

zation and administration of schools and school systems. The local system of schools is an experiment station where, with more or less intelligence, plans are formulated for an efficient and economical management of education for that community. The school officials, the Board of Education, who represent the people, and the school staff, who are the advisers of these officials, initiate policies and do not merely carry out the details of plans sent out by a central authority. It makes one sympathize with the sentiments of Lowe who, when the sweeping Franchise Bill was passed in England, said, "Now we must educate our masters."

Our general system of schools, therefore, demands a practical education on the part of those who are to conduct its affairs. The education of members of the School Boards does not fall within the province of this discussion, for which I am sorry, as I believe that it is possible to provide for this to a certain degree in the departments of education in our universities, as the college-bred man is to-day one of the most likely men in a community to be chosen on a Board of Education. I need not say that the conduct of the schools is coming more and more into the hands of the college-bred man, and as in every line of business, into the hands of the young men. The question that meets us here is an important one: "Is it fair to the people of a community and to their children to intrust to the young college-bred man, without training and without experience, the conduct of the educational system?" What are his general qualifications? He has passed the examinations and received the degree which is a certificate to that effect. He has a good character and possibly is industrious. Let us make out the best case possible and suppose that he has had the training given in courses in the history and the theory of education and he goes out as a teacher, a principal, or perchance, a superintendent of schools. His knowledge of the business into which he is going is at best only that of having passed thru such an institution in his early years, and his recollections are likely to be of persons rather than of organization. As a matter of fact the latest impressions are nearly always the strongest, and this is one reason why so many of our