

INEQUALITIES OF EXPENDITURE IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Cost of High-School Education Per Pupil Nearly Four and One-Half Times the Amount Spent on Each Elementary School Pupil

By A. S. MARTIN

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NEW YORK CITY spent \$30,947,293 for supervision and instruction of the elementary and high schools; Chicago, \$11,625,025; Philadelphia, \$5,884,902; Cleveland, \$3,090,700; Pittsburgh, \$2,369,825; and Baltimore, \$1,784,519.

The average cost of supervision and instruction per child enrolled in the New York city public school system was \$25.88; in Chicago, \$11.28; in Philadelphia, \$20.68; in Pittsburgh, \$29.26; in Philadelphia, \$27.05, and Baltimore, \$19.34.

The average cost of supervision and instruction per child, however, is not a guarantee that justice, measured in terms of quality of supervision and instruction, is received by every child enrolled.

New York city's school system spent \$70 per high school pupil for supervision and instruction and \$23 per pupil for elementary school instruction.

Philadelphia's "Partial Vision" Here again the New York city system sets a fine example to the other municipal systems of education, for the claim of the elementary school child for equal consideration with the high school student has been to a large degree recognized.

The glaring results of a partial vision are exemplified in the Philadelphia school system, where the cost per high school pupil for building and equipment is nearly four and one-half times that per elementary school pupil.

I will not discuss the greater expense of maintenance which is required for a million dollar structure which serves the needs of an adequate three hundred thousand dollar structure.

A Business Man's Opinion Two years ago I called on an eminent citizen of the United States and a business man whose cosmopolitan stores on two continents have revolutionized methods and who also was a member of a school board of one of the large cities of this country.

The above interview convinced me that the big financiers and successful business men and professional men who occupy the responsible position as school directors in the large cities and who have the control of property worth many million dollars and who spend for education public money annually amounting to large sums, in New York, for instance, to more than \$30,000,000, are sincere in their effort to improve the schools.

School Directors' Responsibilities School directors as a class seldom read educational journals. Their interests do not lie in this direction. They have barely time to read the journals which determine the knowledge upon which they plan their business policies.

The physical needs, such as ventilation, heat, light, laboratories, gymnasium and shops for a high school, need cost little more than the ventilation, light, heat, manual arts room, playgrounds and playgrounds of the elementary schools.

The buildings and equipment for all the public schools of New York city cost \$113,745,382; for Chicago, \$51,791,074; for Philadelphia, \$29,060,000; for Cleveland, \$12,612,932; for Pittsburgh, \$12,360,000, and for Baltimore, \$6,763,593. The relative cost

per pupil of the high school and the elementary schools for buildings and equipment varies greatly among the six cities under consideration.

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Farmers came to town for their mail. The hired girl drew one-fifty a week. The butcher "threw in" a chunk of liver. Folks said pneumatic tires were a joke. Nobody "listened in" on a telephone. There were no sane Fourth, no electric meters. Strawstacks were burned instead of baled. Publishing a country newspaper was not a business. People thought English sparrows were "birds."

now be awakened as by an explosion. The Stockholm Government admits being an "intermediary between Berlin and neutral nations." Why does one neutral have to speak for another neutral? There is no reason to have "intermediaries" among nations equally represented by Ambassadors and Ministers at Berlin.

But Stockholm was never a healthy place for peace talk. The pro-German Swedes have always been "intermediaries" of Berlin trying to lure the Allies and neutrals into the trap of a conference. Even the Socialists will want to dodge Stockholm now.

A TAGEBLATT IN TROUBLE

THE sad affair in which our contemporary, the Philadelphia Tageblatt, is involved is now up to the authorities, and whether or not the law has been violated will be a matter of technical legal detail.

