

THE VIRGINIA TEACHER

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EDUCATIONAL COMMENT

WHO SHALL PAY THE COST?

Who shall pay the cost of the War? There are some who are so short sighted as to believe that the children of America should pay the cost. They exhibit this sentiment when they advocate reducing or curtailing expenditures for public education in order to meet financial emergencies caused directly or indirectly by the war. Do you cut down on fertilizers in order to get better crops? Do you cut out advertising in order to get more business? Can you reduce the length of school terms, the number of teachers, the quality of your teaching and get better citizens, ready to meet the greater and more complex problems of tomorrow?

A BIG STEP FORWARD

The State Board of Education will require, after the present year, three full quarters' work at a normal school or teachers' college for the completion of the Elementary Professional Certificate. Bearing in mind that the candidates for this certificate must be full graduates of accredited high schools or holders of first grade certificates, we believe the new requirement in time and work will not only produce a much stronger teacher but will also result in holding over many of these students in our normal schools for the complete courses required for full graduation. This is a decided step in the right direction.

WELCOME, WOMEN SUPERINTENDENTS

Division Superintendents for the quadrennium beginning with Aug. 1, 1921, were elected recently by the State Board of Education and among the number were three women: Miss Rosa Belle Burke, Supt. of Goochland County; Miss Mary Howard King, Supt. of King George, and Mrs. F.C. Beverley, Asst. Supt. of Pittsylvania County. We welcome women as County Superintendents largely for the reason that their entry into this administrative field will offer a greater inducement for strong, well prepared women to enter the teaching profession and remain there. Heretofore there has been no room for the women at the top. Enlarge the opportunities, make room for the ambitious woman teacher of administrative ability, and the whole profession will profit thereby.

OTHER NEW SUPERINTENDENTS

Among other new division superintendents selected by the State Board are the following: F. B. Watson, Jr., Pittsylvania County; D. W. Peters, Northampton; P. C. Williams, Powhatan; R. M. Tisinger, Cumberland; R. M. Bell, King William; W. H. Carroll, Princess Anne; B. C. Charles, Warwick and York; R. K. Hoke, Prince George; Ballard D. French, Dickenson; J. P. Snead, Asst. in Fluvanna; J. W. Kenney, Gloucester; A. W. Yowell, Madison and Greene; E. S. Hagan, Montgomery; J. J. Fray, Campbell; W. A. Vaughan, Caroline; W. L. Tucker, Amherst; W. B. Valentine, Brunswick.

There were only two changes in the cities: Mr. W. K. Barnett succeeding Supt. Whitt in Radford and Principal J. H. Saunders, of the Binford Junior High School, Richmond, succeeding Supt. D. A. Dutrow in Newport News.

EVERY GOOD MAN TO THE WHEEL

Every teacher who really believes in his profession, believes in its dignity and worth, and wishes the children of Virginia to have capable, high minded, skillful teachers, should strive at this time to encourage young men and women, high school graduates, of the best type to enter teacher training institu-

tions for preparation for the useful career of teaching. You—teachers—can do more to improve your profession in this manner than any amount of advertising by normal schools or colleges can do.

First. *Leadership for Tax-Supported Educational Institutions*

Second. *A Recognition of the Primacy of Character—*

Upon these two things depends the future development of public education of the right sort in this country, according to Pres. M. L. Burton of the University of Michigan.

AN EDUCATIONAL FORMULA

"One part of Inspiration, two parts of Aspiration and Four Parts of Perspiration will produce the desired results."

CHANGE IN N. E. A.

The Superintendents' Association of the National Education Association decided at its Atlantic City meeting to restrict its membership to only those who are actively Superintendents in cities or counties. This will undoubtedly result in the formation of another conference of supervisory officials or will kill the most active body of our big National Association.

NEW TAX LEVIES

The month of April will demonstrate whether the schools are to reap the benefit of the Constitutional Amendment passed last November in regard to the limitation on local taxation. County Boards of Supervisors fix during this month the district levies for the support of schools. Unless some counties materially increase their local tax rate they can not have anything but poor, ineffective teaching and, what is more unfortunate, cannot know, in many instances, what real teaching of the right sort is worth.

S. P. D.

"Teachers, unless your work be done well, this republic can not last beyond the span of a generation."—Theodore Roosevelt.

X

A NEW-FANGLED ARITHMETIC

HOUSEHOLD ARITHMETIC

In these days when *project* and *problem* are words to conjure with, teachers of arithmetic will welcome *Household Arithmetic* as the solution of the question, How can arithmetic be made to function more in the life of girls?

With the exception of farm arithmetic, textbooks for the advanced grammar grades and for the high school have followed largely the traditional topical arrangement; so the departure these authors make is most welcome by the problem-seeking teacher.

The purposes of the book as stated in the preface are:

1. To enable girls to understand and to interpret the economic problems in their own homes.
2. To develop skill in the computations and the methods of reasoning involved in everyday affairs so that arithmetic may become a tool in effective living.
3. To make girls readily see controlling number relations in practical situations.

To carry out these purposes the family budget is used as the basis around which the subject matter is organized, and one feels in reviewing the book that the duties of the home have been highly dignified. By stressing economic aspects, the authors have helped girls to realize that business ability can contribute much toward making a home. "The work of the home may be considered as a business with the housewife as manager," they say.

There are six divisions to the text. The first section takes up a study of the principles of budget-making and methods of keeping simple accounts. Then the five divisions of the budget are presented in this order: first, shelter; second, operation; third, clothing; fourth, food; fifth, higher life. There are a few pages at the end of the book which include supplementary work in equations and proportion and a bibliography.

Household Arithmetic, by Katherine F. Ball and Miriam E. West. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1920. 271 pages. (\$1.48).