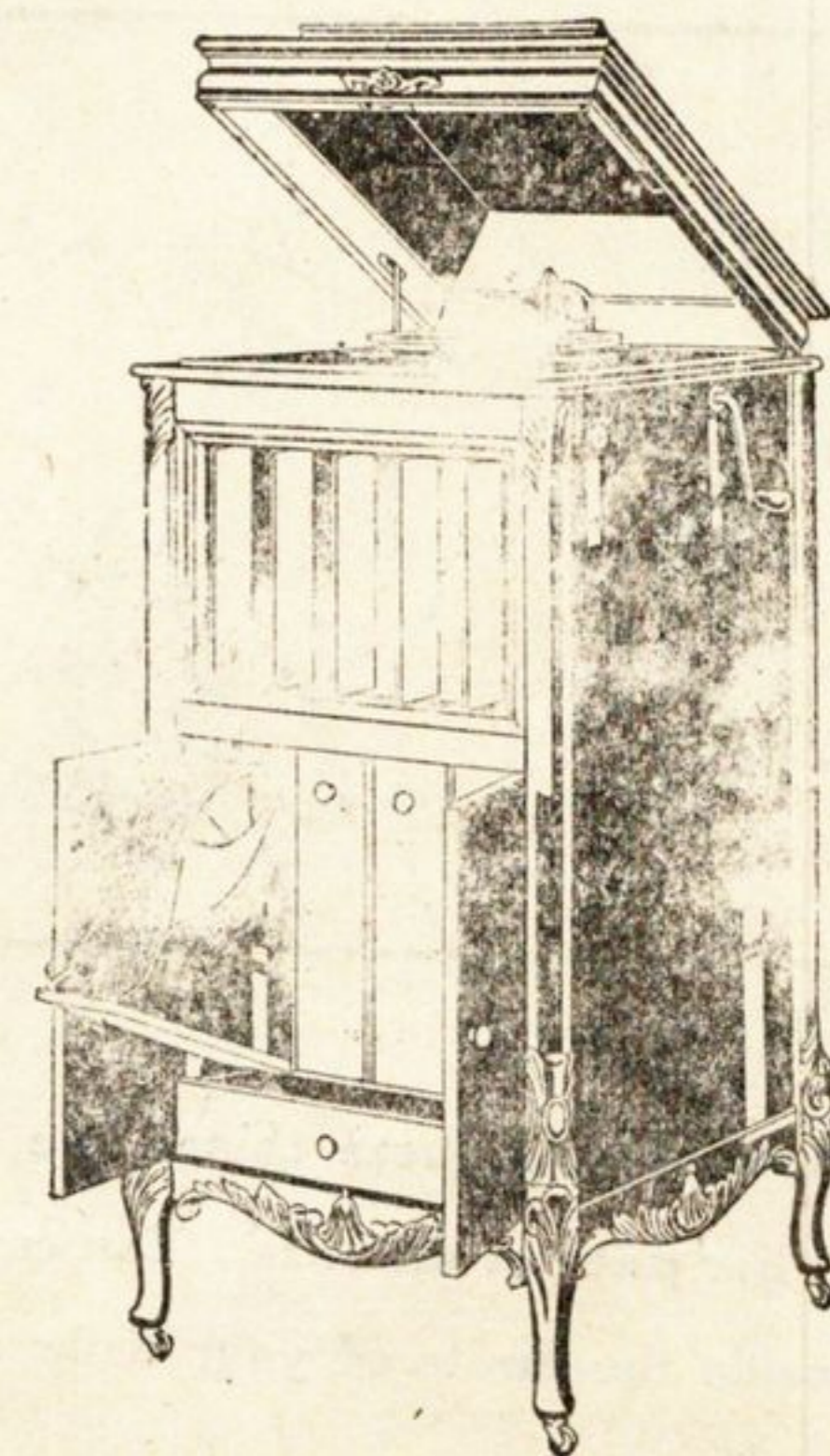
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