AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

November 18 to 24 will be American Education Week under the direction of the United States Bureau of Education, the National Education Association, and The American Legion.

Sunday, For God and Country; Monday, American Constitution; Tuesday, Patriotism; Wednesday, School and Teacher; Thursday, Illiteracy; Friday, Community; Saturday, Physical Education.

HARTLEY PROMOTED

Assistant Superintendent Hartley has been promoted to the superintendency of Louisville, to succeed Z. E. Scott, who has gone to Springfield, Massachusetts. Mr. Hartley is admirably qualified for the promotion, but also the board of Education and the citizens of Louisville are quite weary of providing big outsiders with a professional springboard for high jumps. Mr. Marks was there for many years, but since his day Dr. E. O. Holland made a reputation there which gave him the presidency of the State College at Pullman, Washington. Then O. L. Reid made the record which gave him the superintendency of Youngstown, and he was followed by Zenos E. Scott, who has gone to Springfield. Louisville schools will surely make a record for Mr. Hartley.

SOMERVILLE DEMONSTRATION

Somerville, Mass., Charles S. Clark, superintendent, has been selected, upon recommendation of Clarence D. Kingsley, Massachusetts State Department of Education, as a city representative of conditions in Grades 5 to 9 in Massachusetts.

This week, June 4 to 8, these grades are being skillfully studied under the direction of James M. Glass of the State Department of Education of Pennsylvania, who is selected by Dr. Charles E. Judd, University of Chicago, acting for the Commonwealth Fund of New York City, which is financing the most scientific study of education that has ever been made. James M. Glass won national reputation as principal of a Junior High School, Rochester, N.Y.

R. E. Shepherd, vice-principal of the Southern Junior High School of Somerville, has charge of the direction of local affairs under orders from Superintendent Clark and Mr. Glass. The schools of Somerville have achieved a deserved reputation for high efficiency and this recognition is well merited.
A MASSACHUSETTS TRIUMPH

It is with signal satisfaction that we report upon an educational triumph in the Massachusetts Legislature in view of the absence of such triumphs in several Legislatures this year. Because taxes have greatly increased, because school appropriations in the cities of the state had increased, because school boards have not heeded the wails of the political representatives of those who care more to save dollars than to save children, because there are restless critics of the schools, the city government administrations skillfully planned a legislative campaign to transfer city school management from the school board to the city government, placing the schools on the same administrative level as the police, fire, street and garbage departments.

Past masters in legislative manipulation were laying wires in legislative districts in every city. Mayors and city councils looked after the advisory committee of all legislators. Without being caught-bound to secrecy the effect was the same, for none of the uninitiated suspected anything until legislative committees were all made up and a bill artistically drawn was introduced.

This appealed to the Taxpayers’ League, Chambers of Commerce, firemen, day laborers, department clerks, contractors, gatherers of refuse, the legislative lobbyists of high and low degree, and political manipulators of all parties, and the legislative atmosphere was so surcharged with suspicion of city boards of education, superintendents of schools, and all champions of the children that no gambler would have bet dimes to dollars that the bill could be killed.

The propagandists had made one serious blunder, they had not taken into account the heroism of the State Commissioner of Education. They failed to appreciate that year by year he had won universal confidence, which was behind themen elected to the Legislature. They did not know that Payson Smith has the ardent loyalty of every city and district superintendent in Massachusetts, who welcomed an opportunity to rally to his standard in a crusade for children.

One legislative committee after another failed to respond to the prompting of the city government forces, one legislative leader after another flashed danger signals to the propagandists for city government manipulation of education. “Don’t fool with the public school sentiment,” and when the time for action came there was never a more friendless waif than that foundling at the State House.

