

wick and York under the editorship of Louise Pound and Kemp Malone, the magazine will continue to enjoy Professor Pound's support through a Miscellany Department.

American Speech concerns itself with problems of linguistic usage, including pronunciation, vocabulary, local dialects, place names, slang, phonetics, etc.

A NARROW CURRICULUM A SOCIAL MENACE

"There are no more dangerous elements in our society than those well-meaning though often selfish persons who would restrict the curriculum of the schools to the three R's, who cry out against the "fads and frills" and go so far as to include in the "fads and frills" such basic elements as education in art, in music, in health, and in social, political, and economic understanding. While the mastery of the tools of learning is essential to social living, it is nevertheless true that the three R's by no means comprise all the fundamentals of education. The development of innate abilities and interests, of high standards of taste and appreciation, of social understanding, of wholesome social attitudes and habits, the cultivation of a mind at once appreciative and critical of the society of which it is a part—these are fundamentals of education. Those who would restrict the schools to a narrow curriculum are inviting nothing short of social disaster."—Report of the Survey of the Chicago Schools (III, 16).

Schoolhouses vary from large, splendid, stately, and useful buildings housing 10,000 pupils to sorry, rotting shacks. Although the one-room school for seven or eight classes is giving way in favor of consolidated schools at the rate of 2,300 per year, there are still 148,000 one-room schools in the United States.

SEEN IN THE PUBLIC PRINTS

Replying to an article recently published in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, which cited income and appropriation figures for colleges and public schools to show that the state contributes roughly 24 per cent to the public schools as against 34 per cent of every dollar going to the higher institutions, Lewis Williams, Richmond attorney and member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia, said any conclusion that the colleges are getting the lion's share at the expense of the schools is incorrect on its face.

"The 34 per cent of its dollar which the higher institutional group receives from the state is the only public money it does receive, and the balance, 66 per cent of the incomes of the colleges and universities, is derived from endowment incomes or from admission fees.

"In other words, the schools are getting 100 per cent of their incomes from the state, while the colleges are getting just a little over a third from the state.

"The success of the public schools as a source of education for the mass of people depends directly on teachers turned out by the colleges and universities. The rapid development of the school system in Virginia demands an adequate supply of well-trained teachers. If you cut down on the colleges, either in appropriations or in the number, the blow is immediately transferred to the schools.

"The whole thing will run in a vicious circle. First, you lower the quality of the colleges; that, in turn, lowers the quality of teaching in the public schools, and that faces the colleges with the problem of under-trained boys and girls seeking entrance."

Elementary schools must be kept open as long, if not longer, than high schools in the Virginia public school system, according to a decision of the State Board of Education

announced by Dr. Sidney B. Hall, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* goes on to say that this means a complete reversal of the custom in this state up to the present time.

"The decision of the State Board that elementary schools must be kept open certainly as long as the high schools is grounded on the fact that the Constitution of Virginia requires just this," Dr. Hall explained. Heretofore it has been the general practice to run the high schools for the maximum term even if the lower grade schools had to be closed for lack of operating funds.

"The State Superintendent, however, maintains that it is wrong in principle to make the superstructure stronger than the foundation, and that in any case the Constitution forbids it so far as public schools are concerned.

"Estimated school terms for the following counties this year were reported by division superintendents as follows:

"Albemarle, nine months; Amelia, eight months; Amherst, eight months; Appomattox, seven months; Augusta, eight months; Bath, nine; Bedford, six and a half; Botetourt, eight or eight and a half; Brunswick, possibly eight; Buchanan, eight; Buckingham, possibly eight; Campbell, seven and a half.

"Caroline, eight and a quarter; Carroll, six and three-quarters; Charles City, five-day cut; Charlotte, eight; Clarke, nine; Craig, eight; Cumberland, six; Dickenson, eight and a half; Dinwiddie, eight; Elizabeth City, nine; Essex, eight and a half; Fauquier, eight and a half; Floyd, six; Fluvanna, eight; Franklin, six; Frederick, seven and a half; Giles, eight and a half; Gloucester, seven; Goochland, seven and a half; Grayson, six.

"Greene, seven and a half; Greenville, eight; Halifax, eight and a half; Hanover, nine; Henry, six; Highland, eight; Isle of Wight, eight and a half; James City, ten-day cut; King and Queen, eight; King

George, eight; King William, eight and a half; Lancaster, eight; Loudoun, eight and a half; Louisa, possibly eight; Lunenburg, seven.

