PASSING OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOL

PROF. WILBUR H. HAYS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

THE district school must go.

The familiar little structure at the country crossroads is doomed to extinction. Two hundred thousand of them, spread from ocean to ocean and from border and border, are marked by the hand of progress. The keys have already been turned in the doors of several thousand, to be opened no more to the purposes of education for the country youths.

The half dozen families who sent their children to the district school each morning, who watched them trudge down the country roads in all kinds of weather, and who gathered on Friday afternoons in the little schoolroom to hear the "speaking," have come to realize that what they could not do by themselves they can do in co-operation with the families of the next district and the surrounding districts.

The one-room neighborhood school, with one teacher, is passing away. In its place is coming a new factor in country life, a school six or eight times as large, with three or four teachers of training and ability; a school prepared to bring to the country boy or girl an education that promises to revolutionize the rural development of America.

The country school has passed the point where it constitutes a schoolroom for the country lad when there is no work to be done on the farm. It has taken on more importance than as a rendezvous for bobsled and hayrack parties, box suppers and ice cream festivals.

Education for the Farm.

A remarkable movement is under way in the United States, almost unnoticed by the general public and little appreciated by many of the farming communities themselves, but destined to play a most important part in the education of the 7,000,000 country children of school age, and of the generations that are to follow them along the devious road of learning.

Yesterday the country boy toiled through indifferent roads and across plowed fields to the district school. Today a big carryall, full of rollicking children and drawn by excellent horses, rolls up to the farmhouse gate each morning with the regularity of the rural mail carrier.

The children pile in, the van moves on to the next farmhouse and accumulates more children. Through the winding roads of a district, often forty miles square, a half-dozen of these big wagons, maintained at public expense, are bringing hundreds of children every day to a two-story schoolhouse, such as the country pupils of a few years ago never dreamed of. At night the wagons roll back over the morning's route, depositing children at their own doorsteps.

The country is thus solving the "back to the farm" problem. It has found the means to stop the great outpouring of sturdy boys and girls to the city schools, where they have been educated "away from the country." It has succeeded in bringing into the country, almost to the farmhouse door, an education for the country youth equal in its general features to that of the city school, and supplemented by a vocational training for permanent life on the farm. It is an education for the farm, not for the pilgrimage to the city.

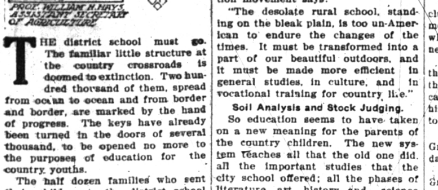
New Consolidated School.

The new school is known for want of a better name as the "consolidated rural school." The name fails to describe this great new institution of rural life. It is more than a consolidation of country schools. It is a graded school, a high school, a manual training school, agricultural school, domestic science school, almost a miniature university.

It is an institution that is turning out country pupils "finished" as to education, and fitted to do greater and better work on the farm. It is a social center about which the interests of an entire township are beginning to revolve. It is a model experimental farm, a dairy farm, a forestry school, a horticultural school. It is an institution whose keynote of education is:

"Educate the country youth for the world; but give him at least an equal education for the farm. Teach him the interesting and important things of farm life, and he will generally choose the farm as his home."

In nearly 900 communities, chiefly in Indiana, Massachusetts, Ohio, Florida and North Dakota, the new schools are besieged daily by the scores of children tumbling from the incoming carryalls. Several thousand of the little district schools, unable to offer a reasonable excuse for existence in the face of the new competition, have yielded their prerogatives to the united institution, and have been gathered under its spacious roofs.



It is a powerful force that is aligned against the "little schoolhouse in the lane." Prof. Willet M. Hays, assistant secretary of agriculture and a leader in the new education movement, says:

"The desolate rural school, standing on the bleak plain, is too un-American to endure the changes of the times. It must be transformed into a part of our beautiful outdoors, and it must be made more efficient in general studies, in culture, and in vocational training for country life."

