

# PARENTS COMPLAIN OF THE "FADS" IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

While Board of Education Discusses Psychological Phenomena of Kissing, Fathers and Mothers Are Preparing to Fight.

"TEACH OUR CHILDREN THE THREE R'S!" THEIR SLOGAN.

Smatterings in All the Many Ologies and Isms Do Not Fit George or Mary for the Later Contest in the Battle of Life.

Thoroughly aroused over the future welfare of their children, parents are discussing more and more earnestly the proper form of education for young boys and girls in the public schools. This problem has become the chief subject of conversation in the home. While ignoring the live question at hand, members of the Board of Education are amusing themselves arguing as to whether or not kissing is a mild form of insanity, the fathers and mothers have taken the subject upon themselves and are evincing such an interest in its solution that, sooner or later, the authorities must act.

The issue is clear. It is simply whether a child's common school education shall be based on the "fads and fancies" now in vogue, or whether there shall be a return to the "three R's." Which better fits a boy or girl to go out into the world and earn his or her own living, as most of the school children of to-day must do—education in physiology, physical training, music and art, or thorough training in reading, writing and arithmetic? Both systems have their supporters, and one side is as earnest as the other.

In response to the invitation extended by The Evening World for a free expression of opinion on the subject, letters are pouring into the office by the hundreds. In some of them the writers favor a continuance of the present system, while others vigorously urge a return to first principles, as they put it.

Complaint of One Parent.

Here is one of the letters received to-day: To the Editor of The Evening World: I am very glad to see you have taken up the matter of public school education. And let me say "Bully for Mr. Guggenheimer!" His charges of "fads and fancies" are well-founded and made public some time ago.

The educational system of our schools is a rank foolishness. They are trying to teach a smattering of everything under

## WHAT DO PARENTS THINK?

Interest in the discussion of the so-called fads and fancies of the present system of education in vogue in the public schools, especially the course of study provided for the first three elementary grades, has become so widespread that The Evening World would like to hear what parents think. It invites them to express their views through its columns.

The sun, and like Oliver Twist, are always waiting more. A teacher once remarked to me: "As soon as the powers that be hear that in Chelsea or Mid-Corner they are teaching some new ology or ism, presto! it goes into our curriculum."

Why, they switch things about so often that one cannot be sure what they are going to teach in our schools ten days ago. Let me say—and I cannot be gainsaid—that four out of five of our public school graduates cannot write a decent letter, either from the standpoint of grammar or handwriting—or even spelling. For that matter, my own son started in giving great promise in penmanship. Suddenly came the order: vertical writing. After a few days that came another order: Old style. Result: My boy spoiled for penmanship. And there were thousands of others the same fix.

Have No Ear for Music. There are some who have an ear for music, no taste for music and no desire to learn it. There are some who have no talent for drawing and no desire to learn. Yet both times not-musical (and such they are) are forced upon all pupils. What waste of time!

Mind you, I don't blame the teachers, who would do splendidly in the really essential studies if they were permitted. But I lay the responsibility at the door of the Board, whose motto seems to be "Ram, cram, jam."

I firmly believe the public school curriculum should contain reading, writing, arithmetic, history and geography, with two or three elective studies, such as music and drawing, to be taken up by those who have the talent and inclination, as they may wish.

I believe, too, in special teachers for each study right through the school. Let them be the best in their particular field, and give them enough time to teach thoroughly. Why not have the pupils do most of their studying in school? This would give the children time for those who have special studies after school hours.

I tell you, if I only had full swing you'd soon see some startling changes for the better.

JOSEPH W. LERMAN.  
No. 829 East Forty-first street.  
Rafra instead of Spelling.

Another letter read as follows:  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
I read with great interest your editorial

in reference to the "fads and fancies" in the schools of the city. It is certainly a shame to have children's time wasted teaching them how to illustrate "the scenes." Santa Claus comes down the chimney and such things instead of being taught to add a simple column of figures. I have a child attending school. He is what is called a B B class. I am sorry to say that he is unable to do a sum in addition with any rapidity whatever. He is taught to draw carrots, beets, onions, etc., once a week, and he is obliged to buy one of these vegetables to take to school with him on those days. Every child must have its own object lesson. What rot! I suppose it won't be long before the family cat will be trundled off to school to serve as a model for a private study Felipe.

The poor child doesn't know what he is drawing. He merely copies what some child who has a talent for drawing these things puts on his paper. He is also taught how to mix water colors and what he calls washes. On the days he has these lessons he comes home with all the colors of the rainbow painted on his blouse.

High Old Times, Nowadays. He also learns much about bugs, insects, caterpillars, snakes and many wild animals of which I never heard and which I never hope to see. Then he is learning how to sew with raffa and how to make raffa baskets. In fact they seem to have a high old time in school nowadays.

