

File under
Mr Scott

Scott
Walter Bill

To the Board of Trustees of The Pullman Free School of
Manual Training.

Gentlemen:- At the suggestion of Mr.Lowden,I present to you
my answer to two questions which he asked me.

First: "What should the proposed school be"?

Second: "What profit would there be in such a school"?

The first question-"what should the proposed school be"is in
general answered by the will of Mr.Pullman. The school is to be loc-
ated at Pullman,Illinois;it is to be free;it is to be a manual train-
ing school;it is to be "for the benefit of the children of persons
living or employed at Pullman". "What should the school be" is then
equivalent to saying-What would most benefit the children of persons
living or employed at Pullman?

At the present time there are 2500 children in Pullman:1020 are
enrolled in the Public Schools;but there are only 38 in the 8th.grade.
After completing this grade there are each year about 12 who go to
High School or some other Institution of learning. The attendance is
good until the pupils reach the 4th.grade,then the interest in the
school is not sufficient to attract them. The parents fail to apprec-
iate the advantages of further education,so do not compel attendance.

That the school might be of the greatest benefit,it must receive
the pupils before the 6th.grade is reached;otherwise,the benefit will
be to the few and not to the many. At what point between the kinder-

To the Board of Trustees of The Pullman Tree School of

Manual Training.

Gentlemen:- At the suggestion of Mr. Bowden, I present to you

my answer to two questions which he asked me.

First: "What should the proposed school be?"

Second: "What profit would there be in such a school?"

The first question-"What should the proposed school be" is in

General answered by the will of Mr. Pullman. The school is to be loc-

ated at Pullman, Illinois; it is to be free; it is to be a manual train-

ing school; it is to be "for the benefit of the children of persons

living or employed at Pullman." "What should the school be" is then

equivalent to saying-What would most benefit the children of persons

living or employed at Pullman?

At the present time there are 2500 children in Pullman: 1020 are

enrolled in the Public Schools; but there are only 38 in the 8th grade.

After completing this grade there are each year about 12 who go to

High School or some other institution of learning. The attendance in the

good until the pupils reach the 4th grade; then the interest in the

school is not sufficient to attract them. The parents fail to appre-

ciate the advantages of further education, so do not compel attendance.

That the school might be of the greatest benefit, it must receive

the pupils before the 6th grade is reached; otherwise, the benefit will

be to the few and not to the many. At what point between the kinder-

garten and the 5th. grade the pupils should be received would be a question determined by the size of the buildings, the amount of money to be expended for running expenses and by the advisability of competing with the Public schools in the lower grades, where the advantage would be comparatively little. If the school should commence with the 5th. grade, then the work of the 5th. 6th. 7th. & 8th grades must include the work of an ordinary public school in these classes, but it should be made as practical and interesting as possible. In addition to this ordinary work there should be added elementary manual training to continue for the entire course of four years. The four "Grammar Grades" would then be the Preparatory Department of the school.

What course would be most profitable beyond the 8th. grade is a more difficult question and one which is in part answered by the pressing needs of the case. There is no High School within 7 miles of Pullman. Although the number of pupils attending High School is small yet their need is great and the number should be rapidly increased. The school should certainly furnish the opportunity for a High School education. In connection with the regular High School work more advanced work in manual training should be given.

There is no efficient system of apprenticeships in connection with any of the Pullman shops and it is with the greatest difficulty that the boys raised in the town learn a trade. If after years of toil he has succeeded in mastering any branch of a trade, his skill is likely to become useless by reason of a newly invented tool. He is then com-

garden and the 5th grade the pupils should be received would be a question determined by the size of the buildings, the amount of money to be expended for running expenses and by the advisability of competing with the Public schools in the lower grades, where the advantage would be comparatively little. If the school should commence with the 5th grade, then the work of the 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th grades must include the work of an ordinary public school in these classes, but it should be made as practical and interesting as possible. In addition to this ordinary work there should be added elementary manual training to continue for the entire course of four years. The four "Grammar Grades" would then be the Preparatory Department of the school. What course would be most profitable beyond the 8th grade is a more difficult question and one which is in part answered by the pressing needs of the case. There is no High School within 7 miles of Pullman. Although the number of pupils attending High School is small yet their need is great and the number should be rapidly increased. The school should certainly furnish the opportunity for a High School education. In connection with the regular High School work more advanced work in manual training should be given. There is no efficient system of apprenticeship in connection with any of the Pullman shops and it is with the greatest difficulty that the boys raised in the town learn a trade. It after years of toil he has succeeded in mastering any branch of a trade, his skill is likely to become useless by reason of a newly invented tool. He is then com-

pelled to become a common laborer, simply because he is skilled in but one thing and there is no more use for his skill. Let a bright boy, who has completed the public school, enter the shops and work ever so faithfully and ever so long, yet he will never be able to rise to the position of foreman in any department, because the work is so specialized that he never can learn it by actual shop work. The crying need at Pullman is for an efficient system of what may be called "apprenticeships" which will give a boy both special skill that he may succeed in one particular direction; and general knowledge of an entire department that he may be able to change from one class of work to another and that in time he may become foreman of his department.

