SEVENTH GRADE—MR. MONEFF


GEOGRAPHY: Since many of the children in my class are from various schools and have not had any regular course, it has seemed necessary to take up some special work with them in Astronomy. The pupils have been giving about four weeks to study. This week finishes their work along that line. The past week's work has consisted of steady recitation, during which such questions as the effect of the sun's gravitation on the planets, the effect of the moon's gravitation on the earth, tides, and the planets of the solar system have been discussed. Following each lesson the pupils have summarized in written compositions the essential points made in each lesson. These papers have been read in class and discussed. As a summary of the work so far, a morning exercise will be given tomorrow before the upper grades. About forty slides will be shown illustrating the points they will make. This work in astronomy does not appear in the outline for the Seventh Grade, but was a special adjustment made to fit the necessity of the situation. The children were utterly ignorant concerning the simplest fundamental astronomical facts. The immediate cause for deciding to do this work was to account for the reasons for the establishment of such lines on the earth's surface as the equator, the tropics, etc.

NATURE STUDY: The children have made for some time past a class study of corn, from an industrial and economical standpoint. Lack of time makes it necessary to have each child work up independently some one topic, such as wheat, oats, cotton, flax, cocoanut, rubber, etc.; each pupil is using the school museum and the school library as a basis for getting material. During the past week the children have been making oral reports in which they show materials they have gotten from the museum and the library. After each report, which is oftentimes made from notes, a general discussion follows. Some of the pupils have chosen domestic animals for their topics. The work has necessitated a great deal of work with individual children, owing to their inexperience in using reference books. One of the greatest things they are getting out of the work is the experience in using materials and in organizing it. The reports have been very interesting and material which the children have presented is surprising in its scope. Each child has been preparing during the past week a written report summarizing all the information he has been able to collect on his topic.

ENGLISH: Eight of the pupils take neither French nor German. During the periods when the French and German pupils are out of the room, these eight pupils are given special attention in English Grammar and Composition. During the past week they have been studying the sentence.

ORAL READING & LITERATURE: We have been making a class study of Hawthorne's "The Great Stone Face". Parts have been read orally in class, parts have been studied at home. Each character in the story has been discussed in class. In connection with the compositions of the children, they are making a study of description and narration.
SPELLING: Each day a list of words in some subject is given the children. During the lesson in connection with which this list is given, these words are written as dictated. Their papers are corrected and returned to them. It seems necessary to give spelling some special attention in a formal way.

PRINTING: Two lessons have been given in printing during the week. One lesson was partly devoted to a discussion of kinds of type and the special uses of each kind. We discussed the kinds of work the printing group could do for the school. The second lesson was spent in the shop where each boy was assigned a different job in composition. One boy is setting up a blank for spelling. Another is setting up a notice to be posted on each door. Four of the boys are setting up "The Ballad of the East and West" which is to be used by the two Seventh Grades in oral reading. Each boy will carry his job through each process involved from start to finish of the job.

MATHEMATICS: A large part of the Seventh Grade mathematics has for its subject matter and study of the applications of percentage. For the past two weeks we have been studying interest. During the past week we have been working problems by the 6% method.
NATURE STUDY:
Continuation of the reports being prepared by the pupils on certain cultivated plants and domesticated animals. The reports are being given orally and are illustrated with pictures and specimens. Each pupil is writing a final report to be handed in next week.
This report is being supervised carefully by me. The discussions based on their reports have taken up many interesting problems.

GEOGRAPHY:
The work in astronomical geography and astronomy has been carried as far as profitable and this week will end our study in this field.
The morning exercise referred to in the previous report was given and it seemed to interest the other pupils. On request another stereopticon exercise will be given later to supplement it. The second one will be prepared by a few of the children who have shown special interest in astronomy.

MATHEMATICS:
Continuation of the interest problems involving the finding of interest, the time being given in years, months and days. The children have worked many of these problems by the 6% method, so that now they thoroughly understand it.

LITERATURE:
Oral Reading. "The Great Stone Face" has been read in class and studied at home. One lesson was spent in summing up the story.
English. Special attention has been given to the written reports for Nature Study. Regular spelling lessons, the words of which were handed in by the various teachers having charge of my children have been assigned daily. Each child keeps a record of all words given for spelling.
Grammar. Continuation of the study of the sentence.

PRINTING:
The composition, proof reading, and correction of "The Ballad of the East and West" has been completed – four pages in all.
Two thousand spelling blanks have been set up and printed for the use of the children of the Seventh Grades.
NATURE STUDY:
The reports on cultivated plants and domesticated animals have been finished by the children and certain ones read.
Each pupil showed his report before the class, calling especial attention to the cover page, subject matter, illustrations and the maps. The reports - 65 in number - did much to set a higher standard of composition. They varied in length from four pages to 42 pages. Each report will be read and returned with comments.

GEOGRAPHY:
A study of the continent of South America was begun. The first lesson was of a general nature, and aimed to bring out what ideas the children already had as to the history, location, commercial importance, political importance and products of South America.

By the end of the week we had completed a study of the location, size, coast lines, the high lands and the lowlands of the continent.

MATHEMATICS:
At the request of Miss Latham who teaches my children History I took up in Mathematics problems in land measurement. The children were studying in their History the laying out and surveying of the Northwest Territory. By the end of the week each child could locate any farm in a section or write a description of any piece of land in the section, provided the piece of land was not smaller than five acres.

This work fitted in very nicely with the History and was entirely new to the children.

ENGLISH:
The Nature Study reports were criticised before the class. The regular spelling lessons were continued, and at the request of the children a spelling-down given. It was not completed, owing to the fact that the words given the children in the regular spelling lessons had been thoroughly learned. The spelling-down will be finished some time convenient during the week following.

The selection of these words from the subject matter being presented to the children at the time of its presentation and at the time the ideas are taught, removes many difficulties from the children when they write compositions and reports on what they are studying.