Soil Analysis and Stock Judging.

So education seems to have taken on a new meaning for the parents of the country children. The new system teaches all that the old one did, all the important studies that the city school offered; all the phases of literature, art, history and science needed to round out the American citizen.

But it does much more. It adds to these studies the "vocational training for the farm." The new schoolhouse, instead of standing on a barren lot at a wind-swept four corners, is surrounded by a carefully platted farm of ten acres or so. In the more advanced of the schools experimental buildings have been erected, small fruit and forest tracts laid out, miniature dairy and poultry plants constructed, and experimental work of all kinds launched.

The boys are taught stock judging, breeding, crop rotation, scientific analysis of the soil, the keeping of farm accounts, and kindred subjects. Contests are organized between rival groups of students to see what results can be obtained in the experimental plats, and also in practical work on the farm at home. The boy carries away from the school not a confused mass of information that he cannot apply to his daily affairs, but a specific idea that certain things can be evolved from the piece of land he has been working on for years. He becomes intensely interested in his work and studies, and his eyes are opened not only to the "knowledge" of the world in the ordinary sense but to the great possibilities of the land with which he is most familiar and in daily contact.

The new school has 200 pupils, instead of 20. It has a lecture hall where spelling bees, class programs, and amateur plays are carried out and where the neighboring farmers' families gather for "community" meetings, lectures, and entertainments.

There are lunchrooms for the children who come in the vans each morning. In some of the schools there are gymnasiums as well equipped as those of city schools of like size. There is real baseball in the country now, not the "one old cat" of former days; for the new schools have enough pupils to encourage American ideas of class sports and athletic contests.

The girls are educated in the new scheme, not simply to be "educated," but to make them capable farmers' wives and mothers of sturdy farm children. The district school could not teach home economics, home management, sewing, cooking, and practical home training. The big combined school, with its staff of three or four trained teachers, can and does teach all that a small domestic science school would. It introduced new ideas of life into the farm house. It educates the girls to improve the home rather than to get away from it because of its shortcomings.

The whole neighborhood, often embracing 200 farms, becomes an immense laboratory for the school. In the experimental farm surrounding the building plats are laid out to resemble the leading farm of the neighborhood.

Great co-operative enterprises, such as creameries, bakeries, laundries, as well as the churches and the township buildings, it is predicted, will in the near future be located about the school grounds.

The giant successor to the district school brings into the country two full years of high-school life, and in the ninth and tenth grades the older pupils put in six months of each year upon their own farms in practical farm work.

In many sections the farmers and their children furnish the conveyances to carry the neighbors' children to school; but in the majority of districts it has been possible to establish regular carryall service, maintained at public expense.

Indiana leads the way at present in the progress of the new school movement. In almost every county in the state the school wagons are bringing corps of children daily to the central buildings, and the "Hoosier schoolmaster" is of a different type than a generation ago.

Massachusetts is second, Ohio third, and Florida and North Dakota contest for fourth place. In almost every state, with the exception of some of the sparsely settled western ones, the farming districts are either experimenting with the new system, or have proven it a complete success.

MICHIGAN NEWS TERSELY TOLD

Battle Creek.—The police believe that a quarrel which has broken out among the suspects held for the killing of Anthony De Wolf will result in throwing some light on the mystery surrounding his death.

Albion.—The body of William Traffor, a junk dealer, was found in the road a few miles out. He died from a stroke of paralysis while driving a team, which ran away, when he fell from the wagon.

Morrice. — Robert Grubb of this place has fallen heir to considerable real estate at Brighton, and Howell through the disappearance of a nephew. This is his second inheritance from nephews in the past few years.

Morenci.—Four or five men who escaped after being placed under arrest here for robbing several stores in Alvordton, O., have been recaptured. The last one was taken at Jasper, after several shots had been exchanged.

Adrian.—George Allen, eighty years old, was struck by an auto, knocked down and severely injured.