But, although the Tageblatt may be as innocent as a lamb, and we hope it is, no newspaper in times like these should have to have its loyalty measured by the judicial yardstick. Its heart should be so soundly loyal to the American cause that any questionable statement in its columns should be capable of instant explanation as a bit of carelessness. This is not a lawyer's game we are playing, in which one side sees how near it can come to ultra-linguism without undermining discipline, while the other side sees how near it can come to disloyalty without getting caught.

The German-American editors say that they or their relatives have fought against Kaiserism at home and for freedom in our Civil War, and that their hearts have always been with us. It is hard, of course, in these circumstances to see how they could ever have allowed themselves to come under the slightest suspicion, and their explanation will be awaited with some interest. News favorably to Germany is printed in all English language papers whenever they get it, so that there can be no excuse about "suppression" of facts. If only Berlin would send out more facts to be printed.

AN AMAZING ASSUMPTION

Describing the raid by Lieutenant Bennett and a squad of policemen on the residence of Harry Cohen, Sixth and Pine streets, the night before registration day as a premeditated and brutal attack, the former Judge James Gay (Gordon) declared the man whose orders the raiding policemen followed, "even though he be the chief executive of the city, is as culpable as the men who went in and committed the assault."

QUITE so, but surely Judge Gordon does not feel that those "higher up" can possibly know of the scandalous conditions existing in the Fifth Ward. The intimidation which has been going on there, for political purposes only, is obviously the work of a few "low brows" who have been working under cover and taking every precaution to assure secrecy. To be sure, full accounts of the infamous goings-on have been printed in the newspapers, but why suppose that gentlemen who are busy conducting the affairs of this great city have time to read the newspapers?

CLEVER!

YOU can't stop the gang. It keeps a museum of red herrings, in which there is a specimen of every species known, properly tagged and identified and ready for use. No matter to what depths of stupidity the Organization leaders may fall, an abundance of cleverness can always be got by hauling out one of these herrings at the proper time and exhibiting it to view.

The gang finds itself whipped to a frazzle on the gas question. Its plea that it needed the people's money to meet the heavy expenditure caused by waste and extravagance in the conduct of municipal affairs did not make a hit. The public demanded the nickel belonging to it and was about to demand the full twenty-five cents which is proposed as the new gas tax. "Halt!" cries the Organization, "we must not get in wrong. We'll keep the nickel, but we'll say it is a subsidy for the support of the dependents of men who serve the nation and die in its defense. We could levy any old sort of tax and get away with it on that ground."

So, beaming with charity, our eminent politicians announce their purpose to make the load a little heavier for every family that is hard pressed in order to make it a little easier for some families that are wholly dependent.

We are moved to tears at the thought that the Vares, when the weather is cold, give this or that man half a ton of coal or a few groceries. Is it fair that such philanthropists should pay out of their own pockets for such goodness of heart? No, indeed! By all means let a tax of a nickel be placed on every hat sold in the city and the proceeds be delivered to the generous South Philadelphians that they may dispense it to the needy and assure a big vote on election day. But why make the soldiers, who are going to fight for real liberty, the goat?

What Russia needs is one Theodore Roosevelt.

At any rate, no embalmed meat has yet appeared on the scene.

Municipal grafters are never so flourishing as in war times.

In many respects the heaviest tax levied by Congress is on the patience of the country.

What the country needs is some man who can put the price of pea soup where it belongs and keep it there.

Why can't the fleets of the Allies get into the Baltic and clean things up? The combined fleets are large enough to warrant the risk.

The vigorous effort of the city administration to keep the police out of politics reminds the ordinary citizen of the Kaiser's frantic effort to keep Germany out of the war.

There is said to be such prosperity in some parts of the South that small local banks have refused to accept additional deposits. The automatic of action



GIVING WILSON A FREE FOOT

Present Tendency in Congress to Leave President Unhampered in All Details

Special Correspondence of the Evening Ledger

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11

WITH the passage by the House of Representatives of the second emergency bond bill, a matter of \$11,529,945,460, which, plus other war and loan expenses, brings the United States' war bill up to more than \$19,000,000,000, the President, assuming the Senate will pass the bill, derives the greatest power yet conferred upon him.