Their English work becomes less irksome and is a pleasure.

GRAMMAR:
The children continued their study of the sentence and analysis of the sentence into the subject and predicate.
PRINTING:
The four pages of the "Ballad of the East and West" referred to in the previous week's report have been printed in black with an ornamental red border and lines. The printing was an experiment in the use of warming colors. The result was pleasing to the children.

We started the set-up of a book called "Short Clay Book" made for Grade 2 by Grade 3. It is to be illustrated by pictures made by the second grade children. There will be about 18 illustrations in all. It will be printed in a large, readable type.

On Friday the 10 boys of my class who take Printing were taken by me to the plant of Sears, Roebuck & Co., especially to visit their printing plant, which is one of the largest and most complete private printing plants in the world. The modern, up-to-date machinery for printing and bookmaking was of great interest to them.
NATURE STUDY:
The two seventh grades have begun the study of electricity. The first week's work was principally in the nature of discussions during which the children gave their idea of electricity, its various uses, and their experiences with it. Both my class and Miss Latham's were taken to the electrical show which is held annually at the Coliseum. It was a fine introduction to the study.

GEography:
Continuation of the study of South America. The special topic we are working on is the climate of South America as determined by winds, ocean currents, the position of South America, etc. A map has been made by each child showing the rainfall of various regions of the continent.

MATHEMATICS:
Interest - We are working on the finding of the time when the principal, rate and interest are given, and the finding of the principal when the interest, rate and time are given.

ENGLISH:
Each pupil has written a composition for the "School Reporter" for the March number, and for the February number a composition about Abraham Lincoln. The two reporters of this room are, under my supervision, following up this work with each child.

LITERATURE:
We have begun the study of King Arthur.

ORAL READING:
Copies of the "Ballad of the East and West" printed by the boys in the printing class have been distributed to the children. We are studying it and reading it orally in class.

PRINTING:
Continuation of work on "The Short Play Book" started during the previous week. About four pages have been set up and proofs taken. Corrections in the type are being made and cuts inserted.
SEVENTH GRADE - MR. McNEFF

Feb. 5, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:

The children discussed what were the most interesting features of the electrical show. The wireless telegraph, the wireless telephone, the United States Naval exhibit and the many applications of electricity to industries, were the points which they were the most interested in.

GEOGRAPHY:

Continuation of the study of the climate of the various regions of South America, with especial reference to causal relations.

MATHEMATICS:

Interest. We have been solving examples in interest by means of the equation. The children did not understand equations at all, and this new method is simplifying for them a great deal the solution of problems in interest.

ENGLISH:

Continuation of the work of composing and re-writing the papers for the March number of the "School Reporter". The spelling has been continued regularly, as stated in previous reports, and will be continued during the rest of the year in the same way.

ORAL READING:

Continuation of the interpretation and oral reading of "The Ballad of the East and West."

PRINTING:

The printing groups have been reorganized considerably because of promotion. Previous to this week the group has consisted of ten pupils, five of whom were from Miss Latham's room, the others from my own. Because of the mid-year promotions, five of my class were promoted to eighth grade. Numerous requests have been made repeatedly by the other boys in the room for the work in printing, and because of this and the desire to extend the work, two groups of eight boys each were organized. Each group has two hours a week in the shop. The beginners were put to work on composition immediately. "The Short Story Book" is set up and in the galleys, and they will make all the corrections and print it. They also began the composition of an eight-page booklet called, "An Experiment with Field and Nature Study Work with Children of the Stock Yard District in the Neighborhood of the University Settlement." Mr. Robert K. Nabours, of our school has charge of the work set forth in the booklet, and the University Elementary School is co-operating with him. The boys understand the situation and were very glad to do this work which will materially assist him.
SEVENTH GRADE - MR. McNEFF.

Feb. 12, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:
Following the discussions of what we saw at the Electrical Show, we began the study of frictional electricity. This introduced us to the evolution of our knowledge of electricity. The history of electricity from the year 600 B.C. when the Greeks knew amber was excited by rubbing it, to the time of Dr. Gilbert, 1603 when he published "De Magnete" is brief, for nothing further was discovered so far as recorded history is concerned.

Magnetite, the magnetic needle, the compass, the frictional electric machine and the Leyden Jar, all of which we experimented with in class, were the subjects on which our attention was centered. The week's work closed with Franklin's experiments and the invention of the lightning rod.

GEOGRAPHY:
A special study is being made of winds and wind belts. South America presents ideal conditions for this, and so it is being emphasized here in a very concrete way. Emphasized and carefully worked out, the application of the general facts learned to Africa and Australia which we study later, will be very easy.

MATHEMATICS:
The previous week's work showed that we did not know enough about the equation to solve problems in interest by using it. The pupils could state the equation, but its simplification and solution were beyond them. Thus in this problem: Find the principal if the rate equals five per cent, the time one year and six months, and the interest equals $750.00. They readily saw and stated that $750.00 equals $055 x 1.5 x P. Finding the value of P, however, was not clear to them. When they were asked to do so they could not. Realizing that the solution of equations was a new problem for them, they readily took up the study of the solution of very simple such equations. They are doing this work with the idea of applying this knowledge to the working of percentage problems.

ORAL READING AND LITERATURE:
This being the week of the Lincoln Centennial, most of our time was given to the reading of things about Lincoln, things he wrote, such as the Gettysburg Address and some of his political speeches and sayings.

PRINTING:
We completed the composition of the subject matter for our booklet, "An experiment with field and nature study work with children of the Stock Yards district in the neighborhood of the University of Chicago Settlement". Proofs of this were taken and corrections in the proof sheets were made.
SEVENTH GRADE - MR. MCNEFF.

Report for two weeks ending Feb. 26, 09.

NATURE STUDY:

We have considered the following topics: Current electricity, the invention of the Voltaic cell, Volta and Galvani, and the circuit. A wet cell was constructed and the fact that chemical action in the cell resulted in the current was established.