Flint.—Fred Dunham, a well-to-do farmer of Flint township, is under arrest in Chicago for wife abandonment. He will be brought here for trial.

Traverse City.—All the mothers' clubs in the city have indorsed the movement to organize a boy's club, which will probably lead to a permanent Y. M. C. A. for the city.

Brown City.—John Tice, twenty-three, of Port Huron, a brakeman on the Pere Marquette railroad, was caught between two freight cars and his foot so badly mangled that it had to be amputated. He is married.

Traverse City.—John Giddle of Grawn was shot in the foot several days ago and lockjaw has developed.

Chesaning.—The farmers in Maple Grove have organized a protective association since finding seven calves shot in Charles Gould's pasture. A liberal reward has been offered for the arrest of the guilty parties.

Jackson.—Michael Crowley, 35 years old, was thought to be insane and locked up. Five days later a doctor visited him in the jail and found that he was suffering from typhoid fever. He came here from Cement City and has a mother living in New York.

Kalamazoo.—Solitrious Stuverins and Georg Balhoohas, Bulgarians, were arrested by local officers in St. Louis, Mo., and brought back to this city to answer to a charge of killing a fellow-countryman, Efthimios Georgulan, for his money last summer.

Kalamazoo.—Miner S. Scoville, a resident of Kalamazoo for 40 years, died Wednesday at his home from heart disease, at the age of 70 years.

Mt. Clemens.—The election held Wednesday to decide whether the Macomb County Telephone company should be granted a franchise was decided in favor of the company, 839 ballots being cast in favor of the franchise and 227 against.

Mt. Clemens.—Reuben Chambers, 85, the father of George Chambers, while in his son's store suffered a stroke of epilepsy and fell to the floor. His head struck on a piece of marble and his recovery is doubtful.

Bay City.—Three men, giving their names as Edward and Benjamin Bowers of Brooklyn, Mich., and Miller, O., respectively, and O'Grady of Ridgeway, Ohio, were arrested on suspicion of robbing a bank in Bentley.

Bay City.—About 200 members of the Woman's Foreign Missionary society of the Presbyterian church of Michigan are in session here, as are 100 ministers and teachers of the Lutheran church of the Missouri synod of northern and eastern Michigan. The latter are here for a two-days session.

Cheboygan.—Peter Ehring accidentally shot himself while hunting and died while being brought to this city.

Charlotte.—Mrs. Louisa Winters, 75 years old, has left for Los Angeles to wed a man 80 years old, whom she jilted when a girl.

Grand Rapids.—Grand Rapids club women will cast a solid vote for woman suffrage when the Federation of Women's clubs meets in Battle Creek.

Romeo.—Mrs. George Miller was stricken by apoplexy while taking a bath and died. She was 56 years old and leaves a husband, three sons and a daughter.

Flint.—Thos. Kenney, president of the Manistee County Savings bank, owner of the electric light plant at Frankfort and a resident of Manistee since 1854, died. He leaves a widow, five daughters and an adopted son.

Saginaw.—Ezra Rust and a number of other Saginaw capitalists have formed a company to manufacture a beet sugar "topping machine," a contrivance that is expected to solve a harvesting problem that has concerned growers since the industry began.

Saginaw.—The Saginaw and Bay City militia have secured a rifle range which was opened. Jay H. Cook was hunting seven miles out of Gladwin when he was peppered with birdshot by a companion. After laying unconscious for several hours, he revived and walked to Gladwin for medical treatment.

Cadillac.—Arising from the dinner table at Peter's camp, Gotlieb Rau sixty-four years old, a woodsman, fell to the floor dead. Rau's body will be buried by the county.—Conrad Greer of Hoxieville fell dead at his horse's feet while harnessing the animal.

Ludington.—Matthew McHane, manager of the Cartier Wagner Mercantile Co., of this city, and a woman companion were rescued by the life-saving crew and brought into port at sundown after a five hours' battle with the waves in a crippled launch. The engine gave out at noon and they were not discovered until after the boat several times missed being swamped.

