

~~The books which are most appropriate for the schools in small towns and country districts are not likely to be the books which should be used in the~~ schools of a large city. We need variety in the text books used in the Chicago schools in order to secure the best results. In Chicago we have been developed steadily away from a rigid city uniformity of text books and if the schools of Chicago should be forced to adopt a series of text books prescribed for the State, it would set them back in their development for many years. If the State Uniformity Bill is passed by the Legislature, Chicago should be exempted from its provisions and should be left perfectly free to choose its own text books.

The experience of Indiana, as presented by the school men of that State, leads to a belief that State uniformity of text books is not for the best interests of the schools; and the experience of California would lead to the conclusion that the State manufacture of text books is very expensive and is not efficient in securing the desired results.

It may be that the Legislature is determined to pass some text book bill during the present session. If so, I would

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It may be that the Legislature is determined to pass some text book bill during the present session. If so, I would

much prefer to see the Local Option Free Text Book Bill passed rather than the State Uniformity Bill as ^{the former} ~~it~~ is merely a further extension of a principle which has already been recognized by the Chicago Board of Education. Forty per cent of the books now ^{in Chicago} ~~used~~ in ~~our~~ schools are purchased by the Board and it would not involve a very great additional expenditure if the Board should purchase all of the books used in the schools. As far as I am able to learn, the Free Text Book Bill has all of the advantages possessed by the State Uniformity Bill and in addition avoids many of the serious defects which the latter bill possesses.

~~If~~ I am ~~correctly~~ ^{that} informed, the State Uniformity Bill has already passed the ~~House~~ and has reached its second reading in the ~~Senate~~. If this is the case, our Committee should ^{act at once and should} ~~use~~ ^{use} every effort to prevent its passage.

Yours very truly,

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Yours very truly,



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET.
ROOM 1200-3

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Nightingale

Room Chicago, May 28 1897

President W. R. Harper
Comm. of Chicago.

My Dear President -

See
Linnis - Herald of current
date - Friday - The letter
about History is not
the one I sent at all.
I made a pencil copy like
that, and considered the
letter one which would
not be properly construed
and so dictated another
entirely different -
and which did not in
any ^{way} deprecate a change -
Is it to be impossible
to change a book in the schools
without these insinuations,
misrepresentations on the
part of the press, through
sensational reporters?

As you have been

selected in confidence to shape the
action of the Committee on this
vital question. I hope you will
ask Mr Kalsan to brood down
or brood up these men whose
most gleeful pleasure is to
deal in the "jiggery" of words
to the deception, not the enlighten-
ment, of the public, and to
throw discredit on the
honest motives of those
who desire to advance the
highest interests of education.

I don't know how the
press secured these letters,
but the publication will
serve no good purpose -

Yours truly
A. P. Nightingale

^{Atwater}
Syracuse N.Y.

June 12. 1899

Prof. W. R. Harper

Chicago Univ.

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My dear Harper:

Your wisdom in taking
counsel with "practical" men
always met my approval.

For one reason; that we
can so rarely ask any
thing in return from those
a - literary fellows

But remembering that in
Germany the Oriental Seminar
is under the control of the
Kaukale Minister, I expect
that eventually we will all become
literary or yet practical

But here I am asking for a
favor, or at least for so much
of your kind attention as will
help to secure a just recognition
of the merit of my cousin
Jennie S. Atwater a Chicago
teacher, in the exercise of
your official work as the
School Board. She is a
teacher in the 6th grade of
the Lawndale School Chicago.
She writes me: "After fifteen
" years of faithful service in the
" Chicago Schools I very much
" desire to get the position of Head
" Assistant"

She is such a nice girl
that I hate to recommend her for
any position, but a good man's wife
but that position I want to address to
Præses Præsidium. Very truly, R. S. Atwater

Waterman

Chicago, Ill., July 22nd, 1897.

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,
Ashville, N. C.

My dear Dr. Harper:-

The plans for the Kozminski School are in a very unsettled condition and you are the only man who is in a position to act with authority and settle them promptly. The board did not appoint me principal of the school, partly because for some reason Mrs. Hull and Mr. Strong desired to oppose the recommendation of the committee that the appointment be made at a salary of \$1500, and partly because Mr. Strong felt that it was your affair and that, if you had wanted it to go through, you would have been there to put it through. Mr. Errant is no longer on the board and there are two new members of the Sixth District Committee, so it rests with you to take whatever action is to be taken before August 11th. At that time the board will meet and will appoint the principal and teachers, but before that time there are many things that should be done to prepare for the opening of the school early in September. The manual training equipment should be chosen with care and put in place; a strong effort should be made to provide for manual training in the lower grades; the manual training teachers should be selected; the elementary housework and

Chicago, Ill., July 22nd, 1897.

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Ashville, N. C.

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cooking equipment should be decided upon and put in place; the corps of teachers should be built up carefully in consultation with Assistant Superintendent Lewis and the principal of the school. This will take considerable time and careful planning and should be commenced at once. I am not in a position to do anything at present and without an understanding between you, as the only old member of the District Committee, and Mr. Lane and Mr. Lewis I can not be put in a position to take any action in this matter before the board meets again.

Would you be willing to write letters as follows:-

- ✓(1) to Assistant Superintendent Lewis, asking him to make certain the appointment and to secure the co-operation of Errant and Waterman in planning the work; (2) to Superintendent Lane a similar letter; (3) to Mr. Errant, asking him to advise with the superintendents and board members and to present the plan that you and he have discussed and desire to carry out; (4) to Waterman, asking him to proceed in this matter as if he had already been appointed principal of the school?

There is one appointment that I am especially anxious to see made, viz., Miss Anna Murray, teacher of manual training in the Agassiz School, to be teacher of manual training in the Kozminski School. Miss Murray is the best manual training teacher in the city. She has planned all of the sloyd work in our Vacation

cooking equipment should be decided upon and put in place; the corps of teachers should be built up carefully in consultation with Assistant Superintendent Lewis and the principal of the school. This will take considerable time and careful planning and should be commenced at once. I am not in a position to do anything at present and without an understanding between you, as the only old member of the District Committee, and Mr. Lane and Mr. Lewis I can not be put in a position to take any action in this matter before the board meets again.

Would you be willing to write letters as follows:-

(1) to Assistant Superintendent Lewis, asking him to make certain the appointment and to secure the co-operation of Bryant and Waterman in planning the work; (2) to Superintendent Lane a similar letter; (3) to Mr. Bryant, asking him to advise with the superintendents and board members and to present the plan that you and he have discussed and desire to carry out; (4) to Waterman, asking him to proceed in this matter as if he had already been appointed principal of the school?

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on

School this summer and is the only manual training teacher in the Chicago Schools to whom I would be entirely willing to intrust the carrying out of plans we have made for this department of work in the Kozminski School. She is at the Stockholm Exposition this summer studying the manual training work of Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark, but she expects to return about September 1st.

Hoping that you may be willing to take such action in this matter as will insure a successful opening of the school in the first week in September, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Richard Waterman Jr

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 Chicago Schools to whom I would be entirely willing to intrust the
 carrying out of plans we have made for this department of work in
 the Kozminski School. She is at the Stockholm Exposition this
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 and Denmark, but she expects to return about September 1st.
 Hoping that you may be willing to take such action in
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 the first week in September, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Richard H. Thompson

Mr. Faint
(36)

9/23/97
our of town

Barton

LAW OFFICES OF
BARTON & BROWN.
GEORGE R. BARTON. CHARLES A. BROWN.
PATENTS. TRADEMARKS. COPYRIGHTS.

1450 MONADNOCK,
CHICAGO.

September 21st, 1897.

ed
229

Doctor William R. Harper,

N. E. Corner 59th Street & Lexington Avenue,

Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:--

I have two children in the Kosminski Grammar School,
54th Street and Ingleside Avenue, in the fifth and eighth grades
respectively. I have a boy in the 54th Street Branch of the
Hyde Park High School.

This is my excuse for writing you, as one of the members
of the Board of Education, by way of complaint.

My daughter, twelve years old, in the Kosminski School,
says, there are forty-eight in her room under one teacher, and that
this teacher, Miss Wood, is Acting Principal of the School, no
Principal having been as yet appointed. I learn also that in the
fifth grade, there are about the same number under one teacher.

You will appreciate that it was a grave error on the
part of the Board of Education to neglect until now to appoint a
Principal for the School. You will appreciate also that, while
you are making experiments, that the children have but one chance
in their lives. I wish I might speak with enough earnestness
so that you and the other members of the Board of Education would
appreciate your duties and act promptly now, and as far as you
can, mitigate the damage that has been done the School by such

Boston

LAW OFFICE OF
BARTON & BROWN
PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, COPYRIGHTS

1430 MONROCK
CHICAGO

September 21st, 1897.

9/23/97
Cord

My dear Sir

Doctor William R. Harper,

N. E. Corner 54th Street & Lexington Avenue,

Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:--

I have two children in the Kosminski Grammar School, 54th Street and Lexington Avenue, in the fifth and eighth grades respectively. I have a boy in the 54th Street Branch of the Hyde Park High School.

This is my excuse for writing you, as one of the members of the Board of Education, by way of complaint.

My daughter, twelve years old, in the Kosminski School, says, there are forty-eight in her room under one teacher, and that this teacher, Miss Wood, is Acting Principal of the School, no Principal having been as yet appointed. I learn also that in the fifth grade, there are about the same number under one teacher. You will appreciate that it was a grave error on the

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(2)

dilatory, and, as it seems to me, inexcusable lack of decision. Forty-eight are too many for any one teacher to attempt to instruct at one time. Where scholars are well graded, a teacher may take care of thirty-five, - forty are too many.

The same tactics appears to have prevailed in the 54th Street branch.