One hour of our science time was given to a lecture by Prof. Williston of the Department of Paleontology. The subject was the history and development of the elephant. It was illustrated, and made clear to the children many questions which had been raised in their study during the Autumn Quarter when they studied cultivated plants and domesticated animals. The question of how we could trace back many animals to an earlier ancestry was puzzling to the children, and this lecture made the matter very clear to them. They requested Dr. Williston to give them a later talk on the horse.

GEOGRAPHY: We have been studying the plant and animal life of South America from a general standpoint. When we study South America by regions the plant and animal life as related to climate and life conditions will be studied in much more detail. This preliminary study is to give us a bird's eye view.

MATHEMATICS:

The equation involving the use of one unknown quantity has become clear to the children. Conditions have been presented so that they have learned through their equations the following axioms: 1st, things equal to the same thing are equal to each other; 2nd, Either adding or subtracting or multiplying or dividing both members of an equation by the same quantity results in an equation.

Let P represent the principal, R the rate, T the time and I the interest, they have stated that I = P X R X T. They clearly see that in all their problems this is what they have done. They have found the interest by multiplying the principal by the rate by the time. By substituting the figures of any three terms, the fourth can easily be found. The children all feel that this is a great simplification of the processes they have had so far, and they hope to be able to apply it to the other applications of percentages, such as taxes, commissions, insurance, stocks and bonds, etc.
Mr. McNeef - #2.

SPEECH, ORAL READING, READING & DRAMATIC ART:

Certain of the children who have done well in reading the "Ballad of the East and West" chose parts to be memorized for presentation to the class from memory.

A much longer time was spent on this poem than is usual, but in this instance it seemed necessary, and results were good.

LITERATURE:

On questioning the children about American authors and their work, they were found to be woefully ignorant. To stimulate interest some of Longfellow's "Tales of a Wayside Inn" were read to the children. Some of the selections were "The Prelude", "King Robert of Sicily" and "Ballad of Atri". After each was read the children discussed its meaning. "King Robert of Sicily" is a favorite with them.
March 5, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:

Our work during the past week has been with current electricity. The two most essential facts about electricity are electromagneticism and magneto electricity. A series of experiments were set up and performed either by the children or by the teacher which illustrated these two fundamental facts. As practically all of the applications of electricity grow out of the production of magnetism by a current of electricity, and currents of electricity are mechanically produced through the use of magnetic fields, from now on our work in class will consist of a study of the various ways in which these principles are applied, wherever electricity is used. The apparatus which we are using is always at the disposal of the children for their independent experiments. They spend a great deal of time outside of class time in using the apparatus and in performing all sorts of experiments which grow out of our discussions. Many of the children are making apparatus at home. This apparatus is brought by them to school and is of great service as illustrative material.

For supplementary reading Harper's "Electricity Book for Boys" gives very valuable information along the line of our work and the drawings of apparatus which it furnishes enable many of the children to go ahead independently.

GEOGRAPHY:

A large number of pictures of the plant and animal life of South America were secured. We spent several lessons on the study of these pictures and in doing general reading about the plants and animals which they showed.

MATHEMATICS:

So far this year the main subject we have studied has been Interest. While we have not satisfactorily finished our work in this subject, we have left it temporarily and are considering the subject of stocks and bonds. The subject matter being entirely new to the children has added considerable interest and enthusiasm to the work. We have discussed the conditions in business which have produced stock companies, corporations and tremendous business organizations, so that operations in stocks and bonds will be intelligible to them.

SPEECH? ORAL READING, READING & DRAMATIC ART:

Oral reading: Continuation of the "Tales of a Wayside Inn" - "The Legend of Rabbi Ben Levi" and "The Falcon of Sir Federigo". The latter I took up with the children as an experiment. I wanted to know how they would react to the subject matter of this poem. The children enjoyed the reading of it and the result was quite satisfactory in my mind.

Literature: I read for them Burns' "A Man's a Man for a That".

PRINTING:

Since the last report on printing we have taken the proof sheets of our booklet for Mr. Nabours which were corrected, made the corrections in the three standing galleys of type,
figured the size and kind of stock for the booklet. The mathematical problem of figuring the amount of matter for each page, the spacing between paragraphs, between running headings, also figuring the margins so as to produce the most artistic product, the proper placing of the half tones which are to illustrate the matter, and many similar problems have kept us working to our highest capacity. In between times we have managed to run off 500 notices printed on postal cards for the Parents' Association, 500 four-page invitations and programs for the University High School Gymnastic Competition, and several shorter invitations and notices. An envelope showing samples of what we have done during the past month will be mailed during the next few days. The week's work closed with nine pages for the booklet tied, all corrections made, ready to be locked up and printed the following week.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. MCNEFF.

March 12, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:
Continuation of experiments with electro magnetism. Story of its discovery. The telegraph - its inventor, Morse, the principle of its operation, the relation of the telegraph to transportation and business. Nearly every pupil has constructed an electro-magnet at home.

GEOGRAPHY:
The work in Geography was very largely graphic: blackboard drawings, pencil and charcoal sketches and water-color work. The aim was to have the children reproduce landscapes, animals and plants characteristic of South America.

MATHEMATICS:
Problems involving the buying and selling and the figuring of commission on stocks and bonds were worked in class time and assigned for home work.

SPRench, READING, ORAL READING & DRAMATIC ART.
See report for March 19th.

PRINTING:
During the week six pages of Mr. Nabour's booklet were locked up and printed. 275 copies of each page are being printed. As soon as the type was used it was unlocked and distributed by other boys in the class. During each printing hour certain of the boys worked on a design for the title page and one for the cover which is to be printed in two tones. Miss Deane, one of the art teachers, worked with these children. The design for the title page was set up and printed. The designs for the cover were worked out by many children in the room, as well as the printing boys and the best five chosen by the children. These five were worked up and completed in proper form for reproduction in zinc etchings. The one which seemed to be best adapted to the booklet was chosen and sent in so that the plates might be made.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. MCNEFF.