What branches of the shop work are to be taught and how they can best be taught are questions for most careful consideration. Thus the needs "of the children of persons living or employed at Pullman" make it seem evident that the school should have at least these three departments:-Preparatory School, High School and Trade School.

The second question proposed was "What are the advantages arising from such a school". The answer to this is manifold.

1. Pupils will remain in school longer, many will remain until they are 18 years old. They will then have a better general education.

2. Every boy will acquire a theoretical and practical knowledge of forging, moulding and wood-work. Every girl will acquire a theoretical and practical knowledge of cooking, sewing and other household duties.

belled to become a common laborer, simply because he is skilled in but one thing and there is no more use for his skill. Let a bright boy, who has completed the public school, enter the shops and work ever so faithfully and ever so long, yet he will never be able to rise to the position of foreman in any department, because the work is so specialized that he never can learn it by actual shop work. The crying need at Pullman is for an efficient system of what may be called "apprenticeships" which will give a boy both special skill that he may succeed in one particular direction; and general knowledge of an entire department that he may be able to change from one class of work to another and that in time he may become foreman of his department.

What branches of the shop work are to be taught and how they can best be taught are questions for most careful consideration. Thus the needs "of the children of persons living or employed at Pullman" make it seem evident that the school should have at least these three departments:--Preparatory School, High School and Trade School.

The second question proposed was "What are the advantages

attending from such a school". The answer to this is manifold.

1. Pupils will remain in school longer, many will remain until they are 18 years old. They will then have a better general education.
2. Every boy will acquire a theoretical and practical knowledge of forging, moulding and wood-work. Every girl will acquire a theoretical and practical knowledge of cooking, sewing and other household duties.

3. Every boy will have acquired the general principles and rudiments of his chosen trade and will be able to become a master in it. Every girl will be fitted to assume the management of a household and if need be to become a successful wage-earner in the shops.

4. The greatest profit arising from such a school is not the learning a trade but the development of a mind. With this in view every lesson given, whether in the work-shop or the recitation room, should be given with a view to symmetrical development of the entire nature. In ancient times certain schools were organized to develop the body: in mediæval times others were organized to develop the religious nature: in modern times some are organized to develop the intellect and others to develop the aesthetic nature. As this proposed school would have due regard to all these objects and yet be confined to none, the profit arising from it would be greater than that arising from any of the schools mentioned: for its finished products would be symmetrical young men and women.

5. As labor with the hands will be placed on a level with so-called mental labor and as both will be taught by equally accomplished instructors, the pupils will learn that the man who invents a tool is as much to be admired as the one who writes a poem. The dignity given to honest manual toil is perhaps the greatest contribution which such a school can render society.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of New Jersey in his recent report said: "Manual training-- - begets a greater interest in school, especially on the part of boys approaching

3. Every boy will have acquired the general principles and rudiments of his chosen trade and will be able to become a master in it. Every girl will be fitted to assume the management of a household and it need be to become a successful wage-earner in the shops.

4. The greatest profit arising from such a school is not the learning a trade but the development of a mind. With this in view every lesson given, whether in the work-shop or the recitation room, should be given with a view to symmetrical development of the entire nature. In ancient times certain schools were organized to develop the body; in medieval times others were organized to develop the religious nature; in modern times some are organized to develop the intellect and others to develop the aesthetic nature. As this proposed school would have due regard to all these objects and yet be confined to none, the profit arising from it would be greater than that arising from any of the schools mentioned; for its finished products would be symmetrical young men and women.

5. As labor with the hands will be placed on a level with so-called mental labor and as both will be taught by equally accomplished instructors, the pupils will learn that the man who invents a tool is as much to be admired as the one who writes a poem. The dignity given to honest manual toil is perhaps the greatest contribution which such a school can render society.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of New Jersey in his recent report said: "Manual training-- - bestows a greater interest in school, especially on the part of boys approaching

the high-school age---. The individual is made happier: society is benefitted: the State is made more secure and the wealth of all is increased by shaping to some extent the instruction of the school along industrial lines".

If the school should be organized as herein roughly outlined, I feel confident that the benefits mentioned would follow and that the will of the donor would be carried out both as to the letter and as to the spirit.

Yours most respectfully,

Walter Will Scott.

1060 N. Kaesler St.

Mr. Scott's Article

5

the high-school age---. The individual is made happier: society is benefited: the State is made more secure and the wealth of all is increased by shaping to some extent the instruction of the school along industrial lines".

If the school should be organized as herein roughly outlined, I feel confident that the benefits mentioned would follow and that the will of the donor would be carried out both as to the letter and as to the spirit.

Yours most respectfully,

Carl Louden

What will Scott
1000 dollars

THE CHICAGO MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL

OF

The University of Chicago

MICHIGAN AVE. AND TWELFTH ST.

H. H. BELFIELD, DIRECTOR

CHICAGO, July 15, 1898.

Dr. William R. Harper, President,

The University of Chicago.

Dear Sir:

I have read with some care the paper which you placed in my hands yesterday.

It seems to me to have been written by a person not thoroughly acquainted with what the world is doing in this line.

Very truly yours,

Director.