Saginaw.—An effort will be made to organize a branch of the American School Peace league when the State Teachers' association meets in Bay City.

LABOR INVOLVED MAKES DRAFT HORSES PROFITABLE

No Class of Stock Will Give Better Returns Than Animals With Weight and Quality—Care of Colt.

Prize Winning English Draft Mares.

The colt should have a roomy box stall. If you have two colts, keep them together when the mares are at work, as there is no animal that likes company better than a colt, says a writer in American Cultivator. As they get older see that they have plenty of good clover hay and bright oats to eat. It is well to have a little pasture near the barn and let them into this when the mares are at work. Have this fenced with good, woven wire, high enough so they cannot get their heads over it. The pasture should be arranged so they can run into the barn to get away from the flies. Leave the cover to the oak box open, so they can help themselves. Keep a pail of water in the stall where they can reach it. After a little you can mix skim milk with the water, later give them clear skim milk, but let them have what water they want at all times. Some colts will take skim milk at once, but be careful and not give them too much to commence with, say two quarts at first, and as they get accustomed to it you can give them five or six quarts twice a day. This you can feed all winter, and they will go on to pasture in the spring in fine shape. If they are eating oats and drinking milk at weaning time there will be no setback, which always occurs if they are not.

When they are about a year old and on the pasture, we gradually wean them from the oats and milk, and they get nothing but pasture until fall, when they are again fed grain and hay.

We always stable all of our colts at night, but they have a roomy yard or field to run in in the day time, so that they get plenty of exercise.

We always break our colts to harness before they are three years old. Get them used to the harness before spring work begins. Work them only half a day at a time to commence with, and see that their collars and harness fit them well.

When the weather gets warm clip your colts. By so doing you may avoid sore shoulders. If a colt gets a sore shoulder, let him rest a few days and heal it up. If you continue to work him and the sore keeps getting worse, you may have a shoulder that will always bother you when he is put to hard work.

We aim to sell all of our geldings before they are seven years old. When you intend to sell your horses see that they are in proper shape. They should be fat, as that is what the market demands. Feed them on good wholesome food; corn can be fed to quite an extent at this time, with bran and a little oil meal.

By breeding the right horses, those with weight and quality, I know of no class of stock that will bring better returns for our high-priced feeds (considering the amount of labor involved) than good draft horses.

PURE BREED IS ESSENTIAL

Good Individuality Will Insure Prepotency With Almost Unfailing Certainty — His Make-up.

(By R. G. WEATHERSON.)

In selecting a ram two classes of breeding should be avoided. The common scrub that has no good characteristics to fix, and the "purebred scrub" without individuality, whose purity of breeding only gives him greater power to work ruin in the flock. Good individuality, backed by several generations of good ancestry, will insure prepotency with almost unfailing certainty, where the ewes are suitable and the management is correct.

Great attention should be paid to the ram's general contour. His structure should be firm and massive, with a broad, capacious breast, no disproportionate length of legs, and well-formed and fully developed quarters, especially the hind quarters. His loin should be stout and well knit, his features bold and masculine. A firm and muscular neck is desirable; a bold and courageous eye and carriage are indicative of spirit and vigor. His head should be long, but rather small and well molded.

OXFORD SHEEP VERY PROLIFIC

The Oxford sheep originated in England in the early part of the nineteenth century from a cross of Cotswold and Hampshire Downs. They have been known since 1857 as Oxfordshire or Oxford Downs, and are now widely distributed over the United States and Canada. They are the largest and heaviest of the Down breeds. When in good flesh the rams should weigh 250 to 275 pounds and the ewes from 200 to 225 pounds. The wool is rather coarser than any other of the medium wool breeds and the fleece is heavier, weighing from 10 to 12 pounds unwashed. The face is usually an even dark gray or brown, with or without a gray spot on the tip of the nose. They are best adapted for lands furnishing good pasture, and do not succeed as well under range conditions or on rugged, broken pastures. The ewes are very prolific, triplets being not uncommon. The lambs grow very rapidly and are of good form. The chief shortcoming of the breed is that it is not as hardy as some others.