If I only knew the exact time devoted to the study of these things in public schools I would keep my boy home during those hours and set him at something that would be of some use to him in after life. He brings home simple problems to work and is unable to do them. I spend my spare minutes (which are few) teaching him his tables and—I am ashamed to say—his alphabet. Now, with the Board of Education needs to do in this: Cause, for a time at least, its rambles in the pastoral no-man's-land of music and art, and hit the hard flanking of business. Most of the public-school children will have to go out and earn their own living as soon as they leave school, and they will find the business men are not looking for Beethoven or Shakespeares, or vegetarians to fill places in their offices, but boys who thoroughly understand reading, writing and arithmetic. Give the children a good common-sense education and kick out the "fads and fancies."

LAXATIVE BROCK QUININE.  
Always remember the full name. 25 cents.

## A HEALTHY OLD AGE.

OFTEN THE BEST PART OF LIFE.

Help for Women Passing Through Change of Life.

Providence has allotted us each at least seventy years in which to fulfill our mission in life, and it is generally our own fault if we die prematurely.



Mrs. Mary Koehne

Nervous exhaustion invades disease. This statement is the positive truth. When everything becomes a burden and you cannot walk a few blocks without excessive fatigue, and you break out into perspiration easily, and your face flushes, and you grow excited and shaky at the least provocation, and you cannot bear to be crossed in anything, you are in danger; your nerves have given out; you need building up at once! To build up woman's nervous system and during the period of change of life we know of no better medicine than Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Here is an illustration. Mrs. Mary I. Koehne, 371 Garfield Avenue, Chicago, Ill., writes:

"I have used Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for years in my family and it never disappoints; so when I felt that I was nearing the change of life I commenced treatment with it. It took in all about six bottles and it did me a great deal of good. It stopped my dizzy spells, pains in my back and the headaches with which I had suffered for months before taking the Compound. I feel that if it had not been for this great medicine for women that I should not have been alive to-day. It is a splendid for women, old or young, and will surely cure all female disorders."

Mrs. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., invites all sick and ailing women to write her for advice. Her great experience is at their service, free of cost.

**Short Stop for Coughs**  
Loosens tight-chest colds, relieves difficult breathing, prevents pneumonia, stops coughing, cures any cold.

**New York's Best Family Cough Medicine**  
Close your mouth and draw deep breaths after taking "Short Stop" and feel the lungs open and congestion vanish. Splendid for children.

**Prevents Pneumonia**  
Every Druggist Sells "Short Stop"

**FOR SPRAINS AND BRUISES, SLOAN'S LINIMENT**

## Veiling.

Chiffon Veils—Three yards long; made of fine Crepe Chiffon, in black, brown, white or navy; one of the leading styles of the year; made to sell at \$1.49. Special at..... 98c

634 E. 21<sup>ST</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup> STREETS, NEW YORK.  
**ADAMS**  
DRY GOODS CO.

To-morrow's Special Book Offer:  
Jules Verne's Works, 5 Volumes, in cloth binding, only 59c Set.

## Announcement of Extraordinary Interest to Men Concerning a Contract We Have Made for "Factory Damaged"

### W. L. Douglas Shoes

For a number of months back we have been offering to the public, and selling, great quantities of what we termed "rejects" of the W. L. Douglas Shoes. These we bought from Boston jobbers—to whom they were sold by the Douglas factory. Any store could get them if they wished—and several stores did. But NO STORE has sold them for as little as WE. Now it is our pleasure to announce that:

We have contracted with the W. L. Douglas Shoe Company direct to take their ENTIRE OUTPUT of Factory Damaged Footwear for Men, and shall sell them exclusively in our Men's and Boys' Shoe Department on the second floor.

No other shoe in the world is so good in every way as the W. L. Douglas at \$3.50. It stands highest in the estimation of men everywhere. Its standard is kept where it is by unceasing vigilance on the part of experts who make it their business to KNOW that EVERY PAIR IS PERFECT when leaving the factory. If a slip of machinery should damage the leather or make any sort of blemish on a pair of Douglas shoes, they at once become "factory damaged"—and these we own exclusively.

The output of the W. L. Douglas Shoe Company is a good many hundred thousands of pairs each year. You can readily understand why, with rigid inspection, we shall have enough of their factory-damaged kinds to keep us busy in the selling of them. A great many pairs are of shiny leathers—patent calf, enamel, etc. Quite a few are made-to-order shoes, which customers failed to call for.