BOSTON ANNIVERSARIES

This is an eventful year in Boston, reminiscently. The best of it is that its educational tomorrow is the halo of its yesterday. The famous Boston Latin School, the most famous secondary school in the New World, with the most illustrious list of graduates of any public secondary school in America, has celebrated its fiftieth anniversary by becoming a City Teachers College, and its principal, Wallace C. Boyden, after a third of a century in the school, enjoys the position of being the senior high school principal in point of service in the city, of having seen the institution improved from a cramped position in a miserable building into a noble educational plant, from a small enrollment to a large institution, from a limited scholastic range to a broad gauge college curriculum. There is an anniversary celebration of the famous Hancock School, which has become one of the most important elementary schools in a congested foreign city neighborhood in America, with every latest suggestion for scholastic and civically for the benefit of children in school and out and for adults’ neighborhood life. Milton Academy in Greater Boston is celebrating its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary with the largest graduating class in its history, with as proud a clientele as any aristocratic scholastic institution ever enjoyed. Milton is as unique a suburb as any city ever possessed. Milton Hills are lovely as nature could make them. They could not have been carved more gracefully, or been wooded more romantically had an artistic landscape architect been consulted. The loveliest acres on Milton Hills are adorned with a group of academic halls unsurpassed at Andover or Exeter.

In 1795, as in every subsequent year, men of culture and scholastic attainments had beautiful estates on the Milton Hills, and when the Legislature was ready to vote six square miles of unappropriated lands in the district of Maine “to the neighborhood in Norfolk County that cared for an academy,” it was Milton that had citizens ready to subscribe $3,000, a sum for such a purpose in that day, for the privilege of having the Academy of Norfolk County. The “six square miles of unappropriated lands in the district of Maine” were sold for $4,000, and various residents of Milton made modest contributions, and in 1802 Milton Academy materialized, and it had a worthy educational career until the Civil War, when young people were interested in other activities, and after the war industries brought other peoples to quarry her granite on the east and utilize her water power on the northern and western borders, and new arrivals voted for a free public High School, and the trustees of Milton...
June 7, 1923

Academy thought themselves fortunate to be able to lease the buildings to the town on contract from 1867 to 1880. The new life of America following 1873 revived the scholastic pride of the residents of Milton Hills and abundant funds were soon available, and in due season Milton Academy was re-opened, adequate buildings came to the campus, highly proficient teachers for children were an attraction to people of abundant means, and young men looking Harvardward graced the halls, and in June, 1923, eminent scholars honored the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary with their presence.

THE NEW PHILADELPHIA

Superintendent E. C. Broome has seen as great improvement in educational conditions as any man has seen in the same time in any large city in our time. The unification in the course of study which was adopted by the Board of Education in January and put in operation in February was an unparalleled achievement so far as our observation goes.

The formation of a Teachers Council is one of the almost miraculous accomplishments in these freakish times. It is an unbelievable professional feat when one considers the clearing up of the past.

But that which overtops everything is the adoption of an immediate building program of $86,000,000. And all of these heroic strokes of professional progress have had a unanimous city Board of Education behind them giving both speed and power in their achievement.

Mr. Broome went to Philadelphia from a small school system at East Orange only a little while ago. True, he found the field well prepared so that the harvest came fabulously near the sowing. It is equally true that he found many in the harvest fields ready for immediate action, impatient of delay. Best of all, harmony was in the air, not alone in the Board of Education but in the teaching corps from the lowest to the highest.

It is a great joy now to go to Philadelphia.

THE ANTI-HUNTER FIASCO

It is cause for more than ordinary rejoicing that Fred M. Hunter's school administration in Oakland won at a more than two to one pace under the recent attack. Mr. Hunter is a vigorous personality, an intense champion of anything that he favors, a hard hitter, and never waits to smooth over the wounds of the fellow whom he knocks out. Such a personality is always creating and maintaining opposition. A variety of causes led to a massing of the opposition in an anti-Hunter school ticket in Oakland, May 9, 1923.

It seems to be considered the right of the opposition to play banditry. The defence must play square: an honest man cannot carry a pistol, but a bandit will carry an automatic revolver with impunity. So the anti-Hunter propagandists put in action under the most malicious conditions a scandalous attack on Mr. Hunter regarding the action of the Board of Education in the matter of Liberty bonds in war time.

It appears that his opponents have been using this mysteriously in whisper-poison ever since the war, but reserving it for publicity until a few days before the election, expecting the whisper-poisoned mine to explode at the polls on May 9.

Fortunately the facts were easily available, and their appearance left the anti-Hunter plotters in such bad odor that the citizens buried their candidates out of sight.

The following editorial from Oakland Tribune, May 6, 1923, states the case clearly:—

SCHOOL CHARGES FALL.

"American people resent charges brought against the character or standing of an individual on the eve of an election when apparently time is not afforded for a complete answer to the accusations.

