

natural principles of citizenship. If all mothers were competent mothers; if they were as well fitted for mothers' duties as the teacher is for teaching, much that is now required in the public schools could be let alone. But the instruction from the public school teacher in many instances means to the child home and school too. To many, the teacher takes the place of a parent, associate and mental director.

In these days children are hurried along, breathlessly, through the different grades until they stop, discouraged, upon the threshold of the high school, never to enter. Others, bright and capable in some branches of study, are compelled to go over and over those studies which to them are so hard until they too, discouraged, join the great throng and leave school.

If more specific training for specific needs could be given to our American boys and girls, more of them would be fitted for citizenship and if every child could be taught to put into practical use what he has learned there would be fewer half starved people in our country.

That education which will bring out the best there is in a child and help to make that best greater and then help him to adapt that education to his surroundings, thereby enabling him to earn an honest livelihood and teach him to have respect for himself, his country and his God, is one which will fit him for citizenship.

All will agree with me when I say that a man who is able to live comfortably and whose physical and material wants are well supplied, is capable of being a much better citizen than his poverty stricken neighbor. He is able to think clearly and is better fitted to face the questions that confront all citizens.

My plea then, is this: The public schools should first teach a child reverence for himself, his country and his God. Second. Should teach him thoroughness in whatever he undertakes. Third. Should teach him to apply his knowledge.

Then this state, as well as others, needs an efficient compulsory attendance law. One that shall state the exact time of the year when attendance at school shall begin and shall prohibit children from working in stores, factories or shops who have not had the proper school advantages. There should be officers provided whose duty it is to see that children enter school at the proper time and that all other points of such a law are strictly enforced. There are separate schools needed, too, in the cities, for those children whose very being seems to be antagonistic to the laws of the school. Their attendance is a never ceasing source of worry to the teacher in charge and the effect of their presence is demoralizing to the other children. For them and all other classes of children who need special training there should be separate schools.

The establishment of such schools should be placed in the hands of competent teachers who are especially fitted for their work and the children who are willing to work will be free from the annoyance and evil influence which now appals some parents. While those who are in the hands of special teachers will be much more benefited and receive much more attention from their teachers.

THE WAY TO GO TO CALIFORNIA

is in a tourist sleeping car, personally conducted, via of the Burlington route. You don't change cars. You make fast time. You see the finest scenery on the globe. Your car is not so expensively finished nor so fine to look at as a palace sleeper, but it is just as clean, just as comfortable, just as good to ride in, and nearly \$20 cheaper.

Subscribe for THE COURIER \$1 a year.

IN THE SCHOOL ROOM.

[MARTHA PIERCE.]

It is not given to any merely grown up person to say what the average child thinks. "The thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts," and nimbly evading us, vanish up avenues we may not tread. Their ultimate destination we can only guess, because these ways are not our ways. And yet, after certain dearly bought experiences, and a degree of silent and cautious observation, one may surmise the average child's opinion upon certain subjects of common interest.

Thus it is highly probable that the child, particularly the man-child, looks upon the temporary absence of the one who has made his temperament a special study, as an unmixed joy.

Doubtless he longs for the power to command the sun to stand still on Gideon, while he pursues something very distantly related to wisdom, but requiring unlimited understanding. If the path of the substitute teacher is strewn with roses, it is not due to any pre-arranged plans for bouquet-throwing, on his part. Nor will he fail to see, however thick the roses bloom, that certain little proverbial thorns abide. Only the most brilliant executive ability or a charm which would penetrate the armor of a crocodile, can thwart him and extract from him the regular day's work, though he is quite probably the model pupil, when the room is under the eye of the regular teacher.

For the further encouragement of these faithful and never-to-be-forgotten who take forty effervescent, aged ten, at a half hour's notice, today, and an austere and learned eighth grade tomorrow, and keep the wheels of progress moving, he sometimes adds a finishing stroke, after this fashion.

"I do not understand," said a teacher severely, after an exhortation, "where you learned to do such things! I know Miss A (her predecessor) never allowed such conduct."

A comprehensive and comprehending grin, appeared on the faces of the doers of "such things," and spread itself silently over the room. Out of the silence came the voice of one whose honesty was greater than his vocabulary.


"We always acted that a-way when we had an artificial teacher, down in Miss A's room," he said. The teacher closed the discussion abruptly, and proceeded to teach language.

