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William J. Kerr

3-16-1906

Letter from D. H. Christensen

D. H. Christensen

Public Schools, Salt Lake City, Utah

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Public Schools,
Salt Lake City,
Utah.

D. D. Christensen,
Superintendent.

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March 16, 1906.

President W. J. Kerr,
Agricultural College,
Logan, Utah.

My dear Sir:-

Your letter of March 15th has just reached me.

We have endeavored with but moderate success to eliminate some parts from the published arithmetic. During the fourth and fifth years we concentrate so far as may well be done on the fundamental operations in arithmetic, emphasizing particularly rapidity and accuracy; and pupils must "learn the tables". Fractions are studied with reasonable thoroughness during the fifth year and with added intensity during the sixth. This subject merges naturally into percentage, followed by interest with a few of its subdivisions. Factoring, mensuration, and proportion are interwoven with all of the above, as those subjects are to an extent with one another from the first year, but they get added attention during the seventh year and the first half of the eighth. During the last half of the eighth year a general review is given. The enclosed circular letter will suggest its nature. I doubt that the attempt made in some of our schools to "mix" a little algebra with the arithmetic has been entirely successful.

In our 8A Class we use Arithmetical Problems by W. F. Nichols.

Miss Pollock, Supervisor of primary Grades, has outlined work in nature study. I shall forward some of these in a few days.

Very truly,

D. D. Christensen
City Supt. of Schools.