I think I have a right to ask that the Board of Education take prompt action and appoint in the Kosminski School, an experienced Principal, and so divide the school and furnish instructors that no teacher may have the burden of as many as forty-eight scholars, and that some one may be assigned to be permanently at the head of the 54th Street Branch.

I am,

Yours very truly,

George P. Barton,
5307 Lexington Ave.

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I am,

Yours very truly,

George Washington
530/2 Lexington Ave.



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET.
ROOM 1200-3

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Chicago,

Sept. 29, 1897

Mr. George P. Barton,

5307 Lexington Ave., City.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 21st. inst., to Dr. Wm. R. Harper, Member of the Board of Education, with reference to the condition of the 54th. St. branch of the Hyde Park High School, and at the Kozminski School, was referred to me.

The Board of Education has found it necessary to arrange that 54 pupils be accommodated in a school room, the minimum number of seats to be 48. The amount of money allowed the Board for educational purposes is not sufficient to employ one teacher for every thirty-five pupils.

Since writing your letter principals have been elected for both of these schools. Trusting that there will be no occasion for further complaint,

I remain,

Yours truly,

Supt. Of Schools.

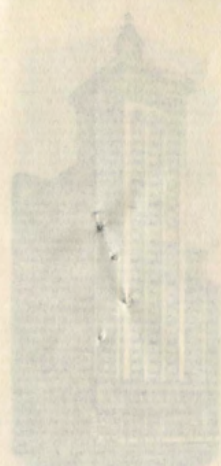
Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Superintendent of Schools

Sept. 22, 1897

Chicago



THE CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION
103-105 RANDOLPH STREET
ROOM 1200-2

Mr. George F. Barton,

2302 Lexington Ave., City.

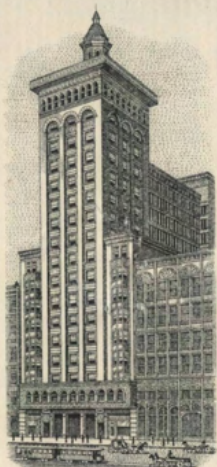
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I remain,

Yours truly,

Super. of Schools.



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET
ROOM 1200-3.

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools

Chicago,

Sept. 29, 1897

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I herewith return Mr. Barton's letter, with a
copy of my reply.

Yours truly,

A. J. Hall
Supt. of Schools.

OK

Board of Education

CHICAGO, ILL.

Office of Superintendent of Schools

Sept. 29, 1897

Chicago

THE CHICAGO BUILDING
103-105 MADISON STREET
ROOM 1200-2

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

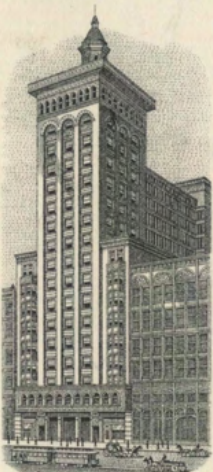
I herewith return Mr. Barton's letter, with a

copy of my reply.

Yours truly,

W. R. Harper
Supt. of Schools.

W. R. Harper



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET.
ROOM 1200-3

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Chicago,

Oct. 5, 1897

Dear Dr. Harper:

Notwithstanding all, including the letter which I received last night from you, I think that the matter can still be settled in the direction desired. I saw Mr. Cameron this morning, and he is not unfriendly though feeling that the Superintendent should be sustained in his decision.

Very sincerely,

M. M. Lawrence

on

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Superintendent of Schools

Oct. 5, 1897

Chicago



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103 105 RANDOLPH STREET
ROOM 1300-2

Dear Dr. Harper:

Notwithstanding all, including the letter which I received last

night from you, I think that the matter can still be settled in the

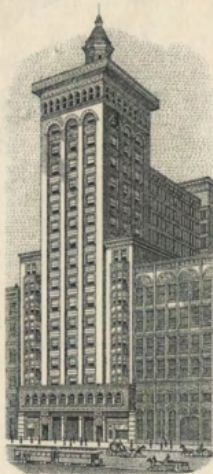
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though feeling that the Superintendent should be sustained in his decision.

Very sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]

off



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET.
ROOM 1200-3

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Chicago,

Oct. 8, 1897

Dr. Wm. R. Harper:

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of letters as follows:

(1) From Dr. E. Fletcher Ingalls, in behalf of Miss Higgins, who was dismissed from the service in June last. You will remember that she pleaded her own case before the Committee on School Management, and that the committee unanimously voted to sustain the recommendation of the Superintendent.

(2) From Mr. Herbert R. Jordan, applying for a position as teacher of stenography in the evening schools. If any vacancy should occur in that department I will be glad to do what I can for Mr. Jordan.

(3) From Miss Charlotte O. Bailey, a teacher in the South Division High School, asking that she be placed in the first group of high school teachers, which would allow her salary to advance \$100. per year from \$1500. to \$2000. There are as many in the first group in the South Division High School as there should be, and if Miss Bailey should be advanced many others would also have to be advanced.

(4) From Mr. W. C. Gordon, in behalf of Miss Adeline Mills, who is seeking a place as additional teacher of Drawing in the city schools. Miss Locke recommends her for appointment. The Committee on Drawing has concurred in this recommendation. It was submitted to the Committee on School Management but they opposed the appointment of another teacher of drawing. While there is plenty of work to be done, it is unwise to push the matter of the appointment of another special teacher of drawing at the present time and I stated that as my view of the matter, to the Committee on Drawing.

(5) From Mr. Erastus A. Barnes, asking that he be given the principalship of the Harrison Evening School, instead of Mr. Alfred Harvey. I cannot recommend him for the place. His own statement "I am not very strong and sometimes when the weather is damp catch colds that bring on asthma. In such a condition I am helpless", indicates very clearly that he ought not to be appointed to the evening school, and that his strength should be reserved for his day school work.

I have placed these letters on file so that you may obtain them if you need them for any purpose.

Yours truly,

A. L. Lane
Supt. of Schools.



THE BOARD BUILDING
100 N. WABASH STREET
ROOM 1200

Board of Education

Superintendent of Schools

Oct. 8, 1897

Chicago

Dr. Wm. R. Harper:

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

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(5) From Mr. Ernest A. Barnes, asking that he be given the principalship of the Harrison Evening School, instead of Mr. Alfred Harvey. I cannot recommend him for the place. His own statement "I am not very strong and sometimes when the weather is damp colds catch that bring on asthma. In such a condition I am helpless", indicates very clearly that he ought not to be appointed to the evening school, and that his strength should be reserved for his day school work.

I have placed these letters on file so that you may obtain them if you need them for any purpose.

Yours truly,

Wm. R. Harper

Superintendent of Schools

McClurg

Bd. of Ed.

Chicago, Nov., 6th., 1897.

Dr. Wm. R. Harper

University of Chicago,

City.

File

Dear Sir:-

You will remember my call upon you some three weekd ago in reference to a petition which you had signed endorsing Mr, John McClurg for the position of engineer of the "Ward School" in district VI inwhich you are a committeeman, and which petition was handed to you by my old friend Dr. Thomas Goodspeed, who also referred me to you.

I am informed that, throughsome misunderstanding, the petition of Mr. McClurg, which is signed by all three members of the District Committee, was not presented at the last meeting of the committee on Janitors and supplies, but that through some alleged undue activity, the name of another man, who had only two signatures to his petition, was placed before that committee and action taken recommending his appointment by the Board. Mr. D. R. Cameron, who is in possession of all the facts in the case, but was unable to be present at the meeting of the committee on Janitors and Supplies, refused to sign the recommendation, and action on the matter was not taken at the meeting of the Board last Wednesday evening. Mr. Gross, one of the committee, stands firm for Mr. McClurg, and I am informed that it now needs but your support to land Mr. McClurg in the position.

I fully understand your busy and almost burdensome life, but I feel it my duty to make this last appeal to you in behalf of Mr. McClurg, as an American citizen and a supporter of the Public Schools

Bd. of Ed.
Chicago, Nov., 6th., 1897.

Dr. Wm. R. Harper

University of Chicago,
City.

File

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Chicago, Nov., 6th., 1897.

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,
University of Chicago,
City.

Dear Sir:-

You will remember my call upon you some three weeks ago in

reference to a petition which you had signed endorsing Mr. John
McClure for the position of engineer of the "Ward School" in district
VI. In which you are a commissioner, and which petition was handed to
you by my old friend Dr. Thomas Goodspeed, who also referred me to
you.

I am informed that, through some misunderstanding, the petition of
Mr. McClure, which is signed by all three members of the district
Committee, was not presented at the last meeting of the committee on
Janitors and supplies, but that through some alleged undue activity
the name of another man, who had only two signatures to his petition,
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feel it my duty to make this last appeal to you in behalf of Mr.

McClure, as an American citizen and a supporter of the Public Schools

(2)

I would earnestly urge you to at least suspend your final judgment in the case till we have had an opportunity of bringing all the facts before you in the beginning of the week.

Yours respectfully,

J. Crawford Whitford

We the undersigned respectfully recommend
the appointment of Mr John McElburg
to the aforesaid position.

E Erskine McMillan atty at Law

James C Whitford R.P

Kittredge Wheeler.