**At \$2.39 the Pair. At \$1.89 the Pair.**

This will be our price for the very cream of the Douglas stock. Only the best of the \$3.50 Shoes that are factory-damaged will be sold at this price. These "hurts" are such as will in no wise interfere with their wearing quality or appearance. They should provide the identical service of a brand-new pair, though of course they are not guaranteed in any way by the Douglas factory.

Every pair of factory-damaged Douglas Shoes that comes to us which we do not think GOOD ENOUGH to sell at \$2.39 will be on sale at \$1.89. This means, of course, that imperfections will be more marked, though they will probably equal on an average what we have heretofore sold at \$1.89; for up to this time we could not pick the cream—now we get them all.

**We Begin Fulfillment of This Contract To-morrow, and Will Have Ready 1,000 Pairs to Sell at \$2.39 Per Pair and \$1.89 Per Pair.**

## Saturday's Special Sale of Men's Furnishings

At January Clearance Prices.

**COLLARS and CUFFS.** This is the last word we shall print concerning these Underpriced Collars and Cuffs. The sale positively ends with the month.

All new shape collars—absolutely perfect. Only the up-to-date styles included. The Cuffs are plain and reversible, in button and link styles.  
Collars, 6 for 45c. Value 15c, each.  
Cuffs, 6 pairs, 68c. Value 20c, each.

**Pajamas:** Made of fine woven madras; dark gray grounds, with narrow stripes; military cut, with large pearl buttons; well made and cut very full. Reduced 1.00 from \$1.50 to.....

**Night Shirts:** Of very fine cotton, trimmed with woven trimming; made with collars or collarless. Reduced from 75c. to..... 50c

## Toilet Articles.

Literine, large size, at... 50c  
Literine, small size, at... 30c  
Santal Midy, at... 10c  
Pate's Cold Cream, at... 10c  
Coke's Cold Cream, at... 10c  
Packer's Cold Cream, at... 10c  
Pearl Soap, at... 20c  
Pond's Extract, at... 20c  
Special lot of Tooth Brushes, at... 5c each  
3 for... 15c  
Bath Brushes, with adjustable handles, at... 30c

Solid Back Hair Brushes, French and German make, best quality bristles, 50c  
Pure Castile Soap, 1 lb. bar, at... 30c  
Lowe's Brown Windsor Soap, 5 lb. box, at... 45c  
Coke's Cold Cream, 5 lb. box, at... 45c  
Lowe's Toilet Oil and Elder Flower Soap, at... 50c  
Cuticura Soap, at... 50c  
Mennen's Toilet Powder, at... 10c

## Stationery.

The famous Congress Playing Cards, in all newest backs and styles, at, per pack..... 30c  
Whiting Paper Co.'s fine finish Vellum Paper and Envelopes, in one quire box, white, gray, blue and heliotrope, at..... 25c

## 7.50 To-morrow Gives You Choice of \$10.00, \$12.50 & \$15.00 Suits & Overcoats

A statement that ought to crowd this store—and it will, if you appreciate big values. We are taking radical measures to reduce our Winter stock. We've no other thought in mind than to get it down to the lowest possible notch. Assortment comprises:

**Men's Tourist Overcoats,** 50 and 52 inches long. Men's full Back Coats, 50 and 52 inches long. Men's Conservative Length Coats, 44 and 46 inches long.

Mostly of Irish Frieze, Cheviots and Kerseys, also Scotch Mixtures.

**Men's Winter Suits,** in many fine styles, single and double breasted.

Mostly Tweeds, Fancy Mixtures and Cheviots.

**Positively Worth \$10.00, \$12.50 and \$15.00.**

**\$7.50 & \$10.00 Values at 5.00**

**Men's Winter Overcoats,** in the most conservative lengths. Blue and Black Kersey and Melton; also Oxford Twill Cheviot, 44 inches long.

**Men's Winter Suits;** a collection of superb garments, finely tailored.

These are both double and single breasted, mostly Cheviot and Fancy Mixed Casimeres; perfect fitting in every way.

**Boys' \$5 to \$6.50 Suits and Overcoats, 3.50**

Boys' Russian Overcoats, in sizes from 3 to 8 years.  
Novelists in Red, Tan, Oxford and Blue, Melton and Cheviot.

Boys' Velvet Russian Suits, in sizes 3 to 7 years.  
Fancy red and tan cloths.

Boys' Russian and Sailor Suits. Blue, red and brown Serge, Third Floor.

## Saturday's Special Sale of Misses' Apparel

At January Clearance Prices.

**Misses' New Models of ¾ length COATS;** long, loose and full, collarless effects; made of Imported Cheviot, trimmed with velvet and silk braid; blue, brown and black; sizes 14 to 18. Reduced from \$15.50 to..... 8.98

Odds and ends of Girls' long, loose BOX COATS; Cheviot, Zibeline, Kersey and Velvet; some are lined throughout; sizes from 6 to 14 years:

At 5.98—formerly \$10.00.  
At 6.98—formerly \$11.00.  
At 7.98—formerly \$13.50.

