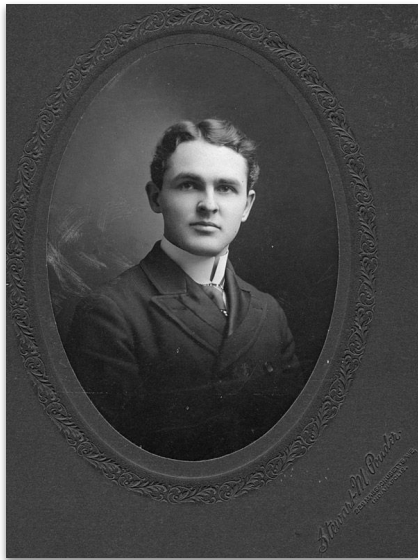


John Franklin Bobbitt



Theories/Ideas/Concepts:

- Social Efficacy
- Scientific Curriculum Making

“Influenced no doubt by the then-popular mental testing movement, Bobbitt believed that schools should assign children... specialized curricular tracks, on the basis of assessments of their intellectual abilities, which fore-told their ultimate destinies in life.”

(Barry M. Franklin)

Biography:

- Born February 16, 1876 to James and Mary Bobbitt in English, Indiana
- Married Sarah Annis June 2, 1903
- Graduated from Indiana University 1901
- Earned PhD from Clark University (Worcester, Massachusetts) in 1909
- Taught 1893-1902 in rural/village schools in Indiana
- Taught at the Philippine Normal School in Manila 1902-1907
- University of Chicago Professor of School Administration 1909-1941
- Died March 7, 1956 in Shelbyville, Indiana

Significant Achievements:

- Served on the Commission of Seven, which was responsible for designing a new curriculum plan for the Philippine School System
- Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Los Angeles, California (1922-23), and Toledo, Ohio (1924)
- Pioneered the use of public school surveys, especially as they pertain to curriculum planning and development
- Leading member of the Committee on Economy of Time - which believed that public school curriculum should be built on the analysis of society

Writings:

- *What Schools Teach and Might Teach* (1916)
- *The Curriculum* (1918)
- *The Curriculum of Modern Education* (1941)
- *A First Book in English* (1904)
- *A Second Book in English* (1905, co-authored with Gertrude R. Eagan)
- *The Silver-Burdett Philippine Reader Series* (co-authored with Sarah Annis Bobbitt)

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Longstreet, W. S. (1978). Bobbitt, John Franklin. In J. F. Ohles (Author), *Biographical Dictionary of American Educators* (Vol. 1, pp. 143-144). Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press.