March 19, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:
The four half-hour periods of the week were spent in summarizing the results of our study in electricity. The results showed that while some of the children had misconceptions and some of them were somewhat indifferent, on the whole the children had gotten something very clearly in mind as a result of our experiments and discussions.

GEOGRAPHY:
We turned our attention to the study of the people of South America.

MATHEMATICS:
It was found necessary to continue giving the children more problems in stocks and bonds. I find that the children need many problems of the same kind before they seem to understand how to work them freely. The failure to do this means confusion and a lack of definiteness that is very demoralizing. The book which we are using gives us very little assistance, as the problems were poor, poorly graded, few in number and confusing; therefore it has been necessary for me to compose my own problems and to adapt them very carefully.

SPEECH, READING, ORAL READING AND DRAMATIC ART. (Report for two weeks on this subject):
As we have finished the story and reading of all the shortest selections in our course for the seventh grade, except the King Arthur Legends, we took this time on some formal English, spelling, grammar, penmanship and composition work, which seemed very necessary as shown by their papers for the last quarter. Our next quarter's work will be devoted very largely to an intenser study of the Arthurian Legends. We gave especial study to the composition and the correction of the material which the children wrote for the "School Reporter".

PRINTING:
We finished the printing of the remainder of the booklet for Mr. Nabours, the only part of it unfinished at the present time being the cover. We are waiting for the plates to return from the maker. Arrangements have been made for the assembling of the pages and Miss Richards, instructor in book-binding has agreed to teach the boys in printing how to bind the books. Her book-binding group will assist. The boys have set up an article by one of the fourth grade children called, "How to Plant Bulbs". When these are printed they will be distributed to the children.

During the week a swimming meet was held between the boys of the two seventh grades. Four of the boys in the printing group requested that they be permitted to compose and print the class songs and yells for the swimming meet. They were given permission to do so, and carried the work through from start to finish very successfully without any assistance, from composition
of the material to be printed, through the composition of type, cutting the stock, adjustments of press, to the printing and distribution of the songs and yells. The only point where they had to be helped was the correction of the proof for the final printing. It was a good illustration of self-activity and the use by the children of a shop in the school as the means to a social end.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. McNEFF

April 2, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:
Certain pupils have worked out pieces of apparatus independently. They were given an opportunity during this week to show this apparatus and to perform experiments with it.

GEOGRAPHY:
Detailed study of the Amazon Valley was begun. The physiography was dwelt upon during the week.

MATHEMATICS:
The work in stocks and bonds was continued. There are about seven children in the class who for various reasons are very much behind in mathematics. In some cases this is because of irregular attendance at the various schools attended, in several cases it is because of the lack of reasoning ability. These children need special help alone. They were given the opportunity of joining a special class to be held after the regular session two days a week. This was thrown open to the whole class. Every person who needed mathematics especially joined voluntarily. The work of this special group will be especially adapted to their needs. Part of the time will be devoted to review and development work where they are weak, and part will be devoted to helping them in the regular work which we are now doing in class.

LITERATURE:
King Arthur. Only one lesson was given during this week. We lost one of our lessons to attend an inter-grade dancing party. We discussed chivalry, knighthood, castle-living, in order to get the children in right feeling for their work on King Arthur.

PRINTING:
The cut and the title for the cover on Mr. Nabour's booklet was set up and proofs taken; corrections on Miss Black's book entitled, "The Short Story Book" were made; 500 postals for the Parents' Association were printed; and 100 blanks for posting the names of the house-keeping committee in my room were printed.

CRITIC MEETING:
The largest part of the time was given to a discussion of the observations made on the review work by the practice students. Individuals whom they had noticed particularly either because of their good work and responsiveness, or because of their weakness in certain lines of work were discussed. They gave such reasons as seemed most plausible to them to account for their condition. I gave them certain information about the home conditions of the children, their previous school history, physical defects and special considerations which a teacher should have in mind when teaching them.

To aid them in the preparation of their plans we discussed in a general way the following topics: home work assigned, expression work, study periods, and the handling of the form work of the children.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. McNEFF.

April 9, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:

In order that the children might bring together in a very practical way what they have so far learned in their work in electricity and study of the installation of the electricity in the University was begun. The children started with the uses to which it is put in their own room. They found it was used for lighting, communication, time-keeping, and ventilation. From this point we worked back to the installation of the wires in the building, safety appliances, such as fuse boxes, iron conduits for carrying the wires, switch boards and the numerous motors located in the basement, each one of which has its special purpose. During the last lesson of the week the children organized their observations and started a written paper which they were to complete for home work, summing up the results of their observations.

GEOGRAPHY:

Continuation of the work on the Amazon Valley, the people, animal and plant life, industries, products, life of the people, centers of population, political life and history being studied. The children were given references and were asked to make notes. During recitation they came up before the class and talked informally about what they had found out.

ORAL READING:

The children were asked to bring in for oral reading spring poems which they liked. They were asked either to make a copy of the poem or to bring the book containing it. In general their choice was very good. Some of these poems were read to them and they discussed them. Others will be printed and read by the children.

LITERATURE:

One of the literature periods was devoted to a written lesson. The children were asked to write the names of their ten favorite books. They were also asked to give a list of the selections which they would like to study if they were given the opportunity. The other lesson was a continuation of "Sir Gareth of Orkney" from the "Boys' King Arthur Stories". There are in the room a number of pupils who are unusually capable in literary lines, one boy in particular being remarkably so. The formation of a special group or club for literary work was suggested, and a number of pupils joined in this work. They have undertaken voluntarily the dramatization of certain parts of Poe's "Gold Bug". They are tremendously enthusiastic about it, and are planning to present it at a future morning exercise.

