EXERCISES FOR "METHODS OF TEACHING IN HIGH SCHOOLS"; A PROBLEM-SOLVING METHOD IN A SOCIAL SCIENCE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649393176

Exercises for "Methods of teaching in high schools"; a problem-solving method in a social science by Samuel Chester Parker

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

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SAMUEL CHESTER PARKER

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BY

SAMUEL CHESTER PARKER

Professor of Educational Methods in The University of Chicago

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WHY IS THIS BETTER, EVEN THOUGH PRIM AND UNROMANTIC?

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A PROBLEM-SOLVING METHOD IN A SOCIAL SCIENCE

BY

SAMUEL CHESTER PARKER

PROPESSOR OF EDUCATIONAL METHODS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

REVISED EDITION

GINN AND COMPANY

BOSTON - NEW YORK - CHICAGO - LONDON ATLANTA - DALLAS - COLUMBUS - SAN FRANCISCO

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LRIVEY Pas 1932

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The Athenaum Dress GINN AND COMPANY - PRO-PRIETORS - BOSTON - U.S.A.

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PREFACE

Relation to the textbook "Methods of Teaching in High Schools."—These exercises are intended to provide material for a problem-solving method of using the author's "Methods of Teaching in High Schools." Thus it is one example of the recent movement to organize problem-solving methods in the teaching of the social sciences, of which education is one. The exercises should give the students practice in interpreting the discussions in the textbook and in actually applying these to the solution of real problems of teaching. For a description of the standards which the author has endeavored to follow in making the exercises, see page E100, below, exercise 10.

Explanation of arrangement of chapters. — Two types of chapters are contained in this book; namely, chapters of exercises and chapters containing directions for teaching the course and making special assignments for papers to be prepared by the students. The chapters of exercises are numbered to correspond to the chapters in the author's text-book on "Methods of Teaching in High Schools." The other chapters are designated by capital letters (for example, Chapter A, Chapter B) and are distributed through the text at the points where they will be most effective and helpful when encountered in the progress of the course. The instructor should study carefully all of these lettered chapters, before beginning to teach the course so as to get a complete perspective view of its plan and organization.

Page references. — In the "Exercises" the letter E (initial of "Exercises") has been placed before the numbers of all the pages in order to distinguish them from the pages in the

text proper. Most of the references are to the latter, but when the reader encounters such a reference as "page £56" he will feel immediately that this refers to page £56 in the "Exercises."

Rough map of the course. —A general idea of the assignments arranged in the book may be obtained from the following rough map of them:

 Daily discussions of carefully assigned exercises. See page E14.

II. Observations by the whole class of excellent illustrative lessons. Three of these observations are suggested on pages E34, E63, and E82. Others should also be arranged.

III. Two lesson plans by students to be based on stenographic reports of lessons contained in the book. See pages EII5 and EI30.

IV. Three long papers distributed at intervals as follows:

Evaluation of selected recent high-school textbooks.
 See page E36.

 Summary of reading of practical articles in recent periodicals. See page E71.

 A concluding summary paper entitled "I shall Try to Apply the Following Ideas in my Teaching." See page E199.

V. A final examination on one hundred and fifty selected pages. See page £232.

Class discussions with books open, — In the class discussions of exercises noted in paragraph I, above, the students will have both the "Exercises" and the text proper open before them for frequent cross reference. It will be found that these cross references require the most careful analytical study of both books. In order to save time in connection with these references a narrow bookmark may be inserted deep in the inner margin, at the principal place in each book near which the discussion centers. A narrow ribbon or narrow strip of paper cut from the edge of a flyleaf will serve this purpose.