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St. Louis. Board of Education

St. Louis.



A Handbook of Information

issued in honor of the

Visiting Teachers of England, Scotland,
Ireland and Wales.



1907.



STATUE OF ST. LOUIS, WORLD'S FAIR.

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... INVITATION ...



TO THE TEACHERS

FROM ENGLAND,

SCOTLAND,

IRELAND AND

WALES,

THE CITIZENS AND TEACHERS

OF ST. LOUIS

EXTEND A CORDIAL INVITATION

TO VISIT THEIR CITY AND

ACCEPT THEIR HOSPITALITY.



BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING.

HEADQUARTERS

FOR THE

European Visitors

Board of Education Building,
Northwest Corner Ninth and Locust
Streets.



The offices of the Board of Educa-
tion are open from 8:30 A. M. to 5:30
P. M.

On Saturdays, from 8:30 A. M. to
1:00 P. M.



TELEPHONES: Bell, Main 3053;
Kinloch, Central 3720.

COMMITTEE OF RECEPTION.

- W. S. CHAPLIN, *Chairman*,
Chancellor Washington University.
WALTER H. WILCOX, *Secretary*,
Principal Jackson School.
PROF. C. M. WOODWARD,
Member of the Board of Education.
DR. WM. TAUSSIG,
Member of the Board of Education.
F. LOUIS SOLDAN,
Superintendent of Instruction.
BEN BLEWETT,
Ass't Superintendent of Instruction.

THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS.

Its Importance. St. Louis is the fourth city of the United States in regard to population.

It is located on the west bank of the Mississippi, about twenty miles south of the mouth of the Missouri River. It is the largest city and railroad center in the Mississippi Valley and important both as a manufacturing city and as a distributing market for products representing the entire country. Its location makes it a point of exchange between manufactured products and the products of the soil. It has a central position in regard to the two great agricultural States of Missouri and Illinois. Missouri is rich in minerals, especially lead and zinc. There are large coal beds in the vicinity of St. Louis.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

	Number of Inhabitants Estimated at	686,000
Popu- lation.	Census of 1900	575,000
	Number of Children in Public Schools	87,074
	Number of Teachers Employed . .	2,090
	Number of School Buildings . . .	119

The modern school building contains, as a rule, twenty rooms and a large room for the kindergarten. It accommodates about twelve hundred children.



YEATMAN HIGH SCHOOL.

The Educational Growth of St. Louis.

St. Louis has always been a center of progressive education. Several of the men that she employed in her schools have subsequently achieved a national reputation. Dr. W. T. Harris, the foremost American educator, and until lately National Commissioner of Education, began his public career as Superintendent of Public Schools in St. Louis.

Many important movements that affected education all over the country originated here. The first kindergarten connected with public schools was founded in St. Louis nearly thirty years ago by Miss Susan Blow. The first Manual Training School

in the country was founded here over twenty-five years ago by Professor C. M. Woodward.

**Progress
in the Last
Ten Years.**

The last ten years mark a new epoch of educational progress in St. Louis. A new charter was then enacted by which political influences are eliminated in the election of a Board of Education, and the executive work in the conduct of the schools is placed in the hands of experts. School buildings of superior merit have been erected. Large pieces of land for school sites with abundance of playgrounds have been purchased. Over one-third of all the school rooms in the city have been reconstructed or rebuilt. Two high schools with manual training equipment have been erected at a cost of a million dollars. Manual training, sewing and cooking have been introduced into the elementary schools. School books and stationery are supplied at public expense. Large school libraries have been purchased for every school so that no child grows up without acquaintance with the treasures of literature. Photographs and casts of the masterpieces of the world are displayed in almost every school. Modern rational methods of instruction have been introduced. The work of the evening schools has been systematized and improved. A compulsory education law has been adopted. Teachers' salaries have been raised. A system of paying annuities to superannuated teachers has begun.

These are some of the educational achievements of St. Louis during the last ten years.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Relation between State and City.

The State of Missouri, through its legislative assembly, has absolute authority over all the schools of the State. The Board of Education of St. Louis derives its power from a charter by which the legislature grants to the city home rule in school affairs.

Income.

The principal part of the income of the schools is derived, not from State funds, but from local taxation. The right of the Board to tax is limited by the State Constitution to sixty cents on the hundred dollars.

The expenditures for school puposes during the school year 1905-1906 were over three million dollars.

The Board of Education.

The Board of Education is composed of twelve members, elected, not by districts, but by the whole city. The members serve without remuneration and have a tenure of six years. The regular meetings of the Board take place once a month.

Chiefs of Departments.