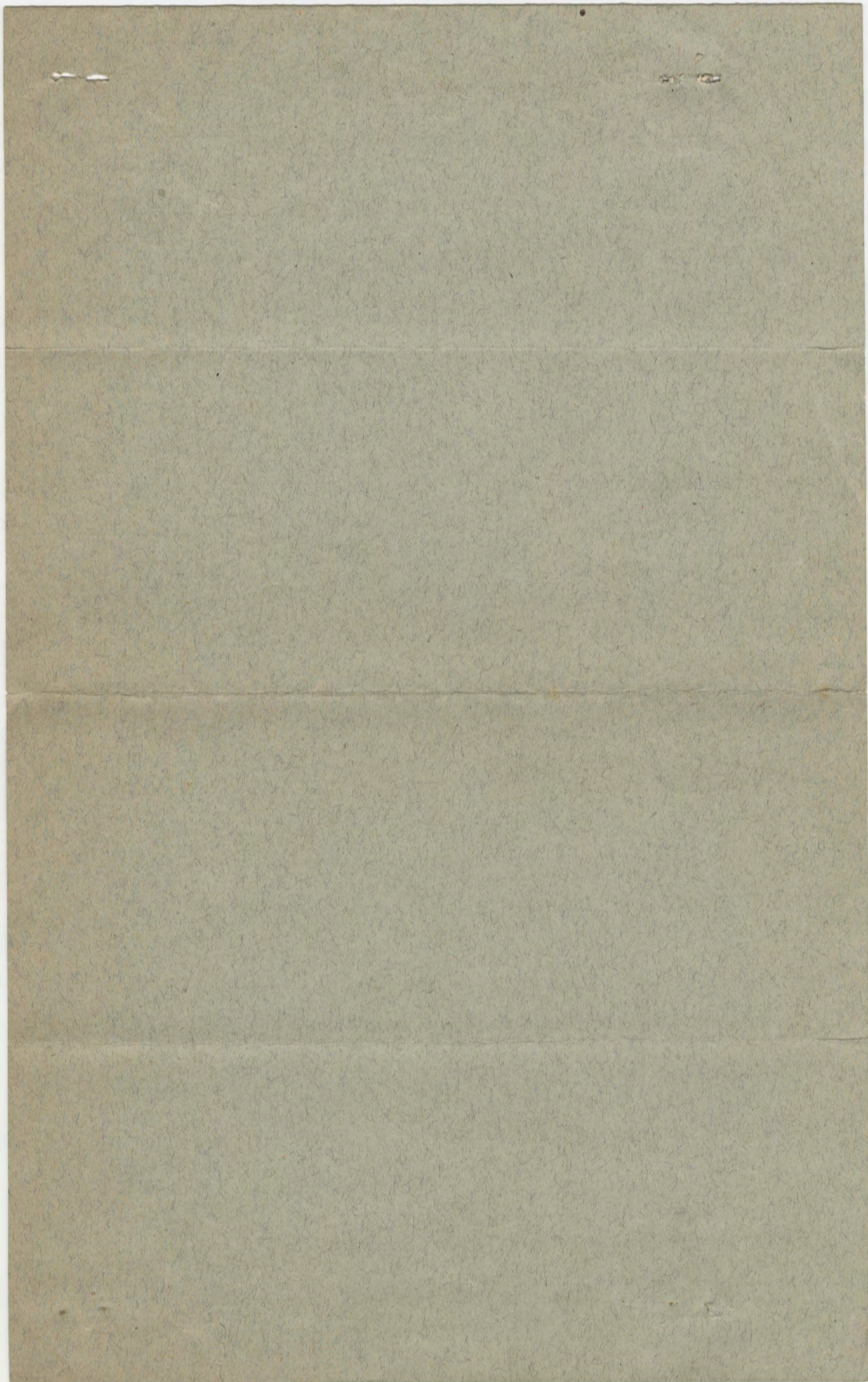
Wm M. Lawrence

(2)

I would earnestly urge you to at least suspend your final judgment in the case till we have had an opportunity of bringing all the facts before you in the beginning of the week.

Yours respectfully,

J. C. Thompson
The undersigned respectfully recommends
the appointment of Mr John McElroy
to the aforesaid position.
Ezekiel McElroy City of New
York
James C. McElroy
Littlepage, New York
Wm. L. Lawrence



McBlurg

To go with application for
an engineer's place,
The President

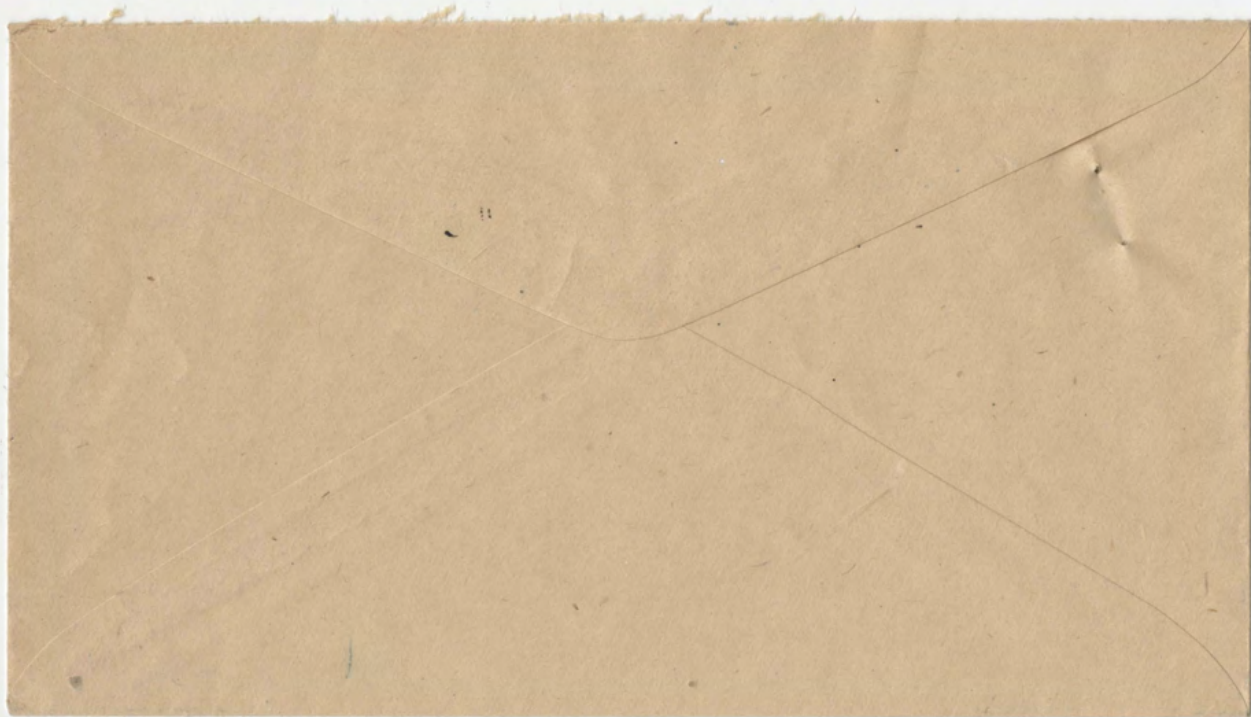
connecting with my
than for the position of
engineer under the City
Board of Education, we
neglected to tell you that
the school that I desire to
be engineer of, is the
Ward School, 27th Street and
Shields Avenue, which is
in Dr. Harper's district.

Please add this to other
matter in your possession and
further oblige. Yours very truly
John McBlurg.

McIsburg

To go with application for
an engineer's license.

The President



2952 Parnell Ave.

Sept. 20, 1897.

Rev. Dr. T. W. Goodspeed;

Dear Sir:

OK

When I called, in company with Mr. Whiteford, to see you last week in regard to securing your influence with Dr. Harper in connection with my application for the position of engineer under the City Board of Education, we neglected to tell you that the school that I desire to be engineer of, is the Ward School, 27th Street and Shields Avenue, which is in Dr. Harper's district.

Please add this to other matters in your possession and further oblige.
Yours very truly
John H. Blurg.

2250 Powell St
San Francisco, Cal.

Mr. J. W. Woodhouse
Dear Sir:

When I called, in
company with Mr. Woodhouse,
to see you last week in re-
gard to securing your rights
under the Harper's
contract with the
firm for the printing of
circulars under the
Harper's contract, we
agreed to let you take
the whole case before
the printer of the
Woodhouse, yet about and
the case as we, in fact, to
the Harper's contract.
Please note the matter
in your position and
further steps you may wish
to take.

1892
June 20, 1892
J. W. Thompson
Dear Sir:
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst. in relation to the proposed extension of the line of the Chicago & North Western Railway Company from Chicago to St. Paul. I am sorry to hear that the proposed extension is not being considered by the Board of Directors of the Chicago & North Western Railway Company. I am, however, sure that the Board of Directors of the Chicago & North Western Railway Company will take into consideration the interests of the public in this matter. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. W. Thompson



GENERAL OFFICES
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET

Graham

E. G. HALL,
President.
THOMAS CUSACK,
Vice President.
W. A. S. GRAHAM,
Secretary.

November 11, 1897.

Dr. William R. Harper,
Member Special Committee.

Dear Sir:-

W

I have the honor to inform you that the President has appointed the following committee to confer with Governor Tanner with a view to having him include in the call for a special session of the legislature the matter of granting the Board of Education the right of eminent domain, and also to consider the advisability of seeking legislation whereby the tax levy for educational purposes may be increased: Messrs. Gresham, Harper, Mark, Cusack and Harris.

Awaiting your pleasure, I remain

Very respectfully,

W. A. S. Graham
Secretary.

W. A. GRAHAM
THOMAS COBURN
E. G. HALL



103-105 Randolph Street
CHICAGO, ILL.

November 11, 1897.

Dr. William E. Harper,

Member Special Committee.



Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you that the President has appointed the following committee to confer with Governor Tanner with a view to having him include in the call for a special session of the legislature the matter of granting the Board of Education the right of eminent domain, and also to consider the advisability of seeking legislation whereby the tax levy for educational purposes may be increased: Messrs. Graham, Harper, Mark, Coburn and Harris.