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:

We have been continuing our regular work in spelling as hitherto reported, and we are very much gratified to know that the children are improving a great deal. The amount of time given to the formal work is very little, but by following it up regularly with home work and dictated lessons of about 15
words each day, they can learn the spelling of the new terms given them in their various lines of work.

The penmanship has improved materially. In the cases of all the backward children who have been doing the voluntary penmanship work reported a number of weeks back. The faculty has definitely recommended that each grade give twenty minutes' class time a week to practice in formal penmanship, the arm movement.

MATHEMATICS:

Problems in stocks and bonds were composed by the children, worked at home, and assigned by them to the class. The pupils were asked to go to the library and get arithmetics there by various authors, and to take problems from them, as their own book does not give very many examples in what they are now studying. Arrangements were made for the special group in mathematics which will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays each week from 2:45 to 3:15.

CRITIC MEETING:

Three students were assigned during the Spring Quarter for a course in general practice. Monday from 1 to 2 is the regular time for a critic meeting. One hour each day is given to observation and practice. During the first week there was no critic meeting on Monday, as it was the first day of the quarter and the students did not report because of late registration. Instead, individual conferences were held with them at various times during the week, during which the assignment of work was gone over in detail. Two practice teachers were assigned work in nature study and one the teaching of geography. While they were preparing their plans for teaching, they were requested to observe the children one hour each day, half of the time in their own subject, the other half in other subjects, including the hand work, the aim being to have them see the pupils in as much of their school work as possible. Reports of their observation, both oral and written will be required.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. McNEFF.

April 16, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:

The work of Miss Latham's class was so far advanced that they were taken to the University power house where they saw the dynamos at work generating electricity. The electrician in charge explained for us switch boards and safety appliances, measuring apparatus, etc. We also visited the boiler rooms and saw the battery of twenty boilers supplying steam for one dynamo which supplies power for the whole University at certain times during the day. During the following lessons of the week, this group discussed in class what they had seen. They also wrote a report on their visit. My own class in nature study, consisting of two groups, summed up their observations in the building, and are ready now to make their trip to the power house.

GEOGRAPHY:

We continued the individual reports prepared by the children. They covered the principal animal and plant products and the principal industries of the people of the Amazon. Centers of population, inland routes and exports. The reports were quite comprehensive and were given in an interesting way by them.

MATHEMATICS:

The special group mentioned in the last report held one session. It was found out that they were very weak on the tables of linear measure, square measure, in fact, all the tables. They were also weak on their multiplication tables. The first few lessons will be given to concrete work with various units of measurement. I believe the trouble with these children is that they lack concrete ideas as a basis for their thinking. The work of this group will be determined more by what the children need than by an effort to start at a given point and work forward logically, although we will of course attempt to have the children organize their work and see relations.

The regular class work has consisted of the working of problems by equations. The work which they had previously done in interest by the use of the equation carried itself over into this work and with very little difficulty the children stated the solution of each problem in the form of an equation. They were surprised to find how easily they could indicate all the operations in a given problem in one equation, using one unknown term. A test of five problems was given the children the first day they were asked to solve problems in stocks and bonds, using the equation. Without an exception all the pupils in one group did the work successfully.

LITERATURE, ORAL READING & DRAMATIC ART:

To arouse the children's interest, I read to them the first three chapters of Sir Garth of Orkney from "Boys' King Arthur". The first part of the lesson was spent in talking about castle life, tournaments, jousts, etc. to get them in the proper spirit of the times. The children approached the King Arthur Stories with the feeling that they knew them and would like to have something else, but when I asked them a few questions about some
of the characters in the story, they found out that they had no definite knowledge. I consider it best to read to them for a while, and later will put in the hands of the pupils copies for them to read. The special group which is working upon dramatization of parts of Poe's Gold Bug is still working enthusiastically and on their own initiative, are preparing a morning exercise and printing a program. This little group interests me a great deal because it has aroused one boy in the class to tremendous activity—a boy who so far has been very dreamy and unsocial.

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP were continued as previously reported.

PRINTING:

The Settlement booklet was finished and assembled. After the assembling the edges were trimmed on a paper cutter. The cord for binding was dyed a suitable color in the Textiles Department. The bookbinding class will show the pupils in my room how to bind the booklets next week.

Corrections in the type of the poem "Three Trees" set up the previous week were made. Part of each lesson was spent in distributing the various jobs which had been finished. One lesson was missed, that we might attend a lecture by Prof. Strong of the Department of Zoology, who gave an illustrated lecture on "Birds".

PRACTICE WORK:

Note: The report given April 2nd should have been on the April 9th report and the one on April 9th should have been given on April 2nd.

The students are still working on their plans and are observing faithfully each day. Written reports are handed in by them and conferences are had whenever possible to arrange them during the week.
April 23, 1909.

NATURE STUDY:
The two groups of my room made the excursion to the University power house and covered the same ground as reported last week for Miss Latham's class. Both groups summed up what they saw there in oral recitations and written papers.

GEOGRAPHY:
We studied the La Plata Valley and Argentina as we did the Amazon and Brazil. The assignment was general, rather than specific, thus allowing the children to organize raw material.

MATHEMATICS:
We have taken up the study of taxation first from the social standpoint, second from the mathematical. The children very readily recognized taxation and interest to be identical processes, the only difference being that of terminology. Their work in this subject showed considerable gain in power to analyze their knowledge of percentage. The special group reviewed the tables of linear measure, square measure, liquid and dry measure, and learned how to change units from one denomination to another. On being asked what they felt they should take up especially, they asked for work in fractions. We had one lesson on addition of fractions.

LITERATURE, ORAL READING, READING & DRAMATIC ART:
Continuation of Sir Garuth of Orkney from "The Boys' King Arthur". The children have changed their attitude toward the King Arthur Stories. The feeling that they had read them enough and were tired of them has given place to one of keen interest in Sir Garuth and his adventures. The special group is still practicing on their own initiative after school hours on their dramatization of "The Gold Bug". They have arranged for costumes, printed program, and are arranging for a definite time when they can present the drama.