There are four administrative departments: Instruction, Building, Supplies and Finance. At the head of each of these departments is a salaried officer to whom the charter grants extensive powers. These officers are appointed by the Board for a period of four years. In the appointments of teachers and in the adoption of text-books and apparatus, the recommendation of the Superintendent of Instruction and affirmative action by the Board are required.

ORGANIZATION OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Kinds of Schools. Separate schools are maintained for white and colored children. The elementary schools are called District Schools.

Each District School has, as a rule, a kindergarten. The secondary schools are called High Schools, and have a course of instruction extending over four years. The Teachers College receives students that have finished the High School work. Its course covers two years.

During the winter, Evening District Schools and Evening High Schools are opened for youths from fourteen to twenty years of age.

Teachers and Pupils. **PRINCIPALS.** The principal of a school has supervision of the teachers and the general management of the school. He is not required to teach but is held responsible for the teaching in all the rooms.

TEACHERS. Teachers of the city have, as a rule, received their training in the High School and in the Teachers College or Normal School. Specially selected teachers are placed in charge of the primary rooms.



ENTRANCE TO CLAY SCHOOL.

finish the course of elementary instruction in seven years or less. This flexible system of promotion is made possible by the peculiar organization of the class rooms.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

Pupils. Children enter the elementary schools at the age of six. They remain in kindergarten one year and then are promoted to the primary room where instruction in reading, etc., begins. The course of the elementary school covers eight years.

At the close of the District course, the pupil may enter the High School on the certificate of the principal, without additional examination.

A flexible
Promotion system of
Pupils. promotion is
in use which

enables a talented child to

Organization of Classes.

In the District Schools, the average number of children per room is about fifty. As a rule, the pupils of each room are divided into two classes of different degrees of advancement. While one class is reciting, the other division studies the lesson for the next recitation.

This plan is preferred because it encourages self-reliance and individual thinking. It leaves children a little more intellectual freedom and gives them a little more self-dependence than if they were always keeping step mentally with the teacher.

By having two or more divisions in each room, the number of classes becomes large and the interval between the classes small, representing in some cases but ten weeks' work. A child who fails in his studies and is placed in the class below loses but a few weeks, and may soon make up his loss.

Promotions in the District Schools take place once in ten weeks. Talented pupils can be promoted at any time since there are two classes of different grade in each room. It is often possible to promote children without a change in rooms.

COURSES OF STUDY.

The course of study in the District **District Schools.** Schools includes Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, History of the United States, Singing, Physical Culture, Elementary Instruction in Science and Conversational Lessons in Morals. Drawing is systematically taught and includes elementary color work and the making and decorating of objects, from paper and similar material. The recitations last from twenty to thirty minutes according to grade. The school hours are from 9:00 to 12:00 and from 1:10 to 3:25 with intermissions.

Printed copies of the courses of study may be obtained by addressing the Superintendent of Instruction.



MANUAL TRAINING.

District Schools. Every boy in the seventh and eighth grades of the elementary course receives instruction in carpentry work. He makes his own working designs. The girls are taught the household arts, sewing, mending, etc., the making of plain garments, and cooking. The cooking lessons include marketing, the elements of the chemistry of food and physiology of nutrition, the preparing of meals for the sick, and lessons in good table manners.

COURSE OF STUDY — HIGH SCHOOLS.



COOKING, DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

The course of study in the High Schools includes instruction in ancient and modern languages, mathematics, science, history and art. The study of the English Language and Literature forms an important part of every pupil's work. The laboratories and manual training shops are among the best in the country. Each school is decorated with choice copies of good art works.

The studies are arranged in courses, from which the pupil must choose one when he enters school. The studies in each course are

prescribed and not subject to choice. Some of the courses offered to the student are: Preparatory Courses for College, Course preparing for Commercial Life, Courses with special stress on Drawing and Art, Manual Training Course, etc. Each pupil is required to pursue four or five studies at a time. The recitations are about forty minutes in length. Promotions are made semi-annually. The school session lasts from 9 : 00 to 2 : 30

with an intermission of half an hour at noon. Substantial warm luncheons are served to the students prepared by employees of the Board of Education and sold at cost.