APPLE CULLS CAUSE LOSS

It Will Prove Profitable to Squeeze Juice Out of Discards and Sell in Natural State.

(By JOHN J. TENNER.)

The amount of money lost by farmers every year through lack of interest or knowledge of the means to dispose of unmarketable apples has never been estimated. That is one of the big wastes on every farm where many apples are grown and where commercial fruit raising is made the main feature of the farm.

Even the orchardist who is in the business as a specialist must suffer more or less in his culls.

As 95 per cent of ripe apples is juice which sells for good prices either in its natural state or as vinegar, it pays big to squeeze out this product through a press instead of allowing it to go to waste.

There are many kinds of cider presses, but an hydraulic machine extracts the very last possible drop of juice to be obtained and leaves very little substance to be thrown away.

The first advantage gained by working up unmarketable fruit into cider is that it is converted into a condensed and portable form convenient for handling and storing. The second object is to convert this valuable portion of the crop into a marketable commodity, which would otherwise be wasted and lost. The cost, the time and labor of working up several hundred bushels of apples into cider is only nominal as compared with the value of the cider itself if properly handled. Apples that have been bruised in handling are imperfectly developed, too small and gnarled apples which would not be worth the cost of packing, can be utilized in this manner and the orchardist's revenue largely enhanced. The maximum of successful financial enterprises are as applicable to the business of a practical orchardist as to any other. The little things must not be overlooked; all the byproducts must be utilized, for from them is derived much of the profit.

NEED MONEY FOR GOOD WORK

Plans of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis.

What "A Million for Tuberculosis from Red Cross Seals" will do in providing some of the 375,000 beds needed at once in the United States for consumptives, is explained in a recent bulletin of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. There is just about one bed for every ten indigent consumptives, and if all tuberculosis persons in the country are counted, both rich and poor, hardly one for every 25 or 30. If sufficient hospital accommodations are provided only for those who are too poor to pay the full price for their treatment fully 175,000 more beds in special institutions for tuberculosis will be needed at once. The immense outlay necessary to provide and maintain so many beds in hospitals, makes it imperative, the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis declares, that such institutions be erected from public money, either municipal, county or state. In order to get appropriations for public hospitals for tuberculosis, agitation is necessary, and in order to create a campaign of agitation, organization is demanded. But in order that an organization may carry on an effective campaign, funds are needed.

These funds it is proposed to secure in as many communities as possible from the sale of Red Cross seals.

$100 Reward, $100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

At the First Try.

"What do you think of my doughnuts, George?"

"Dear, you are a wonder!"

"Do you think so, really, darling?"

"I certainly do. Scientists have been trying for years to produce artificial rubber, and here you do it the first rattle out of the box."

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

In Use For Over 30 Years.

The Kind You Have Always Bought.

An Exacting Personage.

"I suppose you find life easier since the summer boarders have gone?"

"Nope," replies Farmer Cornstock; "we're workin' an' worryin' just as much as ever tryin' to keep the hired man contented."

TRY MURINE EYE REMEDY

for Red, Weak, Weary, Watery Eyes and Granulated Eyelids. Murine Doesn't Smart—Soothes Eye Pain. Druggists Sell Murine Eye Remedy, Liquid, 25c, 50c, $1.00. Murine Eye Salve in Aseptic Tubes, 25c, $1.00. Eye Books and Eye Advice Free by Mail. Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

Now He Knows.

"On what grounds does your father object to me?" he asked.

"On any grounds within a mile of our house," she answered.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

Don't you notice how the man who always wants to bet, and who says he has a roll in his hand, invariably rolls away?

ANOTHER WOMAN CURED

By Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Black Duck, Minn. — "About two years ago I wrote you that I was sick and could not do any of my housework. My sickness was the Change of Life. Reknowned. When I would sit down I felt as if I could not get up. I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and do not feel as I did then, and now I am perfectly cured, and have a big baby boy." — Mrs. ANNA ANDERSON, Box 19, Black Duck, Minn.

