



Seventeen Years of Cloverland School Work

By Orr Schurtz, Superintendent, Negaunee Schools

ASKED by Clover-Land Magazine to write upon educational matters in the upper peninsula, my recollections in connection therewith spread out like a panorama over the past seventeen years.

I think it is safe to say that in no section of the United States has there been greater progress in public schools and public education in general than in that section of Michigan now designated Clover-Land, covering the whole of the upper peninsula. My earliest impression on coming here, was the wide view on the part of boards of education and the people in general regarding liberal expenditure and everything pertaining to education. For a time I was unable to explain this condition satisfactorily to myself.

Fully to understand this breadth of vision one needs to get in touch with the great mining interests of this section of the state. There is a bigness to the whole upper peninsula in its physical characteristics, which even a careless observer cannot but note. Earth, sky and lake; forest, field and stream, all contribute to this bigness of nature. This seems to be reflected in all interests here, I mean not only material and commercial, but spiritual as well. And this bigness is reflected in the operations of the great corporations that have made the upper peninsula of Michigan what it is today and what it promises to be in the future. All this wide sweep of vision, and the immense scale upon which mining operations are conducted, seem to react on the people themselves. In no direction is it more clearly manifested than in their treatment of the schools and everything connected with education.

Topping the whole educational field,

is our splendid Normal school at Marquette, under the broad leadership of its president, James H. Kaye, a splendid educator, who has made a large and abiding place for himself in the esteem and affections of the whole teaching body. It is just beginning to come into its own through recent liberal treatment by the state legislature. It is acquiring an equipment both physical and intellectual that is fast putting it in touch with all else. Nowhere has there been greater growth, most satisfactory at the present time and most promising for the future, than here. I think there is little question that this is owing, in a large measure at least, to the splendid condition of the public school, in buildings, equipment, and the high plain of educational ideals.

It is my well founded belief that just as an efficient, up-to-date, first-class High school can be built upon nothing but the most efficient work in the grades, so no Normal school can reach its highest development in any state or section of a state except where the schools, both elementary and secondary, have reached a high degree of efficiency.

A brief list of the splendid buildings found in Calumet, Ironwood, Menominee, Escanaba, the "Soo," Negaunee, Ishpeming, Crystal Falls, Wakefield and Painesdale, everyone of which houses High schools that are numbered among the best and most up-to-date in the country, gives some notion at least of what is meant when we speak of the splendid school systems of the upper peninsula. Go into any of these and you will find constant and unwearying effort to select a highly efficient corps of teachers and course based upon the latest and most ap-

proved methods. Here you will find everything new pertaining to industrial education. The great aim and effort is to make instruction in both the grades and high schools as practical as possible.

Perhaps in no better way may I give a clear impression of the wonderful advancement in public school matters all over Clover-Land during the past fifteen or twenty years than by sketching briefly this development in Negaunee.

Coming here that long ago, I found a High school with a faculty of five, one kindergarten, a commercial department with a teacher employed but a half day, no manual training work or department, no domestic science and art, no physical training. Today there is a High school with nineteen instructors, including the industrial teachers; three kindergartens; a High school building that probably cannot be duplicated in a town the size of Negaunee anywhere else in the United States; a commercial department second to none; a manual training school in a building of its own, which building, with the equipment for wood, machine, forge, concrete, mechanical drawing courses, and a splendidly equipped printery, represents a cost well in the neighborhood of \$60,000. The domestic science and art departments are worthy of mention in the same connection. There is also a splendid gymnasium which furnishes an outlet for endless social activities as well as a place for physical training for both High school and grades, all under the care of a physical training director employed by the year. In this connection, there is a school playground splendidly situated, in close proximity to the High school, manual

training school and a large grade school, fitted up at an expense of close to \$15,000. To add that medical inspection in the schools is an important adjunct to all this, follows naturally. It may be interesting to know that the children of the parochial schools enjoy the same privileges and the same instruction at the manual training school, in domestic science, and in physical training as do the children of the public schools. This means, of course, that the most cordial relations exist between the two. It indicates, it seems to me, the bigness of view that meets one on every hand throughout the upper peninsula.

Negaunee is not exceptional in all this. The progress, this constant striving to provide for the boys and girls the very best in education may be found in almost every city and hamlet throughout the peninsula.

I must not fail to include in this progress the schools savings bank system recently introduced in Negaunee. Some idea of its success may be gathered from the statement that although it was put in as late as January of the present year, and only sixteen weeks collections have been made, the amount of deposits to day exceeds \$2,000, with close to nine hundred pupil depositors.

It is well to bear in mind, too, that this remarkable growth educationally has far outstripped increase in population, the latter being comparatively small. What has been said of Negaunee may be said of many other places. Clover-Land is bound to put herself on the map agriculturally, and her splendid schools are going to help her do this as no other factor, or aggregation of interests.