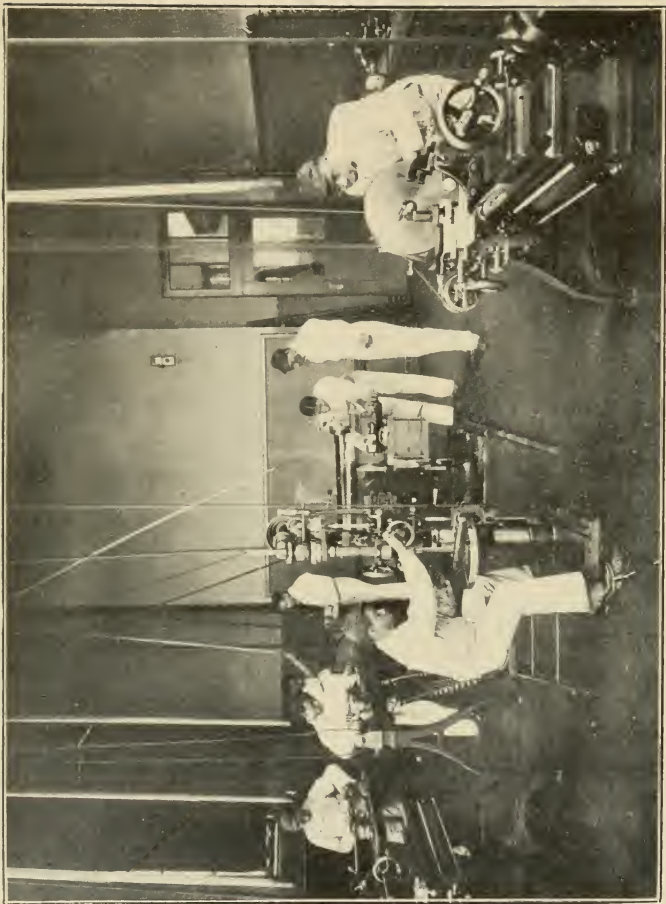


MANUAL TRAINING IN HIGH SCHOOLS.

The McKinley and Yeatman High Schools and the Sumner High School for colored youths offer to the boys a Manual Training Course of four years and have well equipped shops for wood work, forging and machine work.

For the girls, a four years' course of Instruction in the Domestic Arts and Science is provided which includes the sewing, fitting and designing of garments, and the art study of costume and color in connection therewith, millinery, cooking, including the chemistry and physiology of food, marketing, the work in the household, including the laundry work, the giving of first help in accidents, nursing the sick, etc.

The Central High School does not teach Manual Training.
Enrollment in the high schools, 4,487 pupils.



SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL WORKSHOP FOR COLORED PUPILS.

THE KINDERGARTENS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

St. Louis was the first city to add kindergartens to the Public School system. The first Public School kindergarten was opened in St. Louis by Miss Susan Blow, when Dr. W. T. Harris was superintendent of the Public Schools of St. Louis. The graduates of the St. Louis Training School for Kindergarten Teachers became the pioneers of the kindergartens in the United States.

In every large District School there is a room specially built for kindergarten work. The children in these kindergartens are from six to seven years of age.

The aim of the kindergarten education is to promote the healthy growth of character, intelligence and physical strength. It is a preparation for the regular school work, but does not impart instruction in the regular studies of the school.

The developing influence of the kindergarten is exercised through games which give a glimpse at the relations and vocations of life; through songs which enlarge the vocabulary and form a kind of introduction to literature; through occupations and hand-work which train hand, eye and mind, and which cultivate the sense of form and color. Good taste and a love of the beautiful are inculcated. The children are introduced to the elementary facts of science by watching the growth of plants.

TEACHERS COLLEGE

The purpose of the Teachers College is the training of teachers for the public schools of St. Louis. Candidates for admission must have finished a course of four years in a secondary school (High School) or possess equivalent preparation.

The Teachers College was established in 1903. It is located in a new building finished in 1905. The building contains well equipped recitation rooms, a library, laboratories, an assembly room, a gymnasium, and a lunch room. There is a large room with seats arranged in tiers; in the center there is desk space to seat a class of children. The young teachers here observe how classes brought here from various schools are taught.



ENTRANCE TO TEACHERS COLLEGE.

The course of study of the Teachers College includes the Science of Education and its Practice, and History, Psychology, the Study of Children, Methods of Instruction, etc. After the student has finished the course she is sent for a year, as an apprentice, to some school. A diploma is awarded to students successful in their studies as well as in their practical work.

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY.