"Charges have been made publicly against the head of the school department in Oakland. Fred M. Hunter is a man of the highest standing before the nation as an educator. During the time he has held his position here he has won the respect of the community for his educational qualifications and for the enviable position in which he has placed the schools of the city in the eyes of educators all over the United States.

"The statement was made that Hunter manipulated the children's Liberty bonds and indirectly caused an expenditure of school department funds." It was asserted publicly that he had 'manipulated funds to pay campaign expenses.'

"Investigation has shown that there is not one iota of truth in the accusation; every bond has been accounted for, and no witness has come forward with any statement or proof to substantiate the serious charge made.

"All right-minded citizens, regardless of whatever factional differences may exist, will resent tactics of this kind, which can only react upon those who resorted to them.

"The result will be to solidify all right-thinking citizens to stand behind those candidates for school director who repudiate such tactics and upon whom cannot be placed the odium of having instigated them."
MAGNA CHARTA DAY

June 17 will be celebrated the world over as Magna Charta Day by persons who are thoughtfully appreciative of their inheritance.

There are so many appeals to our interest in good things, especially so many demands that we set apart a "Day" of Remembrance for all sorts of wonderful happenings that it is easy for even the best intentioned persons to get weary in well-doing, and a great deal may have been so long ago that its appeal has a muffler on it.

New York City celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the creation of Greater New York in May, 1923. Directly and indirectly a million dollars was probably paid out by the Federal Government, the State Government, the City, the boroughs, the patriotic organizations, the churches, the newspapers, the merchants and individuals. The celebration lasted for many days and nights, and all the schools were involved in the celebration.

But slight attention will be paid to June 15, and yet there would have been no American schools, no merchants in the new world, no New York, no United States but for the Magna Charta, whose signing will be celebrated on June 17.

Magna Charta Day is to any modern Day as a flashlight is to sunlight.

Magna Charta Day is on Sunday, so that school time will not be broken into, but the purpose of the day and at the International Magna Charta Day Association should be the placing in every school in the English-speaking nations a framed copy, in colors, 22 by 30 inches, of the original Magna Charta. Write at once to J. W. Hamilton, 147 Kent street, St. Paul, Minnesota, for information about it.

LUTHER BURBANK

No one has approached Luther Burbank in the kind of service he has rendered the world. He is often criticized because he will not do what other people do or do what he does as others would like to have him do it. He has recently referred to a late critic with this statement:--

"My life mission has been to create, to produce, to improve, and to do what I can for the world while yet living. I do not propose to tangle my feet in pseudo-scientific discussion and quarrel.

"There are many who are resentful that I do not step on my course and teach the science of my work in detail to others.

"That problem confronted me many years ago, and several of the great universities offered most tempting salaries for such service. "I decided I was a naturalist and horticulturist, not a university teacher; that if I stopped to explain, as a professor I would probably be less useful than in my own chosen field of effort and that I could be of greater benefit in continuing my own special work.

"What I have striven to do, I may say, by my books and scientific work, is for the benefit of my fellow passengers along the stream of life. The most noted of contemporaneous scientists have been kind enough to credit me with having done even that, it nothing more.

"The things I have created through more than a half century of thought and toil were born in my mind, and developed with the labor of my own hands."

CHAPMAN HONORED

Ira T. Chapman, superintendent of New Brunswick, New Jersey, a city of 35,000 population, goes to the neighboring city, Elizabeth, of 100,000, at a handsome increase in salary. Chapman was formerly superintendent at South Norwalk, Connecticut.

It is always significant when a neighboring larger city selects a man, for it proves that where school boards go about it the right way and find the right man an educator does not need to be in "another fellow's town" to be found out. Chapman started mid-year promotions in New Brunswick; formed ungraded classes; industrial classes in upper grades and junior high; used intelligence tests to determine trial promotions; had assemblies arranged by pupils in both junior and senior high schools; had school exhibits in each grade building and night exhibitions in high school. Then, too, he had factory classes and afternoon classes for factory workers.

His reports to parents grade children in desirable citizenship qualities. He started a teachers' council, and enlisted pupils in Americanization work. Chapman is considered one of the most studious of the superintendents near New York. All honor to Elizabeth. High praise for the new New Jersey spirit.