

**PARK AND PAVEMENT.
PART I. WHAT IS A
KINDERGARTEN?**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649445202

Park and Pavement. Part I. What is a Kindergarten? by Geo. Hansen

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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Part I.

What is a Kindergarten?



WHAT IS A KINDERGARTEN?

*The playground of the child;
The home of the mother;
The battlefield of man;
The anchor-ground of patriotism.*

What is a Kindergarten?

GEO. HANSEN,
LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECT
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA



D. P. ELDER AND MORGAN SHEPARD,
SAN FRANCISCO, 1891.

"Close the lid of the trunk and strap the satchels. Let us turn the back to the city and run for the country where dear grandfather expects his flock for the holidays!"

The last railroad station is behind us, and, through fields of waving grain whence larks rise to the clouds to praise the glorious summer, the way leads to the village where grandfather reigns over the diocese of Jeinsen and its tributary ecclesiastics.

Here is my kindergarten. Acres upon acres, with houses and barns, with a walnut tree overshadowing the home of dozens of rooms, with wasps in knot-holes, with meadows on slopes to willowy brook, with cows and horses, with chickens and haystacks, and, be sure to note such, the old family coach in the shed.

And here is my kindergartner.

Behold the venerable figure as it passes along the lanes greeted with bow and lift of cap by old and young alike. His office, with piles of papers with foreign stamps, and with instruments of all descriptions, was a veritable museum to us. It never needed a bell to call us to the daily lessons. We were there upon the minute to listen, now to a talk on the wonders of the waterdrop, then to the descriptions of

barbaric tribes in far away Isles. Oh, let me dwell upon that important day when I received my first lesson in grafting trees! I think of him now as a saint as he knelt on his crutched cane and helped me splice the scion and the stock. I trust the day may come when I may pilgrim with our son to that spot, as I do now in fond imagination!

As I listen to the happy prattle of the child at my knees, and, looking into its eyes see the same brightness and color as the eyes of my kindergartner, why should I believe that the simple sandstone monument near the bleak commons of far-away Herzberg-am-Harz marks the spot where all that I embraced of him rests for ever? And my kindergarten, do I not see it now—this very minute! I walk up to the portal and find him seated on the green garden-bench as of old. The large rosebed spreads out before him, with the Kaiser von Marocco, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Maréchal Niel, the Souvenir de la Malmaison, all those sturdy old-timers which we budded to the twigs of the standards. There he sits, the wide screening cap drawn over his face to protect the eyes from the glaring sun. And the thoughts which go through his mind as he sits there on the evening of his life? Oh, reader mine, I have looked into his eyes so many times that I trust—at last—I have caught these threads of thoughts and woven them in new ply and new woofs. Here they are, covered by the lid which reads:

What is a kindergarten?

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