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:
Twenty minutes a week is devoted to penmanship. The children are practicing the various exercises, using the arm movement. They find difficulty and claim that their penmanship suffers when they use the arm movement, but they are on the whole improving a great deal, especially in adopting uniform slant. They are becoming conscious of the elements of good penmanship.

PRINTING:
We have bound the Settlement booklet and they are being distributed. 150 copies of a notice for the faculty were printed and distributed. The three boys who are dramatizing "The Gold Bug" printed 300 copies of the program for their exercise.
NATURE STUDY:
As much time as possible has been given to the electricity work, and we began the work in hygiene, the study of the respiratory system. Miss Latham's seventh grade is under my direction in practice work. They are doing the same work.

GEOGRAPHY:
Continuation of study of South America; Chile, Bolivia, Peru. The work the children have done during the past two weeks shows a considerable power on their part to study independently. The results are very much better than they would be if very detailed and specific assignments were made, instead of a general assignment. A written paper was handed in on each country studied.

MATHEMATICS:
Taxes: During the past week tax schedules were distributed through the city and final notices were given property owners for the payment of taxes. A good deal of the class time was given up to the discussion of questions such as the purpose of taxation, kinds of property, tax schedules, assessed valuation and tax rates, what determines a tax rate.

On the mathematical side we followed up the work of the previous week which consisted of problems requiring the figuring of the amount of tax a certain valuation would give at a certain rate and the figuring of the tax rate when the amount of tax to be raised and the assessed valuation are given.

Special mathematics group: The special group which is working out of school hours on adding fractions. None of them know how to find the least common multiple or the least common denominator. We began on the study of this during the week.

LITERATURE, ORAL READING, READING & DRAMATIC ART:
Continuation of Sir Garth of Orkney from "The Boys' King Arthur". The children are intensely interested. They are doing the reading themselves. They ask for extra periods.

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:
All of the words which we have assigned the children for special attention have been arranged alphabetically and are being printed by the printing group in preparation for a spell-down with the eighth grade. In addition to this the regular spelling lists are given each day and papers and compositions in which words are misspelled are corrected by the children.

The penmanship lesson shows improvement, but we still have a great deal to overcome in the way of bad habits. The children invariably write in a bad posture unless special attention is given by the teacher and continued.

PRINTING:
Some of the boys are working on Miss Black's booklet, some are setting up the spelling for the eighth grade spell-down, and a few of the boys have been distributing. 100 large envelopes were printed with the printing shop letter head.
PRACTICE WORK:
The three teachers began their practice early in the week. Their plans had been carefully prepared and their observation had made them acquainted with the children. One of the students had never taught before and was very much afraid to begin. After having taken the plunge, however, she enjoyed the experience and has gained a great deal of confidence.

The work in hygiene which was assigned - a special study of the respiratory system - while it is being attacked from the physiological standpoint, the main purpose is to present the subject from the hygienic point of view.

CRITIC MEETING:
The week's work in practice made the teacher students realize that the recitation was an art, and so the hour was taken up on the question of what constitutes a good recitation. The topics especially touched upon were: the aim in teaching a subject, its relationship to other subjects, the teacher's preparation, materials needed, careful preparation of materials, choice of materials, the introduction by the teacher so that the pupil becomes conscious of the purpose of the lesson, so that he has an aim about which he can organize his thinking and his activity, variety of work as a means of arousing interest and preventing fatigue. The hour closed with a discussion of the relation each lesson should bear to what precedes and what follows, the assignment of home work and its relation to the lesson.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. MCNEFF.

May 7, 1909.

GEOGRAPHY:
Group 2. Continuation of the study of South America - Ecuador, Columbia and Venezuela. The work the children did on these countries was similar to that given in previous reports.

MATHEMATICS:
Taxes. The administration of the taxing system in the city of Chicago. Methods employed by the city in determining the amount of tax to be levied. The actual tax rate used in Chicago, figuring the tax on certain pieces of property at that rate. This concludes our work on the subject of taxation.

Special Mathematics Group: This group met but once during the week. The problem worked on was method of finding the least common multiple.

LITERATURE, ORAL READING:
This week finishes our work on "Sir Garuth of Orkney" from "The Boys' King Arthur".

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:
Continued as reported last week.

PRINTING:
One page consisting of 200 words was printed for review. Another page was set up. The first page was distributed. Cuts for Miss Black's booklet are being inserted in their proper positions in the type in the galleys.

PRACTICE WORK:
Nature Study: Hygiene. The children were questioned about breathing, the purpose of breathing, organs used in the process of respiration, to determine their knowledge or ignorance of the subject. They counted the number of times they breathe a minute and struck an average. From these figures they determined the number of times a person breathes a day. The figures obtained were a great surprise to them. The principal organs of respiration being the lungs, they were taken to the museum to study the manneken, from which they learned the location, size, and to some extent, the structure of the lungs. This was followed up by the dissection of a sheep's lungs, by the teacher of the class. From the dissection the children saw the bronchial tubes, the blood vessels and air cells.

Geography - Group 1: This group being more advanced in their work took up the study of the continent of Africa, under the direction of a practice teacher.

Col. Roosevelt's hunting trip furnished a good means of introduction, and after the route he took from New York to Mombasa had been traced out, the children sketched out on the map his proposed route. This was followed by a study of the location, boundaries, shape, size and general physiographic features of Africa. One of the very interesting facts about the work being done on
this continent is the application to what the children have learned from their study of South America, the two continents being located in very nearly the same parallels of latitude. They of course are subject to many of the same influences. The work of the children shows marked gain in ability to study and work up their geography material alone.

CRITIC MEETING:

No critic meeting was held, owing to my absence on account of sickness.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. McNEFF.

