

EDUCATIONAL QUESTIONS

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Educational Questions by W. C. Doub

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W. C. DOUB

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QUESTIONS**

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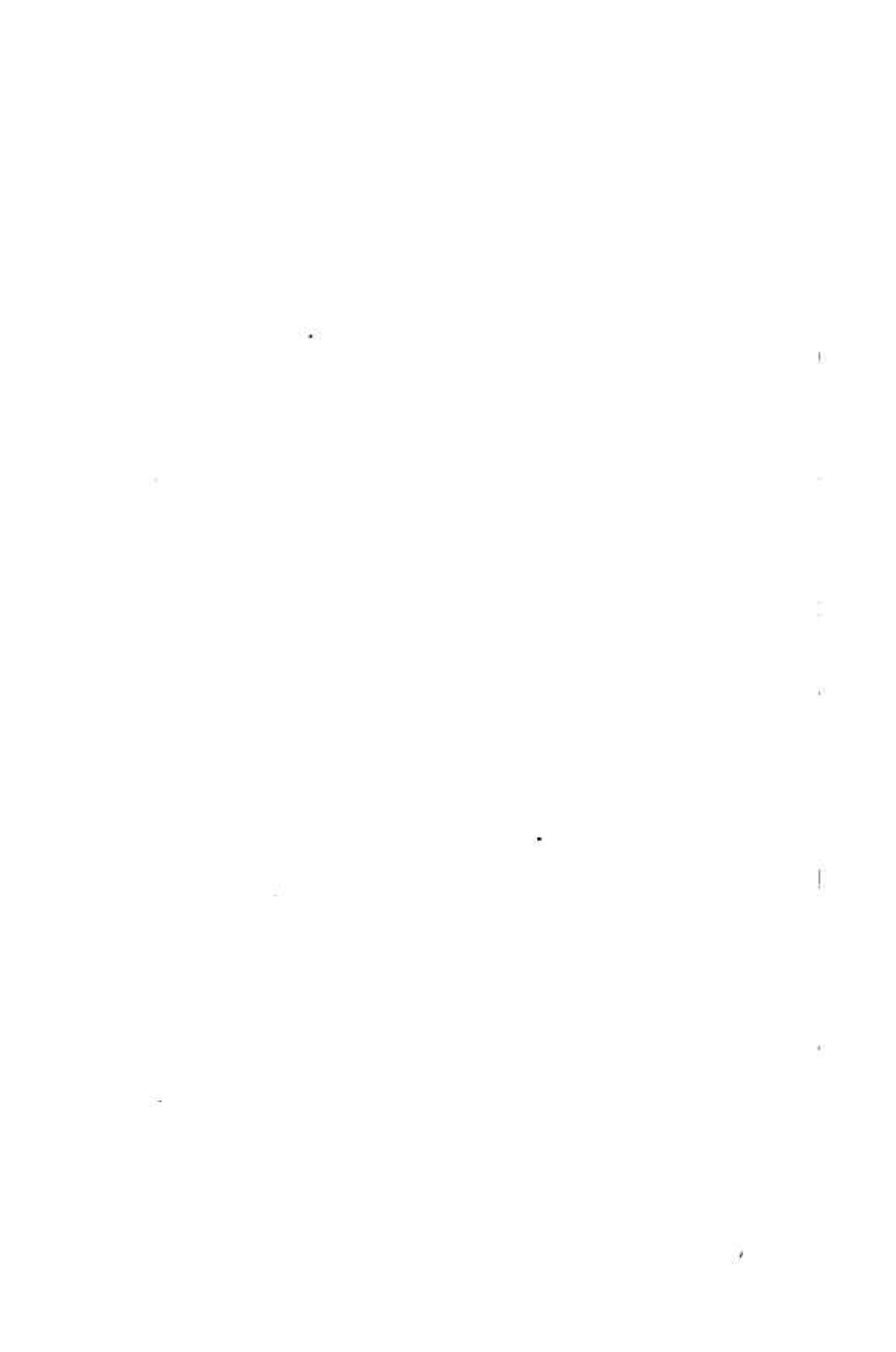
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PREFACE.

The public school system of California during the next few years is destined to pass through a period of change and transition. I recognize, at least to some extent, the vital importance of this period of transition, and I recognize further, that some of the evils in the public school system, which we now see, will not be remedied during this period, but must be postponed for final correction to some future time. With some knowledge of the limitations which the present environment necessitates, I have, in the pages which follow, discussed some of the evils of the present school system and have pointed out the remedy. Some of these remedies are based on actual experience, some are not; but they are submitted with the one request that the public, the educator and the legislator give them due consideration. The discussions are short, sometimes even to bluntness, the object being to call the attention of the reader directly to the evil and to the remedy, and to avoid bewildering the mind with details.

W. C. DOUB.

Bakersfield, Cal., March 1, 1900.



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CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS.

The position of the public school teacher is becoming of more and more importance. There is an increasing tendency in the United States to assign to the teacher duties that have heretofore been assumed by the parent. The mental, moral and physical training of the child is being left to the teacher. This tendency may or may not be a wise one, but it exists, and the indications are that it will continue to exist. This being true, the parent and society at large are vitally interested in the character and ability of the men and women into whose hands has been placed so large a share of this responsibility. A republican state is vitally interested in the mental, moral and physical training and education of its young men and women. In the United States this duty has been largely assigned to the public schools. The efficiency of those schools depends more on the teacher than on all other things combined. School buildings and school apparatus are the necessary adjuncts, but the teacher is the school. His character and his qualifications should be of deeper concern to the parent and to the state than the school house in which the child studies and recites or the apparatus with which he works. Those who are responsible for the laws which govern the issuing of teachers' certificates ought thoroughly to understand that they are dealing with one of the most im-