Many are the problems which rise in the small community which is something more intricate than a municipality, and few there be that solve them satisfactorily, except for present need. Whilom, that extraordinary child who caused the teacher to repeat to herself anxiously as she climbed the stair to the office where he was in solitary confinement, "abnormal," was again in disgrace. A propensity for inflicting his new boots on the calves of plump little boys, and a general talent for mischief had brought him to this evil moment. The teacher sat down and looked at him with that sad and serious gaze which such occasions evoke. Presently she began to talk kindly and gently, and was presently gratified to behold on the face, persistently turned toward the window, an expression of intense interest. To be sure the tears which in the beginning had flowed copiously, were dried on his cheeks, but she had been accustomed to tears, idle tears.

This intent expression was a new phase of Tommy. She talked on gravely, until she deemed the impression on the plastic mind clear cut and clean. As she paused, with the final question, "What do you think about it Tommy?" a grimy little hand clutched hers and an excited voice fell on her waiting ear.

"See that fly! See him twist his toes. Ain't he funny?"

Lessons, are somewhat irksome, even



Fitzgerald Dry Goods Co.

1023-1029 O St. Lincoln, Nebr.

The last order of new-spring dress goods have just arrived, completing the largest assortment of crepons, tailors suitings and other fabrics shown in Nebraska.


NOW

Is the time to select your new spring suit while the department is at its best.

DO NOT DELAY

The dress you intend to get tomorrow may be sold today. The stock is large and better chosen goods never were seen in this city.

Do not fail to see the new spring goods.



to the "best pupil," when his mind is more concerned with the construction of some marvellous cave, or kite, or other things that boys make.

And when in an occasional lesson in composition he is given permission to talk of what he would like to do, he sometimes unveils some of his aspirations, under the stimulus of interest.

"What I would do if I had my own way" was the subject of a composition one day, and some of the statements were interesting and instructive. Some of them ran thus:

"I would want the best thing I could get."

"If I had my way I would go out to my grandpa's farm and see my dog."

This boy was under the influence of a present longing evidently.

"If I had my own way I would watch the men dig a cistern, and haul bricks on my sled. I would dig too."

A precocious youth asserted that if he had his way he would "go to school until he was about 24, and then get married and go way off and earn money."

No less ambitious but more juvenile in his desires Johnnie would "by a team of gotes and a wagon and have fun."

It astonishes the teacher who is laboring to light the spark of ambition for the attainment of greatness which is supposed to be the reasonable hope of every American, if she happen upon the discovery that to most of her boys the glory of the White House fades into insignificance when compared with the ownership of a "team of gotes."

HEART DISEASE

And nervous ailments are as curable as other diseases. I treat nothing else.

J. S. Leonhardt, M.D.
OFFICE 1427 O ST., LINCOLN, NEBR.

SEND US ONE DOLLAR and this ad, and we will send you this big 25-lb. new 1899 pattern high-grade RESERVOIR COAL AND WOOD COOK STOVE, by freight C.O.D., subject to examination. Examine it at your freight depot and if found perfectly satisfactory and the greatest stove ever saw or heard of, pay the FREIGHT AGENT our SPECIAL PRICE, **\$13.00** less the \$1.00 sent with order of \$12.00 and freight charges. This stove is size No. 8, oven is 16 1/2 x 18 1/2, top is 42 x 25; made from best pig iron, extra large flues, heavy covers, heavy linings and grates, large oven shelf, heavy tin-lined oven door, handsome nickel-plated ornate decorations and trimmings, extra large deep, genuine Handlak porcelain lined reservoir, handsome large ornate base. Best coal burner made, and we furnish FREE an extra wood grate, making it a perfect wood burner. WE ISSUE A BINDING GUARANTEE with every stove and guarantee safe delivery to your railroad station. Your local dealer would charge you \$25.00 for such a stove, the freight is only about \$1.00 for each 500 miles, so we save you at least \$10.00. Address, **BEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. (INC.) CHICAGO, ILL.** (Bears, Roebuck & Co. are thoroughly reliable.—Editor.)



WRITE FOR OUR BIG FREE STOVE CATALOGUE.

CYCLE PHOTOGRAPHS
ATHLETIC PHOTOGRAPHS
HOTOG APHS OF BABIES
PHOTOGRAPHS OF GROUPS
EXTERIOR VIEWS

Clements

THE PHOTOGRAPHER
129 South Eleventh Street.

The Rock Island playing cards are the slickest you ever handled. One pack will be sent by mail on receipt of 15 cents in stamps. A money order or draft for 50 cents or same in stamps will secure 4 packs. They will be sent by express, charges prepaid. Address, **JOHN SEBASTIAN, G. P. A., Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific R'y, Chicago.**