May 14, 1909.

GEOGRAPHY (GROUP 2):
Continuation of the study of South America, British, Dutch and French Guiana, Uruguay, Paraguay. For references the children used Tarr and McMurry, Book III, and Carpenter's African.

Toward the end of the week the children began a study of Africa. They began by enumerating all the things and ideas which they associated with the continent from their general reading magazines, newspapers, current events and fiction. Following this, from the maps they made a study of the location, size, coast line and boundaries.

MATHEMATICS:
Commercial discount. Reasons for discounting prices were first discussed in class. The children readily recognized that there was nothing new about this, insofar as the arithmetical processes are concerned, and worked problems in discount without any difficulty whatever.

LITERATURE & ORAL READING:
I read to the children from "The Boys' King Arthur" the chapter which told how Arthur got the Sword Excalibur.

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:
Three pages of spelling, consisting of 600 words in all, were printed in our print shop. These were passed out to the children for review. Careful attention to these words has been given daily, but an entire review of all the words assigned during the year is being given in preparation for the spell-down between the two sevenths and the two eighths. Two or three more pages were made to be printed. The penmanship exercises are being continued and the general appearance of our papers in the penmanship is improving steadily.

PRINTING:
The spelling mentioned above was printed and the type distributed. Proofs of the inserted cuts in Miss Black's booklet were taken. 300 copies of a program for a function given by the students in the College of Education to the faculty were set up and printed, with the assistance of one or two students in the College of Education, who wanted to help.

PRACTICE WORK:
Nature Study, hygiene. Following up the physiology of the previous week in which the lungs were studied, a sheep's heart was brought by the teacher and the children studied the principal facts about the heart and its structure from this specimen. The close relation between the heart and the lungs was brought out so that the children could understand the function of each organ. This in the main, concludes the
physiological work.

The study of air, its composition, pure and impure air, followed. Chapters in Gulick’s Hygiene Series, “Town and City” were assigned for supplementary reading. The work outlined on air included ventilation, street cleaning, garbage disposal, and the smoke nuisance. The children readily saw that these were social problems which in a large way could only be regulated satisfactorily by means of departments of the city government whose duty it was to see that certain regulations were carried out.

Geography (Group one): Continuation of the study of Africa. Following the Physiographical work done in the previous week, we took up the subjects of climate and animal and plant life, the aim being to give the children a bird’s-eye view of the continent as a whole, to be followed by more intense study of each topographical unit.

CRITIC MEETING:

Continuation of a study of the recitation. The points brought up for discussion were those which I noticed practice students needed special help in; as shown by their practice work: assignment of the lesson, by pages or in terms of the subject matter; getting the class ready for recitation promptly; a uniform method of having the children recite so as to save both teacher and pupil endless interruptions; following up the class room recitation, drawings, written work, etc. effectively.

There was a tendency on the part of the practice students to not follow the lesson planned, but to allow the children to assume too much of the leadership of the lesson, so that we took considerable time to discuss the best ways of getting before the children the scope of the lesson and the work to be done, and means the teacher could take to direct the children in the work so that there would be few diversions and if subjects irrelevant to the matter planned by the teacher were brought up, they could be properly disposed of without sidetracking the lesson or offending the pupil.

More definite plans were called for in which the aim of the lesson should be stated in positive terms.
May 21, 1909.

MATHMATICS:
During the previous week we completed the work on applications of percentage. A review of decimals and fractions was begun. Division of decimals is not understood very thoroughly by many of the pupils, so special development work and drill is being given. The planning of work is being determined by weaknesses in general which have been shown by the year's work.

LITERATURE & ORAL READING:
Early in the year I read to the children and we studied from Les Miserables the story of the Bishop's Candlesticks. When we finished the King Arthur stories, the pupils requested that I read to them some more incidents from the life of Jean Valjean. During the week I read to them the court scene in which Jean Valjean revealed his identity to save the tree-pruner from going to the galleys, and the incidents in which he rescued little Cosette from the clutches of the thenardier.

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:
Three more pages of printed spelling, consisting of 600 words, making a total of 1200 words, were given the children to study in review as a continuation of the work reported for last week.

The penmanship exercises as graded in the Palmer Penmanship Exercises are being followed and there were very good results, best so far reached during the week.

PRINTING:
The spelling lists - three pages - were printed. The insertion of the cuts in Miss Black's booklet were completed. The greater part of the week, however, was spent in distributing all sorts of material which had been released for various kinds of work, to get the shop in shape for the printing of two booklets which will require all the material available.

400 notices of a field trip were printed in black with an ornamental ruled border in red, for distribution in the elementary school.

PRACTICE WORK:
Nature Study. Hygiene. The children made CO2 in the laboratory. Each child worked independently with his own apparatus. They tested the gas for its effect on combustion and they performed the test with lime water. By holding a test tube full over a test tube of air they discovered that it was heavier than air. Following the laboratory exercise, they discussed the general results and wrote a paper in which they described each experiment and gave the results which they had learned.

Geography. Group one continued study of Africa. We began the study of Africa by regions. The work will have to be somewhat general, owing to the lack of time. During the week we studied the valley of the Nile and the Atlas region.
CRITIC MEETING:

As one of the practice teachers was absent because of illness and another was excused for a special reason, the critic hour was spent in going over the work with one student. We discussed the organization of the balance of her work in the subject she was teaching, revised the plan which was handed in at the beginning of the quarter, as the work of course had to be modified somewhat as we find we can do much more than planned, and some features of the work need to be emphasized more fully.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. McNEFF.

May 28, 1909.

MATHEMATICS:
Continuation of the work on decimals as reported during the previous week.

LITERATURE & ORAL READING:
Literature and oral reading periods were spent in special rehearsals for an exercise in history which was given Friday, May 28th. The theme of the exercise which was given under the direction of Miss Latham was, "The History of Slavery from the Discussions in the Federal Convention in 1787 to the Adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution in December, 1865."