Awaiting your pleasure, I remain

Very respectfully,

Secretary.



Harrison
Mayor's Office.

Carter H. Harrison,
Mayor.

December 11th. 1897.

W.R. Harper Esq.

Board of Education.

Dear Sir:-

OK

I am advised of the pending resignation of Mr. Morrill as Attorney of the School Board. If Mr. Morrill should resign I would ask your kind consideration of the claim of Daniel J. Mc. Mahon, a college friend of mine at St. Ignatius College, and a well known and talented young lawyer of this city. In the early part of this year I offered Mr. Mc. Mahon a place in the Corporation Counsel's office, which at that time he did not feel at liberty in justice to his clients to accept. The present position I am led to believe would prove congenial to him and I feel every confidence his appointment would reflect credit upon the management of the School Board.

Yours truly.

Carter H. Harrison



December 11th, 1907.

W. H. Harper Esq.

Board of Education.

Dear Sir:-

I am advised of the pending resignation of Mr. Merrill as Attorney of the School Board. If Mr. Merrill should resign I would ask your kind consideration of the claim of Daniel J. McKeon, a college friend of mine at Williams College, and a well known and talented young lawyer of this city. In the early part of this year I offered Mr. McKeon a place in the Corporation Counsel's office, which at that time he did not feel at liberty to accept as justice to his clients to accept. The present position I am led to believe would prove congenial to him and I feel every confidence his appointment would reflect credit upon the management of the School Board.

Yours truly,

Charles H. McKeon



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET.
ROOM 1200-3

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Chicago,

Jan 31-98.

Dr. William R. Harper, Prest. Univ. of Chicago,
57th Street,
City.

My Dear Doctor Harper:

Next Saturday evening the George Howland Club and the Ella F. Young Club, which are composed of Principals of our schools, are to have a joint meeting at the Palmer House.

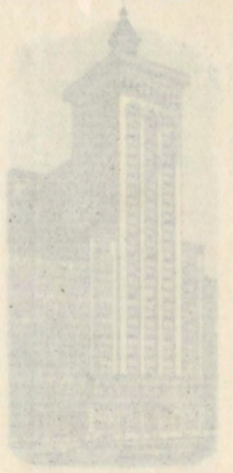
There will be a social meeting from 5 to 6 o'clock, and dinner at 6 o'clock. We want very much that you and Mrs. Harper should both be present as our guests. If you can not stay long, come and stay as long as you can. I trust that you will be able to spend the evening with us. Be kind enough to let me know whether it will be convenient for you to do so.

Very respectfully yours,

Lewis
Lullie Lewis

Asst. Supt. of Schools.

48



THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
103 N. RANDOLPH STREET
ROOM 1200

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Superintendent of Schools

OFFICE OF

Jan 31-98.

Chicago

Dr. William R. Harper, Pres. Univ. of Chicago,

57th Street,

City.

My Dear Doctor Harper:

Next Saturday evening the George Howland
Club and the Eliza W. Young Club, which are composed of Principals
of our schools, are to have a joint meeting at the Palmer House.
There will be a social meeting from 5 to 6 o'clock, and
dinner at 6 o'clock. We want very much that you and Mrs. Harper
should both be present as our guests. If you can not stay long,
come and stay as long as you can. I trust that you will be able
to spend the evening with us. Be kind enough to let me know
whether it will be convenient for you to do so.

Very respectfully yours,

Asst. Supt. of Schools.

48

(H.C.)

Red 9/8

Jan. 31, 1898 - McPherson

2804 Prairie Avenue,
Chicago.

My dear Dr. Harper:

Your surprising letter came this morning and touched my conscience, & something inside of me - To-day I dined with Mr. McClarnick and he "colored" with me. The result is that if you will kindly send a note to the Mayor and he cares to arrest my resignation until Friday morning, I will call a meeting of our Section for Wednesday evening, & have the matter reopened and finally decided.

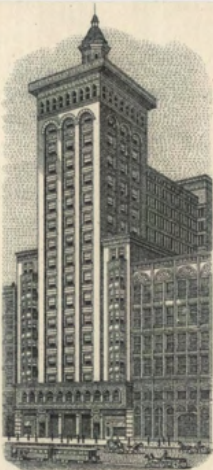
I quite agree with your general thesis that citizens owe all that they can give their city. I agree also that the work of the Commission is of the very first importance. My dif-

freely is that I do not see how
I can do a man's work on the
Commission and keep up my other
work, engagement business is prior
and part of which is not a matter
of voluntary choice but of cov-
enant obligation. I am working
now to about the full limit of
my time & capacity, and I am
"scattering" such a degree that
I seem to accomplish nothing.

Let me add that I have been
afraid for you, in the multiplicity of
your high & exacting duties. Pardon
me for venturing to say that slow
suicide is better - a trifle - that
instantaneous suicide - I think
that it is worth while for you to
live - say - forty years more -

Very Sincerely Yours,

J. J. McTherson -



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET
ROOM 1200-3.

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Chicago,

Jan. 25, 1898

on

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of the letter of Mr. MacDonald, of ~~the~~ the McClellan School, addressed to you, asking whether an extra teacher was to be appointed to that school. The report of the district committee was laid over by the committee on school management, and no action has been taken.

I have notified Mr. MacDonald of the action.

Yours truly,

J. J. Lane
Supt. of Schools.

James

Board of Education

Department of Schools

Jan. 25, 1898

Chicago



Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of the letter of Mr. MacDonald, of the McCallan School, addressed to you, asking whether an extra teacher was to be appointed to that school. The report of the district committee was laid over by the committee on school management, and no action has been taken. I have notified Mr. MacDonald of the action.

Yours truly,

Wm. R. Harper
Supt. of Schools.

DR. FRANK ALLPORT,
92 STATE STREET,
CHICAGO.

HOURS 10 TO 1.

Allport

148
Saturday, Feb. 5th, 1898.

Prof. W R Harper,
48th St & Ellis Ave., City.

Dear Sir:--

I very much desire the pleasure of an interview with you concerning the introduction of my method of performing the preliminary examination of school children's eyes by principals, in the public schools of Chicago.

This method has been in satisfactory use for two years in the Minnesota State University and the Minneapolis public schools. This fact you may be familiar with if you have read the June number of the "Review of Reviews", and the Sept. number of the "Educational Review" both of which contain articles by myself on the subject.

My method has been endorsed by the Ophthalmological Section of the "American Medical Association", and is now quite generally used throughout the United States.

It is inexpensive, practical, easily comprehended, efficient, and does not bring the oculist appointed by the Board in personal contact with the scholars. The latter feature recommends it highly, avoiding as it does, professional friction. Under my method scholars are not examined by any particular man or institution, are at perfect liberty to consult whomsoever they choose, or to attend any dispensary or infirmary they may elect, or in fact need not consult any one if they do not desire so to do. It simply warns the parent that ocular defects are believed to exist in a given child and throws the responsibility of caring for the child entirely upon the parent.

I trust to be able to bring this matter before the notice of the School Management Committee, of which you are a member, and before doing so would beg the privilege of a personal interview. I might add

DR. FRANK ALLPORT,
22 STATE STREET,
CHICAGO.

MARCH 1911

Prof. W. R. Harper,

48th St & Ellis Ave., City.

Dear Sir:--

I very much desire the pleasure of an interview with you concerning the introduction of my method of performing the preliminary examination of school children's eyes by principals, in the public schools of Chicago.

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DR. FRANK ALLPORT,
92 STATE STREET,
CHICAGO.

HOURS 10 TO 1.

that no salary is involved and the only expense consists in a little printed matter.

Knowing the value of your time and being desirous of not encroaching upon it at an inopportune time, I would beg you to mention a time and place when I may have the pleasure of seeing you for a few moments. I might add that my office is situated in a central location, and that if it should be convenient for you to see me here, my time will be at your disposal whenever you may honor me with a call, either in my office hours or out of them. If it should be convenient for you to communicate with me by telephone, my number is, Main 5346.

Hoping to hear from you, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Frank Allport

DR FRANK ALPHEUS
22 STATE STREET
CHICAGO

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Knowing the value of your time and being desirous of not encroaching upon it at an inopportune time, I would beg you to mention a time and place when I may have the pleasure of seeing you for a few moments. I might add that my office is situated in a central location, and that if it should be convenient for you to see me here, my time will be at your disposal whenever you may honor me with a call, either in my office hours or out of them. If it should be convenient for you to communicate with me by telephone, my number is, Main 8348.

Hoping to hear from you, I am,

Very cordially yours,

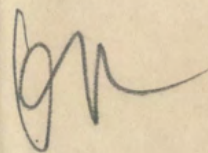
Frank Alpheus

DR. FRANK ALLPORT,
92 STATE STREET,
CHICAGO.

HOURS 10 TO 1.

Monday, Feb. 28th, 1898.

Allport



Pres. William R. Harper,
58th St & Ellis Ave., City.

Dear Sir:--

Your kind advisory note is received, concerning the adoption of my plan, by the Board of Education, for the examination of school children's eyes and ears.

I have already made some progress along the lines which you suggested. Messrs. Halle, Brennan, Strong, Pettibone and Gross, have expressed themselves as being emphatically in favor of my plan with perhaps some unessential modifications.