**Little Girls' LONG COATS,** of excellent quality Velvet, Kersey and Cheviot; prettily trimmed; some with fancy collars and cape effects; sizes 3 to 8:

At 3.98—formerly \$8.00.  
At 4.98—formerly \$9.50.  
At 5.98—formerly \$11.00.

**Misses' Suits;** 36-inch Box Coat, lined with satin; box back, strap across; killed skirt; of brown, blue or black Cheviot; sizes 14 to 18:

At 12.98—formerly \$17.50.  
At 13.98—formerly \$20.00.

**CHOCOLATE SPONGE,** regularly 50c. lb., at 20c. lb.

**DELICIOUS MOLASSES BLOW CANDY,** regularly 50c. lb., at 17c. lb.

**BUTTERFLIPS—Lime Tablets,** Lemon Tablets, Raspberry Drops, regularly 20c. lb., at 12c. lb.

**LARGE RED IMPORTED OVERCOATS,** regularly 60c. lb., at 30c. lb.

**PAPER NAPKINS,** at 6c., 10c., 15c., 20c. and 30c. per 100.

**PAPER LUNCH SETS—3 Table Cloth, 12 Napkins and 12 Doylies** at 10c.

**Sleds.**  
The big snowstorm furnishes an opportune time to clean out all our Sleds. So to-morrow, buy—  
Boys' Cutter Sleds, 25c.  
Girls' High Sleds, 60c.  
and  
White or Black Flyers, 2.50 (low)—all marked.....

## "Change" may do you good.

It is this kind of weather that makes people think Where they really are living: What they eat and they drink—

If your room is a cold one And the "board" very bad, Quickly change your abode Through a World To Let Ad.

**2,227 "changed" last week through THE MORNING WORLD.**

# Simpson Crawford Co.

SIXTH AVE. 19<sup>TH</sup> TO 20<sup>TH</sup> STREETS

## A bargain message from New York's buying headquarters for men's clothing.



ONE of those history-making messages that pulsate with stirring news—the sort that saving men eagerly glean—every line being fraught with buying opportunities that surpass any similar sale this or any other store has ever held.

Now let's place the facts in the limelight of public print—see what you think of them—see why such unusual clothing values are possible—it's a serious matter with us—you, too.

We're on the eve of inventory—semi-annual settlement when we make our returns—figure out just where we stand. We don't propose to count the stock—whatever we sell for is profit—we've made our profits during the early season. Hence these extraordinary values.

**\$12.50 for your unrestricted choice of all \$12.50 of our \$20, \$22.50, \$25 and \$30 suits,**

It's no halfway offer, either, for the lots include all of those famous Kuppenheimer suits—they are so well known that we do not have to tell you about them. In these suits you'll find only such fabrics as are used by high-grade tailors—such as smooth silk worsteds in many very desirable effects, fancy Scotch tweeds and fine effects in cassimeres. Every garment strictly hand made—tailored equal to custom-made work—while they last at \$12.50.

**\$9.50 for the \$12, \$15 and \$18 suits and overcoats—**come and let us give you the bargain surprise of your life—of course, there's not a great quantity, but then that lends a snap to the sale—good things do not come in unlimited quantities—all high-grade garments—the suits are made of such fabrics that will allow immediate wear—can also be used for early Spring wear. The overcoats are of foreign frieze, in Oxfords and black—cut very long, with broad shoulders—snug-fitting collars—all serge lined—sizes to fit all—at \$9.50.

**\$13.50 for all of our \$25 to \$30 overcoats**—going to tell you about the overcoats first—we haven't all sizes, but if you can be fitted the price is half. We have just six overcoats size 33—40 overcoats size 34—45 overcoats size 35—four overcoats size 36—eight overcoats size 40—11 overcoats size 42—16 overcoats size 46—pretty clean stock, isn't it? but then the fact that there are so few is just why we can sell them at these low prices—overcoats are made of the very finest Elysians and Vicunas—the residue of our very finest lines—overcoats that equal a coat you'd have to pay as high as \$30 for if made to order.

**400 men's fancy silk vests at \$1.35**—came to us just recently from an overloaded manufacturer who could not afford to wait to sell at regular prices. Must have extra vests to complete your wardrobe—here's your chance to buy \$2.50 and \$3.00 vests at \$1.35—handsome, dressy effects in silk mixtures—sizes 34 to 42—Saturday at \$1.35.

SUNDAY WORLD WANTS WORK MONDAY MORNING WONDERS.