Consider This Advice.

No woman should submit to a surgical operation, which may mean death, until she has given Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made exclusively from roots and herbs, a fair trial.

This famous medicine for women has for thirty years proved to be the most valuable tonic and invigorator of the female organism. Women residing in almost every city and town in the United States have written Mrs. Pinkham to the wonderful virtue of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It cures female ills, and creates radiant, buoyant female health. If you are ill, for your own sake as well as those you love, give it a trial.

Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., invites all sick women to write her for advice. Her advice is free, and always helpful.

Make the Liver Do its Duty

Nine times in ten when the liver is right the stomach and bowels are right.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS gently but surely compel a lazy liver to do its duty.

Cure Constipation, Indigestion, Sick Headache, and Distress after Eating.

Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price

Genuine must bear Signature

Brent Good

The par excellence of all razors

Gillette

KNOWN THE WORLD OVER

Do it Now

Tomorrow A. M. too late. Take a CASCARET at bed time; get up in the morning feeling fine and dandy. No need for sickness from *over-eating* and *drinking*. They surely work while you sleep and help nature help you. Millions take them and keep well.

CASCARETS 10c a box for a week's treatment, all druggists. Biggest seller in the world. Million boxes a month.

W. N. U., DETROIT, NO. 44-1910.

W. L. DOUGLAS

$3 $3.50 & $4 SHOES FOR MEN AND WOMEN

BOYS' SHOES, $2.00, $2.50 & $3.00. BEST IN THE WORLD.

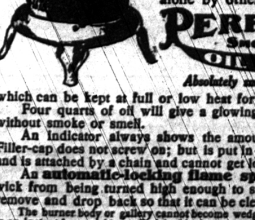
W. L. Douglas $3.00, $3.50 and $4.00 shoes are positively the best made and most popular shoes at the prices in America, and are the most economical shoes for you to buy.

Do you realize that my shoes have been the standard for over 30 years, that I make and sell more $3.00, $3.50 and $4.00 shoes than any other manufacturer in the U.S., and that DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR, I GUARANTEE MY SHOES to hold their shape, look and fit better, and wear longer than any other $3.00, $3.50 or $4.00 shoes you can buy? Quality counts. It has made my shoes THE LEADERS OF THE WORLD.

You will be pleased when you buy my shoes because of the fit and appearance, and when it comes time for you to purchase another pair, you will be more than pleased because the last ones were so well, and gave you so much wear.

CAUTION! W. L. Douglas name and price stamped on the bottom. TAKE NO SUBSTITUTE If your dealer cannot supply you, write for Mail Order Catalog. W. L. DOUGLAS, Spark Street, Brockton, Mass.

That Cold Room



on the side of the house where winter blasts strike hardest always has a lower temperature than the rest of the house. There are times when it is necessary to raise the temperature quickly or to keep the temperature up for a long period. That can't be done by the regular method of heating without great trouble and overheating the rest of the house. The only reliable method of heating such a room alone by other means is to use a

PERFECTION SMOKELESS OIL HEATER

Absolutely smokeless and odorless

which can be kept at full or low heat for a short or long time. Four quarts of oil will give a glowing heat for nine hours, without smoke or smell.

An Indicator always shows the amount of oil in the font. Filler-cap does not screw on; but is put in like a cork in a bottle, and is attached by a chain and cannot get lost.

An automatic-locking flame spreader prevents the wick from being turned high enough to smoke, and is easy to remove and drop back so that it can be cleaned in an instant.

The burner body or gallery cannot become wedged, and can be unscrewed in an instant for rewicking. Finished in japan or nickel, strong, durable, well-made, built for service, and yet light and ornamental. Has a cool handle.

Dealers Everywhere. If not at yours, write for descriptive circular to the nearest agency of the

Standard Oil Company

(Incorporated)