I had the honor of appearing before the School Management Committee Feb. 17th, and am satisfied that the matter would have gone through easily, had it not been for the opposition of Mrs Sherman, who it seems has talked over some similar plan with Prof. C. A. Scott, of the Englewood Normal School. I have no doubt that Mrs Sherman is actuated by the most conscientious motives, but must say that I believe an experienced Eye and Ear Surgeon better qualified to plan methods for the development of latent eye and ear diseases in children, than any one else. Besides this, without wishing to be intrusive, I think I may say one or two things in my own favor. For instance, I am, so to speak, the father of the plan for the systematic examination of school children's eyes and ears by principals. I have had two years actual experience in the working out of the method in Minneapolis, during which time I have superintended the examination of about fifty thousand school children. I have consulted ophthalmologists and practical educators personally, and by correspondence all over the United States, and have thus been enabled to perfect and round out my plan until I believe it to be reliable and trustworthy. My plan is now in use

DR. FRANK ALFORD
22 STATE STREET
CHICAGO

HOURS 10 TO 1

Monday, Feb. 28th, 1898.

Pres. William H. Harper,

East St & Mill Ave., City.

Dear Sir:--

Your kind advisory note is received, concerning the adop-

tion of my plan, by the Board of Education, for the examination of

school children's eyes and ears.

I have already made some progress along the lines which you sug-

gested. Messrs. Hallie, Brennan, Strong, Pettibone and Gross, have ex-

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I had the honor of appearing before the School Management Commi-

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DR. FRANK ALLPORT.
92 STATE STREET,
CHICAGO.

HOURS 10 TO 1.

in St Paul and almost every sizable city in Minnesota, and I may say being generally adopted throughout the United States. Of course modifications are made here and there, to suit individual ideas and locations, but the central plan remains the same. My plan was officially endorsed and recommended at the last meeting of the Ophthalmological Section of the American Medical Association, in June, 1897. This Section is composed of the most representative American Ophthalmologists, is a very conservative organization, and its official endorsement is correspondingly significant. At the last meeting of the "Minnesota Associated School Boards", held in St Paul, last Fall, I read, by invitation, an address upon the subject of "Physical Defects in Children", which will shortly appear in print. In this address I outlined questions calculated to develop the existence of ear diseases in children, which I have incorporated in my plan, and which I hope to use in the Chicago schools, if the Board of Education sees fit to grant me permission. I brought with me when I left Minneapolis, cordial letters of recommendation for my plan, from some who have witnessed its actual workings. These letters were from, Pres. Northrup, of the Minnesota State University, Prof. Kiehle, Professor of Pedagogy, Prof. Gale, Professor of Psychology, Mrs Crays, Pres. of the Minneapolis Board of Education, and Supt. Jordan, Superintendent of the Minneapolis Public Schools. These letters I presented at the last meeting of the School Management Committee, and if you desire to know any more of me, I beg leave to refer you to Prof. Judson, of your own University.

I ask for no salary, and the expense to put this plan in operation is practically nothing. For the two years during which it has been in operation in Minneapolis, it has not cost the Board of Education one hundred dollars. The expense simply exists in getting out some

DR. FRANK ALPHEUS
92 STATE STREET
CHICAGO

HOUS 10 1911

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DR. FRANK ALLPORT,
92 STATE STREET,
CHICAGO.

HOURS 10 TO 1.

printed matter. There is absolutely nothing underneath this matter through which I can make a profit I mention this fact because several members of the Board of Education have asked me how I expected to be remunerated! Business men I think hardly understand the satisfaction with which a professional man witnesses the development of a plan, instrument or procedure, which he himself has evolved. I cannot deny that my appointment as Board Oculist for the City of Chicago, might give me some reputation and might assist me in building up my business in this city, which I have selected as my future home, but this certainly is legitimate and cannot be avoided. It would not come into personal contact with the school children of this city. My plan especially prohibits this idea and is really the central point upon which the whole matter revolves. The children do not need to come to me if they receive cards of warning. They may go where they choose, or they need not go anywhere. My only remuneration for doing this work will be my professional satisfaction in witnessing the operation of my plan in this city, and personally superintending it, and whatever reputation may legitimately come with the appointment.

I trust you will pardon me for taking up so much of your time, but I think you as a professional man and a liberal educator of vast experience, can understand this whole matter better than any one, and I hope for your friendship and co-operation. I know your influence on the Board, and am confident that a few words from you to the ladies on the Board and Prof. C. A. Scott, would dissipate all opposition.

Again begging your pardon for consuming so much of your time, and hoping that I may have the pleasure of seeing you at the next meeting of the School Management Committee, on Tuesday, March 1st, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Frank Allport

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members of the Board of Education have asked me how I expected to be
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give me some reputation and might assist me in building up my business
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hoping that I may have the pleasure of seeing you at the next meeting
of the School Management Committee, on Tuesday, March 1st, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Frank Allport

(20)

Seavey

4626 Champlain Av. Chicago

January 25, 1898.

President Harper, Dear Sir;

The interview for which Miss Parker and I requested we no longer desire. We wished to tell you how much of the increase in teachers' salaries, if obtained, would flow into the University Extension Department.

I am sorry we inconvenienced you even to the extent of a note.

Very truly yours,
Harriet L. Seavey.

(2)

West Cambridge, Mass.
February 20, 1877.
Dear Sir,
I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst. in relation to the matter of the purchase of the land for the purpose of building a new house for the use of the Society. I am sorry to hear that you are unable to do so at present, but I am sure that you will be able to do so in the future. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. W. Brewster

Seavey

(W) 4626 Champlain Av. Chicago

January 28, 1898.

President Harper,
Dear Sir;

I apologize most sincerely and heartily for having credited you with so mean a motive. I considered you that hypothetical economic man who has not motives but mercenary ones and forgot all about your personality and noble aims. Please forgive me.

Most humbly,
Harriet L Seavey



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET.
ROOM 1200-3

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Lane

Chicago,

Feb. 28, 1898

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Yours of the 21st. inst., came during my absence from the city. Prior to my leaving for Chattanooga I requested Mr. Waterman to securing the endorsement of Mr. Gresham and Mr. Brennan, Chairman of the Committee on School Management. They both approved his request to be absent without loss of pay and Mr. Brennan instructed the Clerk to make up his check in full.

Yours truly,

[Signature]
Supt. of Schools.

OK



Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

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Yours truly,

Supt. of Schools.

W. R. Harper

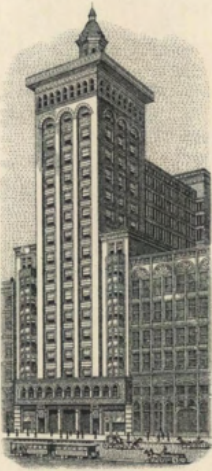
Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Superintendent of Schools

Feb. 28, 1898

Chicago



THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET
ROOM 1200-3.

Lane
Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Chicago,

Feb. 8, 1898

on

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Member of the Board of Education.

My Dear Sir:

I herewith return Mr. Thurber's letter in regard to the appointment of Mr. Dunlay as a census enumerator.

When the committee on census has determined how many census enumerators shall be employed, you will have the authority to appoint a certain number.

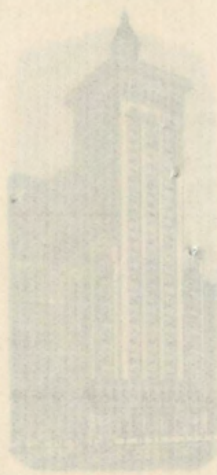
Yours truly,

A. J. Lane
Supt. of Schools.

Board of Education

CHICAGO, ILL.

Department of Schools



THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
103-105 RANDOLPH STREET
ROOM 1200-2

Feb. 8, 1898

Chicago

Y

Dr. Wm. R. Harper,

Member of the Board of Education.

My Dear Sir:

I herewith return Mr. Thurber's letter in regard to the appointment of Mr. Dunlay as a census enumerator. When the committee on census has determined how many census enumerators shall be employed, you will have the authority to appoint a certain number.

Yours truly,

Supt. of Schools.

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
Schiller Building.

Chicago, March 28, 1898

Lane

Dr. W. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Yours of the 24th. inst., enclosing letters from Mr. A. A. Sprague and his niece, was received. I have conferred with Mr. Lewis in regard to the expected vacancy, and should it occur, we will be glad to transfer Miss Atwood to the position. She has done well in her work and is entitled to favorable consideration. I herewith return the letters.

Yours truly,

A. J. Lane
Supt. of Schools.

*Please send
to Mr. A. A. Sprague.
M.H.*

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
Schiller Building.

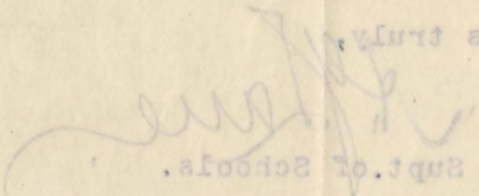
Dr. W. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Yours of the 24th. inst., enclosing letters from Mr. A. A. Sprague and his niece, was received. I have conferred with Mr. Lewis in regard to the expected vacancy, and should it occur, we will be glad to transfer Miss Atwood to the position. She has done well in her work and is entitled to favorable consideration. I herewith return the letters.

Yours truly,


Supt. of Schools.

March 28, 1898

Chicago.

A. A. SPRAGUE, PRES.
E. J. WARNER, VICE PRES.
A. BATCHELDER, TREAS.
M. A. DEAN, SEC.

Will Mr
Harvey tell
how this is -

W.H.H.

Sprague, Warner & Company.

Sc.

Chicago,

Jan. 10th, 1898.

(49) Sprague

Wm. R. Harper D. D.,

President University of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Doctor:-

My niece, Miss Bessie Atwood, is a teacher in the over-flow room in the Brownell School at Englewood. She informs me that there is a vacancy, temporarily filled by a cadet, in one of the permanent rooms in the second grade, which she is very desirous of obtaining.

Miss Bessie, I believe, received high honors in High and Normal Schools, and is a superior girl. It would be especially desirable for her to obtain a permanent position in the Englewood School, for the reason that she lives with a widowed mother, and would thus become, not only, a help and support of the family, but also a companion for her mother. She is the only daughter who is able to live here; her older sister, ~~being~~ banished to California on account of pulmonary difficulty, ~~living~~ with my brother.