Clover-Land

The Upper Peninsula of Michigan

The Upper Peninsula comprises nearly one-third of all the area of the great State of Michigan, the largest state, excepting Georgia, east of the Mississippi River.

The one-ninth of the population of Michigan residing in the Upper Peninsula pay nearly one-seventh of all the state taxes.

The Upper Peninsula is larger than Delaware, Massachusetts and Connecticut combined.

The Upper Peninsula is thirteen times as large as the State of Rhode Island.

The Upper Peninsula has a larger population than Delaware, Idaho, Wyoming, Arizona, Nevada or New Mexico.

The assessed valuation of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan is greater than the assessed valuation of Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Mississippi, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont or Wyoming.

Our assessed valuation is nearly \$50,000,000 more than the combined assessed valuation of Utah and New Mexico.

Houghton County has a larger assessed valuation than the entire State of New Mexico and more population than the State of Nevada.

There are more miles of railroad in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan than in Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Utah, Vermont or Wyoming.

Situated in the upper half of the north temperate zone, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan has sunshine more than twelve hours every day from March 20th to September 22nd and, in June, the sun shines almost sixteen hours out of the twenty-four. This means successful farming, for the soil is fertile and its development has only been delayed because of the large operations in lumbering and mining which, great as they are and have been, are now to be followed by the turning into profitable farms of some 7,000,000 acres of rich land.

That greatest American agriculturist, Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, said over his own signature: "There is every reason why successful agriculture can be carried on in the Upper Peninsula. It should become a great dairy and fruit country. It will grow all the crops for dairying and stock breeding, and it will outlast its mining industries, great as they are."

There are employed in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan more wage-earners than in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Oregon, Arkansas, Montana, Vermont, Utah, Oklahoma, Delaware, Arizona, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nevada, New Mexico or Wyoming.

The Upper Peninsula has more wage-earners than all the wage-earners of the combined states of Wyoming, Nevada, South Dakota, North Dakota, Idaho, Arizona and Delaware.

Nearly one-third of all the iron ore and approximately one-sixth of all the copper produced in the United States are mined in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

The lumber products of the Upper Peninsula are equal to the lumber products of Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, California, Minnesota, Illinois or Mississippi.

We have a thousand miles of coast line, and a water power at the Soo second only to the great falls of Niagara.

We have the best harbors on the Great Lakes.

The Upper Peninsula pays in taxes a greater total than the taxes paid in Arkansas, Colorado, Vermont, Wyoming, Utah,

South Carolina, North Dakota, New Mexico, New Hampshire, Montana, Mississippi, Florida or Idaho.

There is not a city in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico or Wyoming as large as Escanaba.

There is not a city in Vermont, Wyoming, New Mexico, Nevada, Mississippi, Arizona, North Dakota or South Dakota as large as Calumet.

Calumet is larger than any city in Oregon except Portland, in South Carolina except Charleston, in Utah except Salt Lake City, in Louisiana except New Orleans, in Maine except Portland, in Maryland except Baltimore, and in New Hampshire except Manchester.

What do you think of this great empire of the Upper Peninsula?

Is there any reason why it should not be a separate state, with all the honors and privileges of separate statehood?

Within the last three years the Upper Peninsula has spent more than \$2,500,000 for good roads, which is more than the amount spent in that period by fourteen other states in the Union.

The Upper Peninsula of Michigan has more public schools than Rhode Island, Delaware, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah or Nevada.

The Upper Peninsula of Michigan spends more for public schools than New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Delaware, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona or Nevada.

The Upper Peninsula has more pupils enrolled in its public schools than Delaware, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona or Nevada.

The percentage of illiteracy in the population 10 years of age or older in the Upper Peninsula is less than the same percentage of illiteracy in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Missouri and all the southern states of the Union.

The Upper Peninsula pays the United States government a larger annual corporation tax than Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, South Carolina, Vermont or Wyoming.

The Upper Peninsula pays the United States government a larger annual internal revenue tax than Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, South Carolina and Utah.

The per capita wealth in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan is greater than the per capita wealth in Arkansas, Colorado, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Vermont and all the southern states.

There are 75 banks in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, the savings deposits of which are greater than all the savings deposits in Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Kansas, Montana, Maryland, Colorado, Washington or Oregon.

The average deposits to each depositor in the Upper Peninsula are larger than the average in eighteen other states.

Excelling so many states in population, area, wealth, manufacturing, education, bank savings, amount paid the federal government for its expenses, in miles of railroads, number of mines and factories, in agricultural opportunities, in cities, and harbors, churches and public schools, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, our Clover-Land, confidently asserts its identity.

By Roger M. Andrews of Menominee

FIRST NATIONAL BANK, SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN

UNITED STATES DEPOSITARY

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