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:
The six pages of printed spelling are being assigned regular-page by page, and several spell-downs in the room have been held during the week.

No special exercises in penmanship were given during the week, but a written lesson was called for in which the pupils were asked to give special attention to the arm movement while composing a paper in geography.

PRINTING:
300 programs consisting of four pages were printed for Miss Latham's exercise referred to in report on literature and oral reading. (A program is being enclosed with this report.) Six pages of the Short Story Book for the third grade were locked up, printed in black, and the type distributed. The cuts were not printed with the pages, but will be run through in a separate color, together with a ruled border, both of which will probably be in grey. The cuts are zinc etchings and the paper chosen is a stock which will take water color, the intention being to have some of the children of the upper grades color them by hand, using water colors. As soon as the type printed was released, it was distributed and thus made available for the balance of the material to be set up, which was done. At the close of the week the type is all ready to be run through, and all the work in black ink completed.

PRACTICE WORK:
Nature Study, - Hygiene.
Following the experimental work on CO₂, the children studied the principal processes which take place in the lungs.
They tested their breath with lime water for CO₂ and discovered that it was one of the products given off in breathing. In this way the question of change of air and the problem of ventilation was clearly presented to them. Some mounted specimens of blood showing the corpuscles were shown them through the microscope. The children began writing a report of the work they have done in hygiene. The report is to be comprehensive, illustrated by drawings and diagrams and is to be a summing up of all the subject matter presented.
Geography.

Group 2 which has been behind group one in geography was given special attention during the week and covered most of the ground which group one had done. The two groups are now working together under a student teacher who is thus having the experience of having a whole room. The region studied was the Sahara Desert. Topics treated were: physiography, hydrography, climate, vegetation, oases, tribes inhabiting the Sahara, products, caravans, political relations.

CRITIC MEETING:

There was no critic meeting owing to the fact that the day for critic meeting was a University holiday.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. McNEFF.

June 4, 1909.

MATHEMATICS:
A review of fractions. Special emphasis on the division of fractions.

LITERATURE & ORAL READING:
This will be reported in next week's report.

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:
Continuation of work as previously reported.

PRINTING:
Miss Latham's exercise in history was repeated for the college. The program which was printed for this exercise was set up again and 200 copies reprinted. The material for Miss Rich's third grade cook book was put in the galleys and the paging was started.

PRACTICE WORK:
Nature Study. Hygiene. The week's time has been spent in presenting to the children the germ theory of disease. Cultures of bacteria in test tubes were shown to the children. The student who is doing this work has had considerable experience and is especially able to present the subject. Discussion of the ways in which disease is transmitted from person to person and the precautionary means which any person may take to avoid disease which can be transmitted were studied. Chapters from the Culick Hygiene Series were read by the children as supplementary reading.

GEOGRAPHY:
Continuation of the study of Africa - the Soudan. Physiography, hydrography, climate, vegetation, products, transportation, native tribes, exploration, political relations. Selections from Richard Harding Davis' book about the Congo Region were read.

CRITIC MEETING:
The hour was spent in having the practice teachers report on the work of each pupil. They were discussed from the standpoint of their ability to do the work of the grade and to do the work of the eighth grade. The purpose of the discussion was to have the students consider the proper basis for recommending or not recommending promotion.
SEVENTH GRADE -- MR. McNEFF.

June 11, 1909.

MATHEMATICS:

General review of the four operations. A special effort was made to have the children state definitely rules of procedure.

LITERATURE & ORAL READING:

Literature and Oral Reading periods have been taken up by special exercises -- Julius Caesar by the 8th grade, Robin Hood by the fifth grade, King Arthur by Miss Latham's seventh grade. Some of my own children have continued rehearsals with Miss Fleming in dramatization of parts of Poe's Gold Bug.

SPELLING & PENMANSHIP:

The daily lessons have been continued and a spelling match was held between the two sevenths and the two eighths. The eighth grade won on points. Whenever a pupil misspelled a word a point was counted against his side. At the end of the hour there were 52 points against the eighth grade and 61 points against the seventh grade.

PRINTING:

We finished the printing of the third grade Play Book. The booklet consists of 22 pages and cover. Each page was run through twice. There are 225 copies available. Many of the children of the seventh grade, some of whom were not taking printing have colored the illustrations by hand, using water color, which was planned at the beginning when the book was first begun. A copy of this book will be sent later.

A bound copy and separate pages were mounted as part of the printing exhibit for the N.E.A. at Denver. A specimen of each of the best jobs we have done was mounted, together with the eighth grade work, as a part of the exhibit, for the N.E.A. A quotation from Howard Pyle which would be of especial interest to the children of the seventh grade who have been studying and dramatizing King Arthur, was printed on very beautiful card board as a souvenir.

The twelve pages of type in the galleys mentioned in a previous report were locked up and printed. The preface, title page and cover have since been set up and printed. 225 copies in all of this booklet were printed. Owing to a lack of time they were bound with staples at the University of Chicago Press so that the children might have them this term. All of the type used in the various jobs enumerated above which was released has been distributed and everything put in order.

PRACTICE WORK:

Nature Study - Hygiene. The children went to the Museum where Mr. Nabolos had mounted a frog under the microscope so as to show the circulation of the blood in its webbed foot. In this way they of course got a very definite idea of the circulation of the blood. One lesson was devoted to answering and discussing the children's questions which had arisen during the progress of this work. As a whole I consider this quarter's
work in hygiene to have been the best I have ever observed in any grade in any school. The two teachers who have had charge of the work have used a great deal of material, have based their work on experiments and have introduced well selected supplementary reading. They have succeeded in arousing great interest, and the pupils have learned many very important physiological, hygienic and sanitary facts.

**Geography.** Continuation of the study of Africa. South Africa - this region has been studied as we have made the study of other regions of Africa.