Very sincerely yours,

A. A. Sprague

A. A. SPRAGUE, PRES.
E. J. WARNER, VICE-PRES.
A. BATCHELDER, TREAS.
M. A. DEAN, ST. CLERK.

Will all the
money that is
in the
bank
be
sent
to
the
Chicago
University
of
Chicago,
Ill.

Chicago University of Chicago,
Ill.

Jan. 10th, 1898.

Wm. R. Harper D. D.,

President University of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Doctor:-

My niece, Miss Bessie Alwood, is a teacher in the over-flow
room in the Brownell School at Englewood. She informs me that there
is a vacancy, temporarily filled by a caretaker, in one of the permanent rooms
in the second grade, which she is very desirous of obtaining.

Miss Bessie, I believe, received high honors in High and Normal
Schools, and is a superior girl. It would be especially desirable for
her to obtain a permanent position in the Englewood School, for the reason
that she lives with a widowed mother, and would thus become, not only, a
help and support of the family, but also a companion for her mother. She
is the only daughter who is able to live here; her older sister, ~~being~~
banished to California on account of pulmonary difficulty, living with
my brother.

Very sincerely yours,

A. A. Sprague

WILL NOT CALL ON THE MAYOR.

President of Chicago Teachers' Club
Says No Effort to Prevent Dr. Harper's Reappointment Is Planned.

Chicago, June 19.—[Editor of The Tribune.]—In your columns devoted to school matters the following item appeared in your Sunday issue: "A delegation from the Teachers' club will call on Mayor Harrison on Tuesday to protest against the reappointment of Dr. Harper as a member of the Board of Education," etc. I do not know where your reporter obtained his information, but I presume he thought it authentic; but the Chicago Teachers' club has no appointment to call on the Mayor on Tuesday, and neither the club nor the directors of the club have authorized any such delegation. It would be a great favor to us if you would set us right in the eyes of our members by correcting this item. The club adjourned for the summer on June 11, and therefore such action could not be taken, and if it appeared we had acted without authority it would be annoying to the officers and directors. Sincerely,

JENNIE GOLDMAN,
President Chicago Teachers' Club.

My dear Sir,
Enclosed find
the newspaper denial I
wrote of in a former letter.

Sincerely:—
Jennie Goldman,
Pres. C. T. C.

Goldman

Bl 28

ash Ave.

ur 21, 1898.

of C.

WILL NOT CALL ON THE MAYOR.

President of Chicago Teachers' Club
Says No Effort to Prevent Dr. Har-
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Chicago, June 19.—[Editor of The Tribune.]—In your columns devoted to school matters the following item appeared in your Sunday issue: "A delegation from the Teachers' club will call on Mayor Harrison on Tuesday to protest against the reappointment of Dr. Harper as a member of the Board of Education," etc. I do not know where your reporter obtained his information, but I presume he thought it authentic; but the Chicago Teachers' club has no appointment to call on the Mayor on Tuesday, and neither the club nor the directors of the club have authorized any such delegation. It would be a great favor to us if you would set us right in the eyes of our members by correcting this item. The club adjourned for the summer on June 11, and therefore such action could not be taken, and if it appeared we had acted without authority it would be annoying to the officers and directors. Sincerely,

JENNIE GOLDMAN,
President Chicago Teachers' Club.

**Receipts, However, So Free Prices
Cannot Be Maintained.**

Trade in produce was on a fairly active scale yesterday, there being more shipping orders on the street than for some time past. Strawberry receipts were between 35,000 and 40,000 cases, and under the influence of these heavy receipts the market was inclined to go to pieces. Michigans ranged all the way from 35c to 75c, the higher prices being asked early in the day, while before the close of business commission houses were willing to accept most any figure offered. Two or three days of cheap berries has spoiled the local trade, in that grocers and other purchasers have been trained up to expect them to continue. Condition of the fruit is decidedly better than it has been running, all signs of excessive moisture having disappeared. If anything cheaper than present fruit comes on the market it will be the last picking, which will be of inferior quality. Housekeepers are making extensive purchases for canning and preserving purposes, and commission houses look to this class of buyers to keep the street cleaned up. It is extremely doubtful, owing to the lateness of the season, if better berries come on the market than are now being received. Yesterday's Wilsons were in particularly fine condition. The street continues overstocked with wax and green beans and tomatoes. Several carloads of watermelons were received from Florida in fairly good condition. The demand is slack, which makes prices tend downward. Gems are coming in half bu maskets, but not selling well.

The following are quotations on wholesale lots from store:

Butter—Creamery: Extras, 16c; firsts, 15@15½c; seconds, 14@14½c. Dairies: Extras, 13c; firsts, 12c; seconds, 11c.

Cheese—Fancy full cream cheddars, 7c; Young



Goldman

~~Pl 28~~

5227 Nabash Ave.

June 21, 1898.

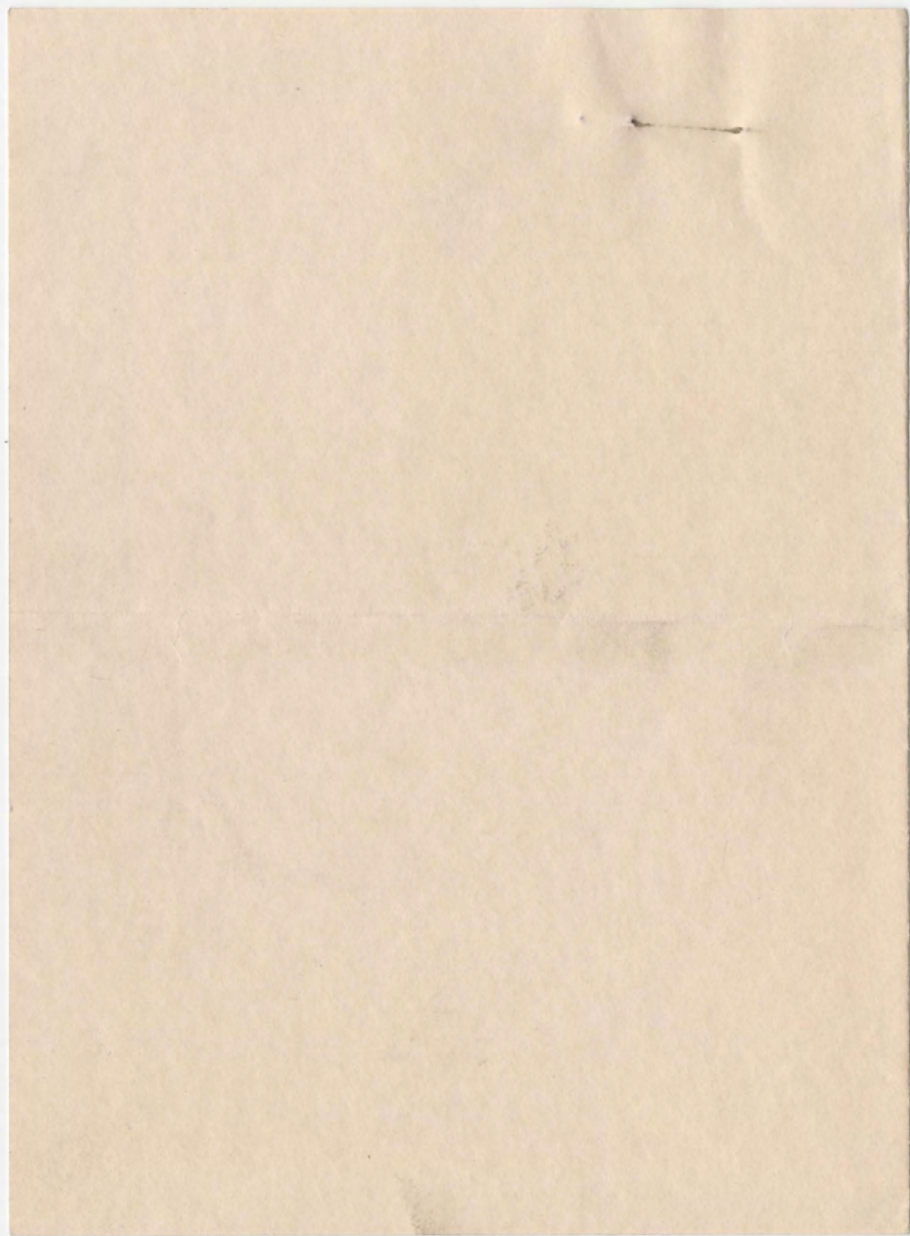
Dr. W. R. Harper
President U. of C.