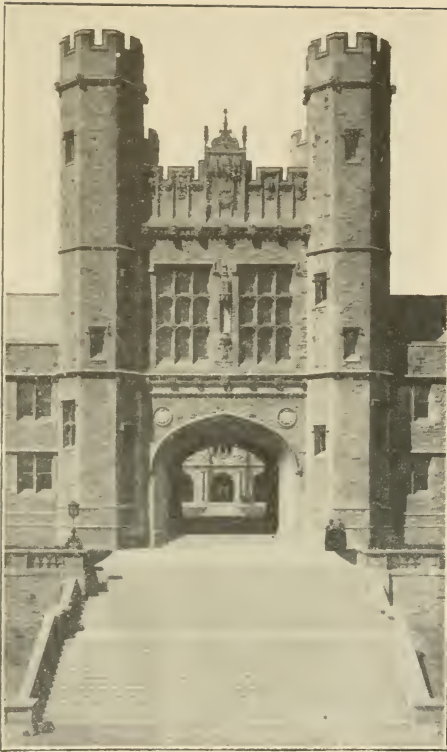
Washington University, of which Mr. W. S. Chaplin is Chancellor, is an institution with all the modern equipments of University work.

It is located in the western part of the city where it covers extensive and beautifully located grounds. It combines

1. A College of Letters and Philosophy, University Campus.
2. A School of Engineering and Architecture, University Campus.
3. A Law School, 29th and Locust Streets.
4. A School of Fine Arts, 19th and Locust Streets.
5. A School of Botany, Missouri Botanical Garden.
6. A Medical School, 1806 Locust Street.
7. A Dental School, 27th and Locust Streets.

Three Subordinate Schools.

1. Smith Academy (Classical) for Boys, Von Versen and Windermere Way.
2. Mary Institute for Girls, Lake and McPherson Avenues.
3. The Manual Training School, Von Versen Avenue near Union Avenue.



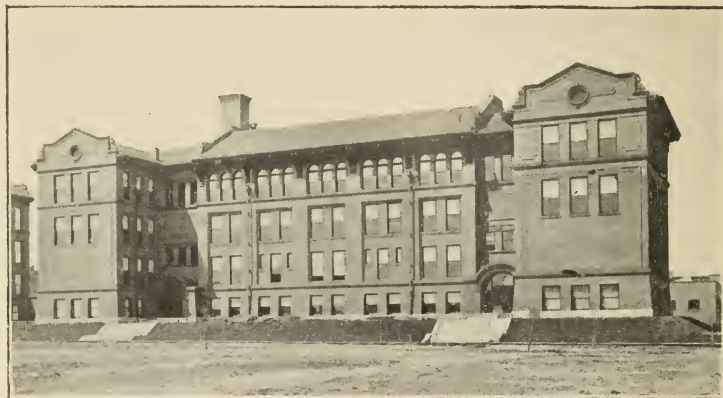
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY GATEWAY.

The picture shows the Grand Tower Entrance to the First Quadrangle of the University. Under the Arch is a glimpse of the Library, the building in which the Jubilee Presents to Queen Victoria were exhibited two years ago. On the front area of the campus, the "British Pavilion" still stands, in the midst of the well preserved "English Garden."

The University Buildings are entirely new and contain lecture and class rooms, laboratories, library, gymnasium building on campus, and dormitories.

THE MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL OF WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY.

The Manual Training School is a secondary school for boys. It was the first school of its kind in the country, and its founder,



MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

Prof. C. M. Woodward, is still in charge. It was organized in 1879 and opened on another site in 1880. This pioneer school has a world-wide reputation, and has served as a model for similar high grade schools in many lands. It is not a trade school, but is for general education, combining mental with manual training and culture.

DENOMINATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY.

There are many excellent denominational schools in St. Louis. Among the Roman Catholic Schools, two institutions are specially prominent.

St. Louis University. The St. Louis University was established in 1829 and has educated several generations of young men. It has the following departments: Academy, College, Commercial, Philosophy, Medicine, Science and Divinity. The library of St. Louis University contains over 43,000 volumes.

It is located on Grand avenue opposite Pine Street.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY.

The Christian Brothers Academy is an institution for the education of boys and young men, and enjoys an excellent reputation as an educational institution. It has fine and commodious buildings which have a commanding location at one of the highest points in the city. It can be reached by the Easton avenue cars.

Names and Location of Some Parochial Schools.

St. Alphonsus, 1122 North Grand Avenue.

St. Leo, 25th and Mullanphy Streets.

Holy Name, Grand Avenue near 20th Street.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF VISITORS.

Notice of Arrival. Visitors should notify Chancellor W. S. Chaplin, or Prof. C. M. Woodward, care of Washington University, or Mr. Ben Blewett, Assistant Superintendent of Public Schools, of the day and hour of their arrival in St. Louis, and mention the railroad line by which they propose to come.

Headquarters. The headquarters of the Reception Committee is in the Board of Education Building, Office of the Superintendent of Instruction, Ninth and Locust streets. Telephones, Bell, Main 3053; Kinloch, Central 3720.

