

discussed and a far-sighted forest policy is recommended. The setting aside of forest reserves and the exclusion of stock is advocated, as well as the planting of certain areas. The paper is a most valuable contribution to our knowledge of the forests of these islands.

CHARLES E. BESSEY.

*DECLARATION OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.**

1. We can not emphasize too often the educational creed first promulgated more than a century ago that 'religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.' This declaration of the fathers must come to us now with newer and more solemn call when we remember that in many parts of our common country the fundamental questions of elementary education—local taxation, consolidation of weak schools, rational supervision, proper recognition of the teacher as an educator in the schools system, school libraries and well trained and well paid teachers—are still largely unsettled questions.

2. We would direct attention, therefore, to the necessity for a supervisor of ability and tact for every town, city, county and state system of public schools. Not only are leaders needed in this position who can appreciate and stimulate the best professional work, but qualities of popular leadership are also demanded to the end that all classes of people may be so aroused that every future citizen of the republic may have the very best opportunities for training in social and civic efficiency.

3. The very nature of the teacher's task demands that that task be entrusted only to men and women of culture and of intellectual and moral force. Inadequate compensation for educational work drives many efficient workers from the school room and prevents many men and women of large ambition for service from entering the profession. It is creditable neither to the profession nor to the general public that teachers of our children, even though they can be secured, should be

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paid the paltry sum of \$300 a year, which is about the average annual salary of teachers throughout the country.

4. The Bureau of Education at Washington should be preserved in its integrity, and the dignity of its position maintained and increased. It should receive at the hands of our lawmakers such recognition and such appropriations as will enable it not only to employ all expert assistance necessary, but also to publish in convenient and usable form the results of investigations; thus making that department of our government such a source of information and advice as will be most helpful to the people in conducting their campaigns of education.

5. We would emphasize the necessity for the development of public high schools wherever they can be supported properly, in order that the largest number possible of those who pass through the elementary grades may have the advantage of broader training, and for the additional reason that the public elementary schools are taught largely by those who have no training beyond that given in the high schools.

6. As long as more than half of our population is rural, the rural school and its problems should receive the solicitous care of the National Educational Association. The republic is vitally concerned in the educational development of every part of its territory. There must be no forgotten masses anywhere in our union of states and territories, nor in any one of its dependencies.

7. We believe that merit and merit alone should determine the employment and retention of teachers, that, after due probation, tenure of office should be permanent during efficiency and good behavior, and that promotions should be based on fitness, experience, professional growth and fidelity to duty. We especially commend the efforts that are being made in many parts of the country whereby teachers, school officials and the general public working together for a common purpose are securing better salaries for teachers and devising a better system for conserving the rights and privileges of all and for improving the efficiency of the schools.

8. We declare further that, granted equal character and efficiency, and equally successful experience, women are equally entitled with men to the honors and emoluments of the profession of teaching.

9. We advocate the enactment and rigid enforcement of appropriate laws relating to child labor, such as will protect the mental, moral and physical well-being of the child, and will be conducive to his educational development into American citizenship.

10. The responsibility for the success or failure of the schools rests wholly with the people and therefore the public schools should be kept as near to the people as practicable; to this end we endorse the principle of popular local self-government in all school matters.

11. Since education is a matter of the highest public concern, our public school system should be fully and adequately supported by taxation; and tax laws should be honestly and rigidly enforced both as to assessment and collection.

12. We congratulate and thank the management of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition for giving education first place in the scheme of classification, for the location and grandeur of its building, and for the extent and arrangement of the educational exhibits. Such recognition of education is in harmony with the genius of our democracy and will stimulate interest in popular education throughout the world.

APPEAL FOR COOPERATION IN MAGNETIC
AND ALLIED OBSERVATIONS DURING
THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF
AUGUST 29-30, 1905.

THOSE who are in position to take part in above cooperative work are earnestly requested to make the necessary preparations and to put themselves in communication with the undersigned.

As this will be the best opportunity for some time to come to further test and observe the magnetic and electric phenomena which have been found to occur in connection with total solar eclipses, and as these phenomena are destined to play an important rôle in the theory of the variations of the earth's magnetism and

electricity, ascribed to outside forces, it is very much hoped that all countries through which or near which the belt of totality passes will organize and send in the field observing parties.

Owing to the minuteness of the expected magnetic effect, the burden of proof as to its association with the eclipse will largely consist, as in the two previous eclipses, in the connection of the times of the magnetic effects with the times of passage of the shadow cone at the various stations. The observing parties, therefore, should be distributed at intervals along as much of the entire belt as possible.

The above is merely a preliminary notification of the work proposed. Fuller details and suggested directions to be followed will be given later.

L. A. BAUER,
Director.

Address: *Department of Terrestrial Magnetism,
The Ontario, Washington, D. C.,
U. S. A.*

THE COTTON BOLL WEEVIL.

LAST year the chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry prepared, by direction of the secretary, a general plan of work to meet the damage caused by the Mexican cotton boll weevil. With this plan as a basis, the sum of \$250,000 was appropriated and became available early in February of this year. The work was divided in the department, part being assigned by the secretary to the Bureau of Plant Industry, and part to the Bureau of Entomology. During the summer the investigations have been pushed forward vigorously by both branches of the department. The department has cooperated with state authorities in locating and taking action upon sporadic outbreaks of the weevil. The farmers in the state of Texas have been thoroughly organized and more than 5,000 have grown cotton under the improved conditions recommended by the department. This work has been in charge of Dr. S. A. Knapp, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, with headquarters at Houston. Extensive work on the improvement of varieties has been inaugurated, the work being conducted by the Bureau of Plant Industry mainly at Terrell, Texas. In order to encour-