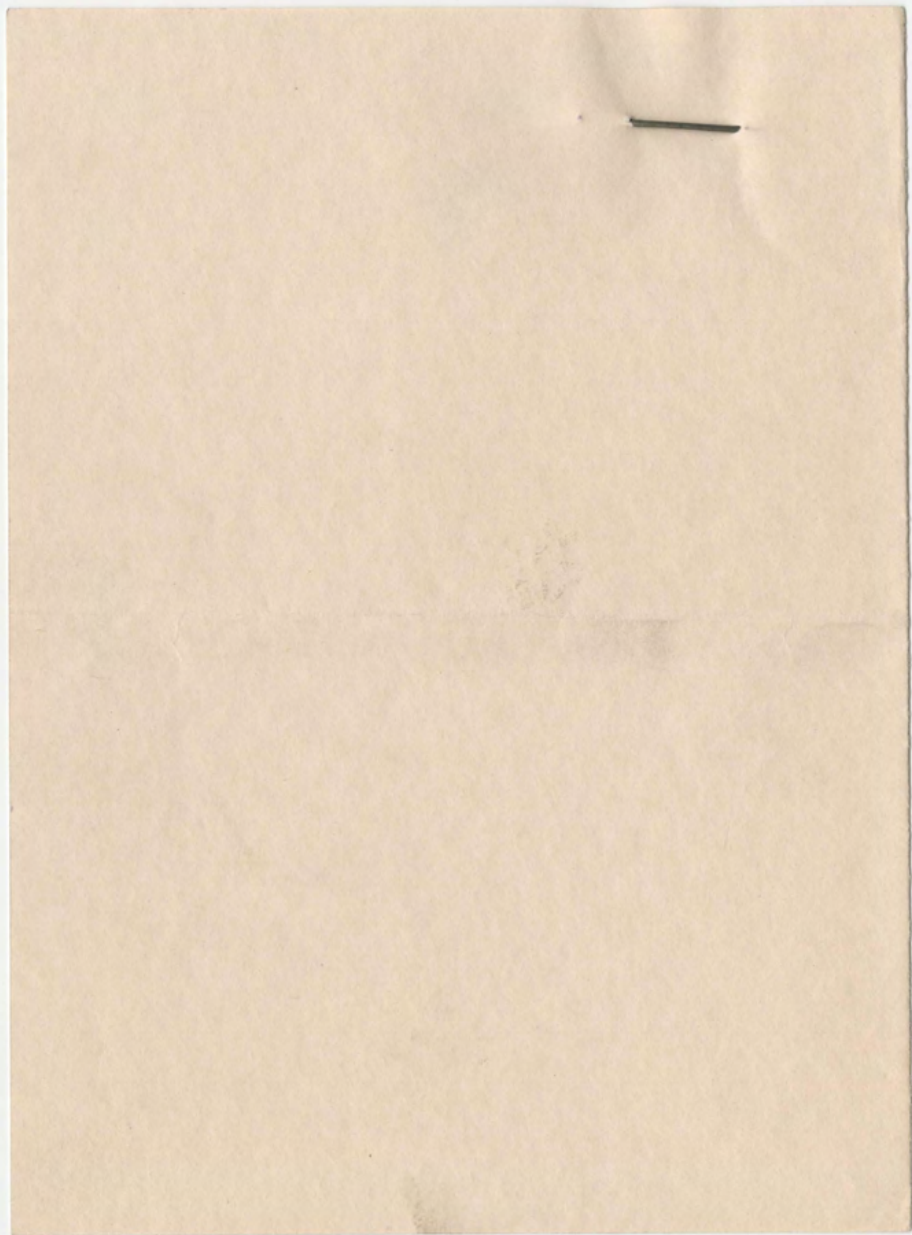
My dear sir:-

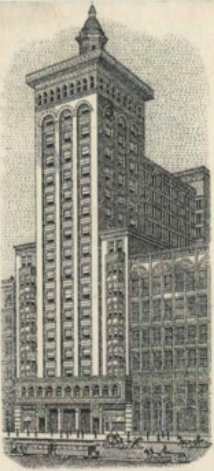
Enclosed find
the newspaper denial I
wrote of in a former letter.

Sincerely:-

Jennie Goldman,
Pres. C. T. C.







THE SCHILLER BUILDING
103-109 RANDOLPH STREET.
ROOM 1200-3

Board of Education ^{Lane}

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Schools.

Chicago,

March 2, 1898

Dr. W. R. Harper,

Member of the Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Mr. Joseph A. Bache is the second division teacher in the Lowell School. He has been successful in his work in Chicago. I shall be glad to recommend him for promotion when a suitable vacancy occurs.

The new building at the corner of 49th. & St Lawrence Ave. will probably be ready by the first of September next. Mrs. Young and I have agreed to recommend the transfer of Mr. Stahl, principal of the Taylor School, to this building, and I desire to recommend Mr. W. H. Campbell to succeed Mr. Stahl at the Taylor School.

Yours truly,

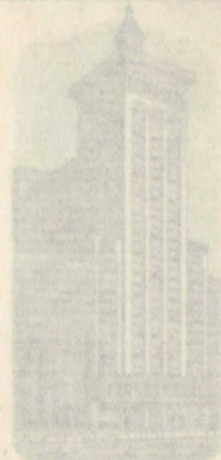
Supt. of Schools.

Board of Education

OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Superintendent of Schools

OFFICE OF



THE SCHOOL BUILDING
103-105 RANDOLPH STREET
ROOM 1200-2

March 2, 1898

Chicago

Dr. W. R. Harper,

Member of the Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Mr. Joseph A. Roche is the second division teacher in the Lowell School. He has been successful in his work in Chicago. I shall be glad to recommend him for promotion when a suitable vacancy occurs. The new building at the corner of 48th. & St Lawrence Ave. will probably be ready by the first of September next. Mrs. Young and I have agreed to recommend the transfer of Mr. Stahl, principal of the Taylor School, to this building, and I desire to recommend Mr. W. H. Campbell to succeed Mr. Stahl at the Taylor School.

Yours truly,

Superintendent of Schools.

Hugo Schumanns
President.

^{Halle}
Western Department Chicago.
E. G. Halle's Manager.

Germania Fire Insurance Company.

New York.

Chicago, March 14th 1898.

My dear Mr. Harper -

I almost think myself a mean
man, it was only last Saturday that I had
been kindly invited by you to participate
in a Dinner, given by the Merchants Club,
which I enjoyed very much, and to day
I am compelled to remind you that you
lost an other one -

Your term as Member of the Board of
Education expires June 98.

"Sic transit gloria Mundi" so if you want
more glory, you will have to have yourself
re-appointed by the present Mayor.

I remain dear Sir

Yours very truly

E. G. Halle



John W. Miller

D. APPLETON & CO.
PUBLISHERS,
NEW YORK.

243-253 WABASH AVE.

Russell

SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT,
WESTERN BRANCH.
H. CLAY RUSSELL, MANAGER.

Ed
Bo
CHICAGO, ILLS., March 30, 1898.

Pres., W. R. Harper,

Chicago University,

City.

Dear Sir:-

I was somewhat surprised to learn a few days since that the School Management Committee of the Board of Education had again called on Supt. Lane and his assistants for another report in regard to the relative merits of the new Johnson's Universal Cyclopedia and the International. I had supposed that this was settled some time ago, and that the Committee was fully advised as to the relative merits of the two publications. I understand that this matter will again come up on the Board shortly, and I take the liberty of enclosing you a few additional papers in regard to the matter, which I hope you may find time to glance over.

Trusting that you will overlook any annoyance I may cause you, and thanking you in advance for any assistance you may render, I am

Yours truly,

H. Clay Russell
OK

CHICAGO, ILL., March 30, 1898.

Pres., W. R. Harper,

Chicago University,

City.

Dear Sir:-

I was somewhat surprised to learn a few days since that the School Management Committee of the Board of Education had again called on Supt. Lane and his assistants for another report in regard to the relative merits of the new Johnson's Universal Cyclopedia and the International. I had supposed that this was settled some time ago, and that the Committee was fully advised as to the relative merits of the two publications. I understand that this matter will again come up on the Board shortly, and I take the liberty of enclosing you a few additional papers in regard to the matter, which I hope you may find time to glance over.

Trusting that you will overlook any annoyance I may cause you, and thanking you in advance for any assistance you may render, I am

Yours truly,

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
Schiller Building.

Lane

Chicago, May 13, 1898

Dr. W. R. Harper,

OK

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of letters in behalf of Mrs. Jane Perry Cook, who now holds our high school teachers' certificate. I think we shall be able to find a place for her next year.

I also received yours of the 11th. inst., in behalf of Mrs. Ada Atkinson, who will take our next examination for a high school certificate. If she is successful in the examination, I will try to arrange a place for her if there are any vacancies.

Yours truly,

A. J. Lane
Supt. of Schools.

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
School Building

Chicago, May 13, 1898

Dr. W. E. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of letters in behalf of Mrs. Jane Perry Cook, who now holds our high school teachers' certificate. I think we shall be able to find a place for her next year. I also received yours of the 11th inst., in behalf of Mrs. Ada Atkinson, who will take our next examination for a high school certificate. If she is successful in the examination, I will try to arrange a place for her if there are any vacancies.

Yours truly,

Superintendent of Schools.

Lane

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
Schiller Building.

Chicago, May 11, 1898

Dr. W. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of the letter from Mr. W. A. Ring, addressed to you, in regard to the duties of "head assistants" and "extra teachers".

The "extra teachers" and "assistant principals" are required to perform duties assigned to them by the principal of the school. Their work embraces the supervision of primary grades, mostly, and substituting when teachers are absent. They also attend to some of the clerical work such as keeping records, marking examination papers, etc. In case of absence of the principal the rules of the Board make the "head assistant" the next in authority. However, in many schools the "extra teacher" really performs the principal's duties in his absence.

I know of no instance where an "extra teacher" has had no "further experience than in first grade work".

The tendency on the part of the Board to elect "extra teachers" who have not taught in all the grades was one reason why I suggested that in schools having 24 or more rooms the "head assistant" should be relieved of the work of instructing the eighth grade and should perform duties assigned by the principal. This would dispense with "assistant principals" and "extra teachers" and would simplify the whole system.

I herewith return Mr. Ring's letter.