"Madison, eight; Mecklenburg, seven; Montgomery, seven and a half; Nelson, eight; New Kent, four-day cut; Norfolk, eight and a half; Nottoway, nine; Northampton, eight; Northumberland, eight; Orange, eight and a half; Patrick, six and a half; Pittsylvania, eight; Prince Edward, seven and a half; Prince George, eight; Prince William, eight and a half.

"Pulaski, eight; Richmond, eight; Roanoke, eight and a half; Rockingham, nine; Russell, eight and a half; Scott, seven and a half; Smyth, seven and a half; Southampton, eight; Spotsylvania, nine; Stafford, seven; Tazewell, seven; Warwick, eight; Washington, eight; Westmoreland, eight; Wythe, seven and a half; York, nine."

Abolition of county school boards and transference of their duties to the boards of supervisors was one idea proposed to the Senate Committee on Economy at its recent meeting. Other proposals included reduction of the number of Virginia counties from 100 to 60, reduction in the number of senators and delegates, fewer courts, fewer teachers' colleges, and elimination of the present duplication in engineering, medicine, and military training.

As a result of the depression and increased exemptions granted by the 1930 General Assembly, Virginia's individual income taxpayers dropped from 44,994 in 1930 to 27,095 in 1931, and taxes assessed against such incomes declined \$773,000, or 40 per cent, according to the annual report of the State Tax Department.

Despite the fact that the depression had begun when the 1930 Legislature was in session, that body increased the exemptions on individuals in the lower income tax brackets and thereby took about \$350,000

away from the state's revenue. The exemption increases were from \$1,000 to \$1,250 for single persons and from \$2,000 to \$2,800 for married persons.

Enrolment in 430 approved colleges and universities in all parts of the United States as of November 1, 1932, showed a decrease of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in the number of full-time students.

In the 21 teachers' colleges classified under technical institutions there are 21,582 full time students, or 817 fewer than in 1931, a decrease of 3.7 per cent.

President F. W. Boatwright, of the University of Richmond, was elected a member of its executive committee at the nineteenth annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges, held in Atlantic City, January 12 and 13.

Judge William S. Gooch, Virginia representative of the Macmillan Company since 1897, died at his home in Charlottesville on January 7. In his long service as a representative of school-book publishers he had come to possess a wide acquaintance with school men and a familiarity with many of the problems of education in the state. As his successor the Macmillan Company has selected R. M. Williams, formerly division superintendent of Nansemond County Schools.

Dean W. T. Hodges, of the College of William and Mary, has been placed in charge of the Norfolk branch of William and Mary extension work to succeed Dr. Edward Gwathmey, who has just become president of Converse College, Spartansburg, S. C.

Harry Woodburn Chase, president of the University of Illinois since 1930, and president of the University of North Carolina in the decade beginning 1920, has just been

elected chancellor of New York University, in which capacity he will succeed Dr. Elmer Ellsworth Brown on July 1 next.

Under Dr. Chase, the North Carolina institution, founded in 1795, the oldest state university in America, witnessed a complete regeneration. The building program, which for long had been a dream, was carried through to completion, graduate and undergraduate school enrolments doubled and trebled, legislative appropriations were increased greatly, and—far more important—Dr. Chase drew about him as teachers and research workers a group of young men and women who were soon the admiration of the education world, particularly in the fields of the social sciences and literature.

Always a crusader for intellectual freedom, Dr. Chase, with Dr. William Louis Poteat, president of Wake Forest College, twice successfully led the fight in North Carolina against the passage of an anti-evolution bill.

Dr. Chase, according to his associates, believes that it is the duty of a university to teach a student how to think rather than what to think.

The average annual salary of all teachers in the Virginia public schools for the session 1931-32 is \$877, according to the annual report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (XV, 2, 165).

Salary cuts effective as of January 1, 1933, average 13.4 per cent.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute is offering special instruction to the unemployed, Hollins College has provided free community programs of entertainment, and the Medical College of Virginia has aided the destitute and hungry, according to a summary just issued by the Office of Education following a questionnaire sent out by William John Cooper, United States Commissioner of Education.