

AC 105 BOX 14
FOLDER 8

Dec.
16th,
1912.

Collier S. S.

Dear Sir:-

For several months past, I have been seeking advice and opinions from leading educators of America with reference to exhibits in education at the San Diego Exposition. I have also digested several hundred letters from college and university presidents, which were placed in my hands by Mr. Hogaboom. As a result, I have arrived at the following conclusions:-

- (1) That educational exhibits such as have been seen at Worlds Fairs in the past have been of doubtful value, of little interest to the public, and would find little support among educational institutions in the future.
- (2) That a building devoted to education, with the great movements that are absorbing the attention of the country, at the present time in active operation, would be one of the strongest features that could be presented, and would gain the unanimous support of the educational forces of the country. Accordingly, I recommend the following plan for your consideration.

AC105 BOX 14
FOLDER 8

Set aside a quadrangle for education with the halls surrounding it apportioned as follows:-

- (1) University education,
- (2) Vocational education,
- (3) Public school work,
- (4) Infant education.

For the development of the first section invite the co-operation of a few of the leading Universities of the world.

For the second, secure the participation of leading vocational schools, (technical, Agricultural, Manual Training, etc.) for the purpose of exhibiting the actual operation of schools of industrial arts, -such as are to be seen in greatest perfection in Switzerland and some parts of America.

For the division of public school work, enlist first of all, the city schools of San Diego. Place at their disposal by next September, tracts of land for the demonstration of public school agriculture. Enlist other schools of California and all other states for advanced lines of educational practice to be put in operation in the building. *and in the grounds.*

Very
For the section devoted to infant education, let great emphasis upon such subjects as Engenics, which is fundamental to all education; the Montessori and Froebel systems, with a view to demonstrating the particular values of each.

Make these departments actual laboratories for activities in practical education. More taxes are paid for public schools than for any other one thing, and no other subject can have such universal interest. If by education, we mean the actual improvement of the race in every respect, for every mental and physical defect to be found in humanity someone is responsible. For the correction and care of defective, every commonwealth pays millions of dollars. If charitable and penal institutions are to be made unnecessary, if disease and crime are to be eliminated, it must be through education. I am inclined to think that the most noted result that could come from this Exposition would be through a bringing to the consciousness of millions of people, the vital facts of physical and social betterment, which can be applied in every school district, and in every home in America.

1912-12-16

#3

AC 105
BOX 14
FOLDER 8

Accordingly, I strongly recommend the setting aside of one building for education to be used in some such manner as above outlined. If you concur, I shall at once carry this matter to the City Superintendent and Board of Education of San Diego, and to the heads of other educational institutions throughout the country, who I think would be most likely to offer active participation.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Director of Exhibits.

President D. C. Collier.