Yours truly,

A. J. Lane
Supt. of Schools.

Board of Education
Office of Superintendent of Schools
School Building

Chicago, May 11, 1898

Dr. W. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of the letter from Mr. W. A. King, addressed to you, in regard to the duties of "head assistants" and "extra teachers". The "extra teachers" and "assistant principals" are required to perform duties assigned to them by the principal of the school. Their work embraces the supervision of primary grades, mostly, and substituting when teachers are absent. They also attend to some of the clerical work such as keeping records, marking examination papers, etc. In case of absence of the principal the rules of the Board make the "head assistant" the next in authority. However, in many schools the "extra teacher" really performs the principal's duties in his absence. I know of no instance where an "extra teacher" has had no "further experience than in first grade work". The tendency on the part of the Board to elect "extra teachers" who have not taught in all the grades was one reason why I suggested that in schools having 24 or more rooms the "head assistant" should be relieved of the work of instructing the eighth grade and should perform duties assigned by the principal. This would dispense with "assistant principals" and "extra teachers" and would simplify the whole system.

I herewith return Mr. King's letter.

Yours truly,

Superintendent of Schools.

Chicago, April 18, 1898.

*Mr. McLaughlin
Please tell
me how
this is
done*

Dear Sir:

Please reconsider the action taken by the Board of Education, November 3, 1897, in reference to equalizing the salaries of the head assistant and the extra teacher.

There is no parallel existing between the work and the duties of the two, and such a measure should be vigorously opposed by all head assistants, as well as all others interested.

The work of the head assistant is onerous, and, one might say, tremendous, the grade work having been more than doubled and really embracing the work of the first year in High School.

She has had years of varied experience in all branches, because the unfinished work of the lower grades accumulates in the eighth grade.

The responsibilities of the principal devolve upon the head assistant in the absence of the principal.

Many of the extra teachers occupy their positions without having had any further experience than in first grade work. They may be seen flitting about from room to room, ostensibly doing something but in reality evading any work, and, in the case of a teacher's absence, scorning (maybe for a very good reason) to take the room, while the city has to bear the expense of a special substitute, often at four dollars a day, to take that room.

The duties of the extra teacher are so indefinite that no one has yet been able to find them out.

Some of them have been assigned to rooms where the principals have not wanted extra teachers, because there was no extra work to be done.

They are literally EXTRA teachers without any EXTRA work.

I have had both and I know how necessary the head assistant is and how totally unnecessary the extra teacher is.

That such an action is unjust, is putting it mildly, and I trust you will resent it with all the influence to which your position entitles you.

Respectfully submitted,

A. A. Rung

[Faint handwritten notes and signatures in the bottom left corner]

Chicago, April 18, 1898.

Dear Sir:

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Many of the extra teachers occupy their positions without having had any further experience than in first grade work. They may be seen flitting about from room to room, ostensibly doing something but in reality evading any work, and, in the case of a teacher's absence, assuming (maybe for a very good reason) to take the room, while the city has to bear the expense of a special substitute, often at four dollars a day, to take that room. The duties of the extra teacher are no indefinite that no one has yet been able to find them out. Some of them have been assigned to rooms where the principals have not wanted extra teachers, because there was no extra work to be done.

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Respectfully submitted,

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
School
Office
Board

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
Schiller Building.

Lane

Chicago, May 21-98.

Dr. William R. Harper, Member
Board of Education,
City.

My Dear Doctor Harper:- I acknowledge the receipt of the letter of Miss Harriet Seavey residing at 4626 Champlain Avenue, Chicago, asking for a transfer from the J.N. Thorp School to some place near her home. It will be a pleasure to transfer Miss Seavey to some point convenient to her home, as soon as possible. There are no vacancies at the present time, but I will enter her name upon the record of applicants, and will adjust it as soon as I can.

Yours very sincerely,

(Dictated)

H. G. Lane
Supt. of Schools.

W. Bushnell

Board of Education
Office of Superintendent of Schools
Schiller Building

Dr. William R. Harper, Member

Board of Education,

City.

My Dear Doctor Harper:- I acknowledge the receipt of the letter of Miss
Harriet Seavey residing at 1235 Champlain Avenue, Chicago, asking for a
transfer from the J.N. Torrey School to some place near her home. It will be a
pleasure to transfer Miss Seavey to some point convenient to her home, as
soon as possible. There are no vacancies at the present time, but I will
enter her name upon the record of applicants, and will admit it as soon as
I can.

Yours very sincerely,

(Dictated)

Superintendent of Schools

Wm. R. Harper

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
Schiller Building.

Nightingale

Chicago, May 16, 1898.

Dr. William R. Harper, Prest.

University of Chicago,
City.

OK

My Dear Doctor Harper:- Your letter of April 5, was mislaid or it would have received an earlier reply.

Permit me to say that the rule regarding the promotion of teachers is, that when a vacancy occurs in a higher group we have been expected to select some worthy teacher from a lower group and promote him or her to that vacancy. All, or nearly all, of the promotions made last summer were in accordance with this rule, and my son was among the rest. He took a position where the work assigned him was mostly the same that had been done by one who receives \$1900.00. This is next to the last year of the first group. My son was promoted only to the first year of the second group, salary \$1200.00. There were several others similarly situated when promoted. Hoping this may be satisfactory, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

(Dictated)

A. H. Nightingale

Supt. High Schools.

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
Schiller Building.

Chicago, May 16, 1898.

Dr. William R. Harper, Pres.
University of Chicago,
City.

My Dear Doctor Harper:- Your letter of April 5 was mislaid or it
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situated when promoted. Hoping this may be satisfactory, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

(Dictated)

Superintendent of Schools.

Board of Education,
Office of Superintendent of Schools,
Schiller Building.

School Manager

MR Chicago, May 9, 1898

Dr. W.R.Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr.Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of letters from Mr. Frank H.Hall, Supt. Of the State Institution for the Blind, at Jacksonville,Ill., and from Mr. John B.Curtis, also of that institution.

I have been,opposed to the project to build a school for the blind on the site located in the western part of the city. I think the suggestions of Mr.Hall can be carried out and all the blind in Chicago of school age instructed in our regular schools at a less expense than would be required to care for them in the proposed institution. The Board of Education has already taken action in the matter of erecting a building for this purpose on Southwest Boulevard, south of Douglas Park, on land owned by the Board immediately adjoining the State Workshop for the Blind.

Would it not be advisable to discuss this question before the Committee on School Management,immediately and thus ^{perhaps} ~~postpone~~ the erection of the proposed building could be postponed for a year or two until the experiment of teaching these children with the seeing children can be tested. I will retain the letters in my possession so that they can be at your disposal if the matter should be brought to the attention of the Committee on School Management.

Yours truly,

H. H. Hall
Supt.of Schools.

John H. Hays

Board of Education
Office of Superintendent of Schools
School Building

Chicago, May 2, 1898

Dr. W. R. Harper,

Member Board of Education.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I acknowledge the receipt of letters from Mr. Frank H. Hall, Supl. of the State Institution for the Blind, at Jacksonville, Ill., and from Mr. John B. Curtis, also of that institution. I have been opposed to the project to build a school for the blind on the site located in the western part of the city. I think the suggestions of Mr. Hall can be carried out and all the blind in Chicago of school age instructed in our regular schools at a less expense than would be required to care for them in the proposed institution. The Board of Education has already taken action in the matter of erecting a building for this purpose on Southwest Boulevard, south of Douglas Park, on land owned by the Board immediately adjoining the State Workshop for the Blind.

Would it not be advisable to discuss this question before the Committee on School Management, immediately and thus hasten the erection of the proposed building could be postponed for a year or two until the experiment of teaching these children with the seeing children can be tested. I will retain the letters in my possession so that they can be at your disposal if the matter should be brought to the attention of the Committee on School Management.

Yours truly,

John H. Hays
Supt. of Schools.

Chicago Teachers Club

5227 Wabash Ave.

(30)

June 19 1898.

Dr. W. R. Harper.

Member Chicago Board of
Education.

My dear Dr. Harper:-

I do not know whether you attach any importance to newspaper items or not, but I was annoyed to see in several Sunday papers that a delegation from the "Chicago Teachers' Club" was to wait on the Mayor Tuesday to protest against your reappointment on the School Board. There is no truth in the item. We have no appointment with the Mayor for Tuesday and have prepared no such

❖ ❖ Chicago Teachers Club ❖ ❖

protest. I have written to the¹⁸⁹ papers asking them to correct the statement. Our club adjourned for the summer June 11th and therefore no such action could be taken by the club and has not been taken by the directors.

Sincerely:-
Jennie Goldman.
President C.T.C.

1890
I have written to the
papers asking them to correct
the statement. Our club is
known for the summer
It is not therefore no such
action could be taken by
the club as has not been
taken by the directors.

Sincerely,
James H. Johnson
President C.T.C.

Bagged

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

Hale

YERKES OBSERVATORY
WILLIAMS BAY, WISCONSIN

CABLE ADDRESS
ARCTURUS CHICAGO

WILLIAMS BAY, WISCONSIN.

June 3, 1898.

President W. R. Harper,-

University of Chicago,
Chicago.

CH

Dear Dr. Harper,-

I have just received the enclosed letter, which I forward to you in the hope that you can secure the continuance of the course in astronomy now given in the Chicago high schools. It would seem to me a great misfortune to discontinue this work, as it certainly is of great value to the students. I frequently have occasion to wonder at the ignorance of the simplest astronomical phenomena displayed by otherwise intelligent persons who visit the Observatory. Some of the best known men in Chicago have asked me whether we use an electric light for illuminating the Moon and stars when we photograph them. It seems to me that a high school course in astronomy would be sufficiently justified if it did no other service than to prevent the possibility of such lack of information on the part of intelligent people. Fortunately, however, it does far more for the student in broadening his view of natural phenomena, and in stimulating thought regarding matters which are too often taken for granted. Will you not therefore use your influence in favor of continuing the present course?

Very sincerely yours,

George E. Hale

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

WILLIAM H. WILSON

June 3, 1893.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
WILLIAM H. WILSON
CHICAGO, ILL.

President W. R. Harper.

University of Chicago.

Chicago.

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Very sincerely yours,

W. H. Wilson