THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

INCLUDING EXPERIMENTAL PEDAGOGY, CHILD PHYSIOLOGY
AND HYGIENE, AND EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS

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Published monthly except July and August by

WARWICK & YORK, INC.,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Manuscripts for publication, books or other material for review, and news items of interest to educational psychologists should be addressed to The Managing Editor, J. Carleton Bell, University of Texas, Austin, Texas. Research contributions from England may be sent to W. H. Winch, Esq., Melville Villa, Overhill Road, Dulwich, London.

The Journal is issuing a series of Monograph Supplements for the publication of more extensive researches in educational psychology. For details prospective contributors may apply to Guy Montrose Whipple, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.

The price of the Journal is \$2.50 per year of ten monthly issues. Foreign postage is 20 cents extra for Canada and 30 cents for other countries in the Postal Union.

Subscriptions and correspondence concerning business matters should be sent to Warwick & York, Inc., 19 W. Saratoga St., Baltimore, Md.

VOLUME VI

MAY, 1915

NUMBER 5

EDITORIALS.

The Cincinnati meeting of the Department of Superintendence, while the largest in point of attendance and one of the pleasantest in point of the entertainment provided by the local committees, was marred by unfortunate program conditions. The advocates of the more radical plans of administrative reorganization, and especially the proponents of the shortening of the elementary curriculum and the forcing of early vocational choices upon boys and girls, had everything their own way in the meetings immediately preceding the vote on resolutions. As a consequence, a most dangerous resolution indorsing for the seventh and eighth grades differentiated courses designed to prepare pupils for their "possible future activities" went through with only a slight protest. The wording of the resolution leaves no doubt as to its meaning, whatever may have been in the minds of those who framed it. It commits the department to vocational differentiation at the age of 12. Naturally, it has been seized upon by the advocates of a radical 6-6 organization as an indorsement of their plans—as, in fact, it is. At the same time, it has been advanced by the advocates of the dual system of vocational schools as another indi-

cation that the school men are not sincere in their protestations anent the essential democracy of the public schools—an unwarranted inference, for the advocates of early differentiation have been basing their arguments on individual differences, the awful statistics of elimination, the archaic unfitness of the traditional curriculum, the inherent privileges of the “golden age of adolescence,” the exclusive effectiveness of a vitalizing “life motive,” and a host of other arguments that have blinded many sincere school men to the grave social dangers that are involved in the proposals.

The Monday evening meeting of the National Society for the Study of Education was so attractive that many who sought admittance had to be turned away. The Yearbook pre-

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NATIONAL SOCIETY**

sented the results of the extensive investigations of “minimal essentials” made under the auspices of the Department Committee on Economy of Time. It was a happy thought to devote the Yearbook to the report of this committee. Both in the meeting of the Society and in the Friday meeting of the Department, the papers were thoroughly discussed. The Society has prospered marvelously under the direction of Prof. S. C. Parker, who has held the secretaryship for the past five years. During this time the sessions of the Society have probably ranked next to those of the Department itself in attractiveness to those attending the February meetings. Members of the Society learned with regret that the pressure of other duties would necessitate Professor Parker’s withdrawal from this important office. Acting upon the precedent of having in this position a man of recognized standing and scholarly achievement, the executive committee asked Prof. G. M. Whipple to take Professor Parker’s place. A continuance of the good work has been assured by Professor Whipple’s acceptance.

The College Teachers of Education did not fare so well as the National Society. The Yearbook was marred by the omission of important material submitted by the

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OF EDUCATION**

contributors, but eliminated by the editor because of the necessity of confining the book to a reasonable amount of space. Two very good statistical articles were published with

sufficient detail to make them valuable—one by Dr. F. L. Clapp of the University of Colorado and the other by Dr. A. C. Boyce of the University of Chicago, each a part of the Committee on the Rating of Teachers. Prof. C. H. Judd was elected president of the Society for the ensuing year, Prof. G. M. Wilson of the Iowa State College is secretary-treasurer, and Dean J. E. Russell is the new member of the executive committee.

W. C. B.