Hotels. Visitors will be the guests of the Committee during the time of their visit of inspection. Hotel accommodations will be provided for them and they will be informed of their location in advance if notice of their visit is sent in time.

School Visits. Visitors will be provided with guides to the various schools which they wish to visit.

List of Schools. Lists of schools with information concerning the car lines by which they are reached can be obtained at headquarters. Printed courses of study and the Annual Report of the Board of Education, with detailed information about the Public School system can be procured there free of charge.

SOME POINTS OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS.

In the following list the points of interest located near each other are grouped together:—

1. (a) Board of Education Building, Ninth and Locust streets — Session Room of the Board with pictures of new buildings; offices of various departments, Supply Room — Architects' Drafting Room. In the same building: Public Library about 200,000 volumes.
 - (b) Jefferson School, Ninth and Wash streets — mostly Jewish children — 1,300 pupils — Manual Training.
 - (c) Patrick Henry School, Tenth and O'Fallon streets — just opened — cost about \$300,000.00 — nearly 1,400 children — bath rooms.
 - (d) St. Louis School of Fine Arts, Nineteenth and Locust streets, maintained by Washington University.
 - (e) Dumas (colored) School — Look at the Kindergarten. Notice the singing in all the grades.
2. (a) Washington University, Lindell avenue and Skinker Road. It can be reached by the McPherson car on Olive street; at end of line transfer to Clayton car, which passes the University.

- (b) Manual Training School and Smith Academy, a preparatory school for boys, both maintained by Washington University (Von Versen avenue west of Union avenue).
 - (c) Eugene Field School (Olive st. and Taylor ave.)—a Public District School, located in a purely American district — 1,000 children — 18 rooms and a kindergarten.
3. (a) Yeatman High (Garrison and Natural Bridge Road)—Manual Training Shops, Domestic Science Instruction, Kitchen, Sewing Rooms, etc. — Chemical, Physical and Biological Laboratories — Art Rooms — Rooms for Commercial Training — Gymnasium — Baths — Note the work in Drawing and the connection between Art Work and Manual Training — Visit the public kitchen and luncheon room during recess and see how 600 pupils are served — Look at the assembly room and the mural paintings of Mr. James E. Yeatman.
- (b) The David Farragut School (Sullivan and Warne avenues) about eight blocks west of the Yeatman High School — Opened in September, 1906 — Representing the most modern type of school building — Notice the school gymnasium.
4. (a) The Sumner High School (Fifteenth and Walnut Streets). A secondary school for colored students — Visit the workshop and the Art Room — Notice the “portable building” — About fifty of these buildings are used in various parts of the city to take care of the

overflow of pupils during the time necessary to erect a new building.

- (b) L'Ouverture School (2612 Papin Street). A school for colored children — Visit the kindergarten.
5. (a) The Teachers College (Theresa and Park avenues). Laboratory — Library — Gymnasium — “ Critic ” Room — See the World's Fair Exhibit of St. Louis stored in the basement.
- (b) The Educational Museum (Theresa and Eads avenues). One of the most important additions to the Public School System in the last two years — It is a “ traveling ” collection of objects to be used in all the schools for instruction in Natural History, Physics, Science and Geography — Large collections of lantern slides and stereoscopic views — A delivery wagon takes these collections to any school making a requisition for the same — Pedagogical Library for teachers — Ask for a catalogue of the collections.
 - (c) The Wyman School (Theresa and Eads avenues). Listen to a recitation in the primary grade.
 - (d) Eads Avenue Training Center (Eads and Texas avenues). A small building used as a center to which classes from the surrounding District Schools are sent to receive instruction in Manual Training and Domestic Science.

6. (a) The McKinley High School (Missouri and Russell avenues) Manual Training Shops, Domestic Science Instruction, Kitchen, Sewing Rooms, etc. — Chemical, Physical and Biological Laboratories — Art Rooms — Rooms for Commercial Training — Gymnasium — Baths — Visit the public kitchen and luncheon room during recess and see how 800 pupils are served.
- (b) The Franz Sigel School (Allen and McNair avenues). Opened in September, 1906 — Representing the most modern type of school building — Notice the school gymnasium.
7. (a) Monroe School (Broadway and Winnebago streets). A building of 18 rooms and kindergarten — 1,000 children. Located in a part of the city in which a large number of German families live.
- (b) Shepard School (Wisconsin and Potomac streets). A new school opened in 1906 — Notice the gymnasium — 22 rooms and kindergarten — 1,200 children.



FARRAGUT SCHOOL.

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