

Some of them part with those who have proved themselves efficient teachers, after a years service or so, for the most trifling reason; and jeopardize their school and their grant by employing an inefficient teacher, who undoes all the good that had been done by his or her predecessor. There seems to be no remedy for this but the conferences among school commissioners which the Secretary of the Department continues to hold in the various districts. When these representatives of the people come to see that a permanent efficient appointment brings its own reward, we will then have a better supply of maps, blackboards, and object lesson apparatus, (in our model schools particularly), than there is now to be seen in any of them. The non observance of the spring holiday of Arbor Day for the past two years, I need hardly say, has checked the beautifying of the school grounds, and it would be well if a memorial from the Committee to the Government could induce them to revive it.

In the course of my inspection visits, I have made no distinction between the upper and the lower departments of the school; but have continued to examine the elementary departments as a part of the whole and as a feeder to the model department. In but few instances have I found the head-teacher without the supervising authority given by the regulations; and I have invariably found that where there is no such authority, the schools indirectly suffer. The regulation referring to the appointment of teachers only who have diplomas has been, as far as I have learned, adhered to this year, while the majority of the head-teachers have had normal school training. This is certainly a reassuring evidence of advancement.

In the above paragraphs, I have referred to nearly all the points of interest in connection with my inspection of the schools and I have only now to bear testimony to the uniform courtesy with which the teachers and other school officers have received me during my official visits to the various sections of the country, and to the counsel and co-operation which I have received from the Secretary of the Department in all affairs pertaining to my duties as inspector of the schools under the direct supervision of the Protestant Committee.

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