It was pointed out that the present cost of our five months' war in Europe was more than three times as much as the entire cost of the Civil War. That we had already expended ourselves financially to a greater extent than any of the foreign belligerents, says England, had done in three years of war; but the sum and substance of the answer to these appalling statistics was, "We are in this war and we've got to see it through."

It was the general feeling of members throughout the debate that the President expected Congress to stand by the President and to support him to the limit. When questions arose, therefore, affecting the Administration, the President was not expected to materially change the measure.

The Senate majority is more inclined to loans than to taxes and may welcome the easier method of raising money to promote the war.

Such opposition as there was to the loan bill in the House related more to the terms of the bill than to the main purpose of it. There was no desire to impede or obstruct the Administration. That was explicitly denied by all who entered the debate, but it was contended by many that too much discretion was lodged in the Secretary of the Treasury—not necessarily Mr. McAdoo, one incumbent, but any future Secretary—with regard to loans and expenditures. Exception was taken to the giving of power to the Secretary to fix the terms, date of maturity for the loans, and conditions of sale and conversion of foreign bonds. The bill read, the Secretary was almost absolute as to these matters. He could say Congress might work great injustice to the Government and to the taxpayers. But the influence of the President with the majority of the House was so great that the minority did little more than raise the question and let it go at that. The new foreign loans authorized by the bill aggregate \$4,900,000,000, which makes the total, including the authorization in the first loan bill, \$14,000,000,000, and this, if the loan bill is passed, will be \$15,000,000,000.

As it was explained that the enormous loans we are now making to our Allies were obtained from the Secretary of the Treasury, with the approval of the President, there was some complaint that this great power and discretion, in certain instances where personal or popular sympathy or interest could operate during the absence of Congress, might work great injustice to the Government and to the taxpayers. But the influence of the President with the majority of the House was so great that the minority did little more than raise the question and let it go at that. The new foreign loans authorized by the bill aggregate \$4,900,000,000, which makes the total, including the authorization in the first loan bill, \$14,000,000,000, and this, if the loan bill is passed, will be \$15,000,000,000.

What Do You Know? QUIZ

- 1. What is a Cossack?
2. Who is Thomas J. Stewart?
3. How will Philadelphia public school teachers now serving with the armed forces of the United States be reemployed during the war?
4. A familiar bit of theatrical slang is "making a hash of it." What does it mean?
5. Who is popularly accredited with being England's greatest writer of lyrics, except Shakespeare, whose principal reputation rests not on his short "songs" but on his dramas?
6. What are "heel-taps"?
7. What does "ratanlan" signify?
8. What ancient legendary king, a tragic hero in one of the greatest literary epics ever recorded, was the father of a hundred children?
9. What is the literal meaning of "Tao te chieh"?
10. What is antipaste?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. A generalissimo is a commander-in-chief of a general combined military or naval force.
2. "Democratizing" Germany would require universal manhood suffrage and a Ministry responsible to the people's representatives.
3. The Swedish Government is accused of using its cipher code through an embassy in France. The Germans military information during the war.
4. Van Buren was the eighth President of the United States.
5. Naval officers are petty officers in charge of steering, binocular signals, fire, and other instruments.
6. The first peace society was called the New York Peace Society. It was organized in 1815.
7. The Lincoln Highway is the longest road in the world.
8. The "outlet possessions" of the United States have a total population of 10,000,000. The term is used loosely, for some of the possessions have become Territories.
9. "Caliban" refers to the Cossacks of Siberia, an enormous statue of a man bestriding the harbor in ancient times.
10. A "ratanlan" is a member of a low caste in southern India.

