

THE VIRGINIA TEACHER

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EDUCATIONAL COMMENT READERS OF BOOKS

That the British people are not "a nation of shopkeepers," as Adam Smith once put it, but rather "a nation of readers" appears from recent reports on the number of books published in the English language.

In 1932, it is announced, English publishers brought out 13,938 new books as against 9,035 in the United States. In 1931 England published 14,688 new books as against 10,307 in the United States. These figures do not include such English language books as are published in Canada and Australia.

Estimates indicate that the English people, numbering one-third as many as there are in the United States, read approximately 50,000,000 books a year, including those from libraries as well as purchased books.

The America of the future will need its schools and its libraries. Let books be the last place for economy.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT

N. L. Engelhardt, professor of education, Columbia University, in speaking on the efficiency of business management of public schools, declared that it was his observa-

tion that many school systems manage their business programs better than private corporations. "It also appears to be true," he said, "that public school business management is in most cities of the United States superior to the management practiced in other fields of governmental activity."

In pointing out the progress that had been made in the improvement of financial programs in the public school systems and the pace they had set superior to business management, he cited budgeting, accounting, auditing, building planning and the management of funds as being performed with a high degree of skill.

DR. ALBERT E. WINSHIP

Dr. Albert E. Winship, one of the best known men in the field of education, and for forty-seven years editor of the *Journal of Education*, passed away on February 17, 1933, at his home in Cambridge, Massachusetts, at the age of eighty-seven. Dr. Winship was an editor but was even better known as a lecturer on education. During his life time his lecture tours took him across the continent more than one hundred times and he was a familiar figure wherever teachers gathered to discuss their problems. He was the dean of all educators and was beloved by all who knew him. Education will miss him—*Detroit Educational Bulletin*.

SEEN IN THE PUBLIC PRINTS

The Classical Association of the Middle West and South, meeting at William and Mary College April 13 to 15, brought together a large number of Latin teachers for the first general meeting ever held in a South Atlantic state.

Speakers included Professor W. L. Carr of Teachers College, Columbia University, Professor Roy C. Flickenger, of the University of Iowa, and Professor A. L. Bondurant of the University of Mississippi.

"Since the program of public education

cannot go beyond public opinion, teachers should assume the responsibility for continually interpreting education to the people of their respective communities," reads one of the resolutions adopted by District F of the Virginia Education Association which recently held its spring meeting in Lexington.

The *Troïades* of Euripedes was presented in Greek at the Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg on April 12. It is the annual custom of the Greek department to offer a classic drama in the original. This year's production came the day before the meeting of the Classical Association in Williamsburg.

A school term of nine months for every Virginia school child and more stringent scholarship requirements for teachers' certificates were demanded by teachers of District J at their spring meeting in Charlottesville April 8. The resolution regarding teachers' certificates was as follows:

"Whereas, there is at present a surplus of persons in Virginia holding teachers' certificates, and whereas, the present standards for certification do not rest on a sufficiently sound basis of scholarship,

"Therefore, be it resolved that we favor at least two years of academic education beyond the high school as a prerequisite to purely professional training."

The Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia will this year meet in its seventh session from July 2 to July 15.

Although the entire program has not yet been completed, Dr. Charles G. Maphis, Director of the Institute, announces that the general theme of the entire session will be Economic Recovery. There will be six or eight round-table discussions, a number of special conferences, and each evening in McIntire Amphitheater addresses by persons of national reputation.

The Virginia language arts program now being developed by the production committee for English courses was called "the most forward-looking curriculum program" that he knew of by Dr. R. L. Lyman, professor of the teaching of English at the University of Chicago and formerly president of the National Council of Teachers of English.

Dr. Arthur H. Compton, Professor of Physics at the University of Chicago and winner of the Nobel Prize in 1927, lectured at Mary Baldwin College April 26 on the topic, "Cosmic Rays on Six Continents."

Heads of science departments at Virginia College were invited to a dinner preceding the lecture.

THE READING TABLE

REPORT OF THE SURVEY OF THE SCHOOLS OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS: By the Division of Field Studies, Teachers College, Columbia University (Dr. G. D. Strayer, Director). Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City. 1932. Five volumes, 1352 pages.

This comprehensive survey at once marks a new and high stage in school surveying because of the thoroughness with which approximately one hundred specialists have covered the schools of a great urban center. It also presents a valuable picture of American schools in this era of depression. The latter note is clearcut in the statements of aims, and in the references to needed curriculum revision.

The teacher in training or in the field will find Volumes II, III, and V more valuable than the other volumes which deal with administrative problems. In the volumes mentioned one finds a philosophy of modern education, with much helpful suggestion for curriculum revision, classroom teaching, vital learning, and the selection of aims in accord with present-day needs. The reviewer believes that few survey reports will be as generally usable as this.

W. J. G.