LUCRETIA MOTT

When Lucretia Mott was in her teens she was teaching in Friends' school in New York, and perceived with some natural indignation that a male instructor who was doing the same work she did was getting more money for his services. It is written that this was the beginning of that famous woman's resolve to devote her life to the demand for equal rights for women. She did not confine her activities to her own school. She fought for equal rights for all. She advanced extreme views on the subject of woman's rights in relation to property, marriage, society and education. At London in 1840 that she felt more keenly than ever the injustices to women and determined to call a woman's rights meeting in her own name. She returned to the United States. The slavery issue, however, soon began to loom up and it was as an Abolitionist that she was first to gain prominence, as president of the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society. Many times she and her fellow members were in danger from an angry mob. One day, after an address in this, her native city, a mob resolved to kill her and started for her home. It was the report that was brought to her. She sat calmly awaiting fate. But, so the story goes, on a man in the crowd did not wish to see her injured. Proposing to be a leader, he led the pro-slavery rioters toward her house on Ninth street, between Race and Vine; but instead of attacking the house he crossed the street and went up Race to break windows and another building on Race street which housed an Abolitionist. At a meeting in New York a mob again broke loose, but the dignified Quaker lady laid her hand on one of the roughest of the crowd and asked him to lead her to a place of safety. This he did, not knowing who she was. She visited President Tyler, who talked freely with her upon the slavery question and, while traveling in the South, held large audiences, including slaveholders, spellbound by the simplicity and sincerity of her arguments. When the Civil War was over Lucretia Mott attended the celebration of the old Pennsylvania Abolition Society. She was greeted enthusiastically. In her modesty she said she thought herself "a very much overrated woman," and added, "It is very humiliating." The press and pulp were unparagoned in denunciation of her pettifoggery of woman's rights and most persons at first despised her women's conventions as the meetings of fanatics, whose date it was to be an out of her sphere and

THE LAFAYETTE ESCADRILLE

Now, day by day, the rising planes seek their wings in the air. And crossing their invisible paths, Sweep dauntless into conflict there. The pilots, rovers through world space Unchained save by fleetest eye Alike straight-glide, drive desperately In lightning stage athwart the sky. On cloud hills bright o'er which they rush, In misty valleys whose depths are spanned In seconds' time, there lurks for each, A stranger death than e'er on land. They daily visit Heralds, Whose beacons for them are always near; In dizzy gear like careless whips They skirt life's edge and never fear. And when with marvelous control They swoop returns to earth, why then, Anon out of her sphere and

Advertisement for the Evening Ledger, including subscription rates and contact information for the Public Ledger Company.

DO NOT THROW A MONKEY WRENCH INTO YOUR MACHINERY

NOSTRUM-VENDERS are past masters in the art of capitalizing human frailty. They appeal always to some weakness of human nature, either an actual physical weakness or the yearning of man for health, strength and happiness.

"It creates strength" runs the text of a peculiarly alluring advertisement appearing in the trolley cars of many cities. Strength, both of physique and character, is the supreme goal of most human beings.

Right living gives strength and it is the only thing that does. The medicine men need is a correct diet and proper care of the delicate machinery of life. Nature has provided gear boxes and oiling reservoirs and purifying organs and every possible means of keeping the machinery in a high state of efficiency.

A medicine, generally speaking, is something that does not belong in the human body unless abnormal conditions obtain. Who is to decide whether there are such abnormal conditions and, if so, just what medicine is required? The nation spends some millions of dollars a year to train experts in the art of diagnosis.

There are so-called health columns sometimes published which are just as injurious as nostrums. All that a health column in a newspaper should do is to advise the right kind of living and show how minor ills can be overcome by recourses to the ordinary rules and processes of nature.

Why can't the fleets of the Allies get into the Baltic and clean things up? The combined fleets are large enough to warrant the risk.

THE END OF STOCKHOLM

STOCKHOLM wanted to be the new Hague, if not the new Jerusalem. It was to be the scene of the great international Socialist peace conference, Sweden before the world as the modern Geneva when the dove was to return when the waters of war had subsided.