GIVING MOTHERS PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN THE CARE OF SICK CHILDREN;—VISITING NURSE VISITS HOMES OF MINERS

Courtesy of Oliver Iron Mining Co.

The above picture shows a visiting nurse in the home of an iron miner on the Mesaba range teaching a mother how to treat a child suffering from an affliction of the ear. Visiting nurses are employed by the company to visit the homes of employes and give the families of miners the benefit of her expert training. This is part of the welfare work recently inaugurated by the Oliver Iron Mining company.

LABOR ENDORSING WIRT PLAN OF EDUCATION; DECLARES IT WILL SOCIALIZE SCHOOLS AND PROPERLY TRAIN CHILDREN TO BE USEFUL

The Wirt plan of education to be adopted at the Morgan Park school is the subject of much discussion in labor and school circles. A little while ago a Duluth Socialist committee passed strong resolutions against the plan. However, there seems to be marked differences of opinions among Socialists about the Wirt plan. The New York Call, the leading Socialist paper in America, is running a series of articles on the subject written by Florence L. Tranenbaum, a well known Socialism. We regret that we can not print all of them, but following will suffice for this issue:

Education in America today is at the crossroads; a push will send it in either of two divergent directions. One road leads to specialization—to all-academic and all-industrial schools, divided, of course, on the class lines; the other roads lead to evenly balanced work-study-and-play schools, in which the child of the mill hand and the child of the mill owner can learn of life together.

Industrial training we must and will have, but we may choose the kind—whether we will teach the cook's daughter to be a cook and the lady's daughter to be a lady, or whether we will give both the maximum development of body, mind and spirit and the tools of knowledge, and let them find their own places.

Time for Workers to Seize the Handle.

Industrial training is a powerful weapon, and now is the time for the workers to seize the handle. Already a law has been passed in Indiana which says that State aid may not be given to any evening or part-time schools which train workers in any other trade than their own. Thus the Writ schools receive no State aid. An important feature of their night schools is this very training of low-paid workers in more highly paid trades. This same Indiana law discriminates against schools which combine general with vocational education, which the Wirt schools do.

Adding work and play to the curriculum changes not only the subjects taught, but also the method of teaching them, for it has been found that children gain a better all-around understanding of academic studies when these are not rigidly separated into subjects—geography, grammar, and so on—but taught as they arise, in their relations to daily life and to the special studies. There are, of course, regular academic classes, though history and geography are fused; but every school activity is used to emphasize the facts learned in class and arouse the desire to master them.

How Play Makes for Better Arithmetic.

Mr. Wirt says: "The community life of the school and the community life of the neighborhood automatically create real needs for mastering the subjects of the school." On this principle are the many playground games which require counting and score-keeping. Instead of telling Willie "You'll be sorry when you grow up if you don't learn your arithmetic," the school makes him sorry today by excluding him from his classmates' games. So Willie takes an extra hour of arithmetic in the parallel school during his library hour, or even spends Saturday at arithmetic—and tomorrow or next week he knows as much as the others and can join the game. How many of us adults wish we had been made to want to know arithmetic in our school days!

Perhaps the best expression of the aim and method of the Wirt schools is in the constitution of an ancient history class in Gary, written by a pupil: " . . . to improve its members as American citizens by a study of the experiences of ancient peoples." In accordance with this is the method of teaching history, as Mr. Randolph Bourne says: "backward." Instead of starting with extinct races and never getting within hailing distance of the present, they start with newspapers and magazines and study history in the light of current events. The map of Mexico in the hall is stuck with tiny flags, showing the present positions of the armies, and there is a relief map of the Panama Canal. There is no class in civics, because all the classes teach citizenship. An arithmetic class, which has measured the wall and figured out the cost of plastering, is not going to deface these walls; a group of young gardeners who have watched the slow growth of living things has learned a respect for creation and will not stone the neighbor's apple trees.

Surer Mastery of Academic Subjects.

Not only do these children gain a knowledge of relations, and, as Allen Upward says, "All knowledge is of relations," but they also gain a surer mastery of the academic subjects themselves when these are made a part of life, and not laid away in water-tight compartments labelled "Class work. Please do not disturb out of hours."

The vocational studies are not taught in such a way as to turn out good cooks and carpenters who can do nothing but cooking or carpentry. Mr. Writ, with other modern educators, discourages specialization before the age of 16, and preserves in his schools "the inalienable right of the youngster to experimentations." All shops and classrooms have full-length glass doors; the very kindergarten children see the older one at various fascinating occupations and beginning with the third grade, they are allowed to enter any shop as assistants to the older children. The small ones fetch and carry and ask questions; the older children learn by teaching. The child may—and usually does—change shops half a dozen times in his school course; he thus learns the main principles and processes of several trades; he knows what he does not like and probably what he does; he knows the general laws of mechanics and can turn his hand to anything—exactly the sort of a person our civilization needs. In addition, he has worked with unionmen from earliest childhood and heard talks on trade conditions in the auditorium; he knows what he wants and is in a position to demand it.

Auditorium is Regular Subject.

Auditorium in the Wirt schools is a regular subject. Each class has an hour of it daily. In this time outsiders present enything they may have of interest to children, as, for instance, union men who tell of trade conditions, musicians who play, city officials who tell of their work. Also, the teachers have an opportunity to give stereopticon lectures on their subjects; the children give exhibitions to the whole school in connection with their work, as curious chemical experiments, playlets illustrating the laws of hygiene, folk dances, historical plays. This is one of the many ways of vitalizing and relating the studies. Another through "application" classes. Every academic teacher has one hour daily in which to show practical applications of her subject.

Study of Science is Made Attractive.

Every critical person today must be something of a scientist. Therefore, the Wirt schools made science attractive and practical by presenting real problems, on the results of which real issues depend. The chemistry teacher in one of the Gary schools is the municipal chemist. Under him the children analyze the milk and water supply of the city, food sold in Gary shops and all supplies used by the school. Of course they love the work, and its value is incalcuable. A nation of Wirt school graduates would put the manufacturers of patent medicines and adulterated food products out of business. Again, the naturally close relationship between chemistry and cooking is preserved Each girl must make out a formula for each recipe she uses; besides, the English, spelling and penmanship of this and similar work is considered.

The animals in the zoology room are alive, as they should be, and tended by the children, thus serving several purposes besides demonstrating scientific principles, for the responsibility of caring for a living living creature has a distinct moral value; the discipline arising as it does from within each child, is not disturbed by the ungodly racket of the zoo. The children in this class, as in every other, are intent, careful, accurate and, above all, joyous.

Teachers Find Their Work is a Delight.

These children's senses are so highly developed by their varied occupations that they are artists as well as scientists. An English teacher from Ney York, visiting a class studying "Macbeth," these children must be a delight to teach. So the teachers think—the atmosphere of the schools makes the teachers as well as the children artists and scientists, rejoicing in their daily work well done. After all, the final test of any institution is its effect upon human happiness.

SPLENDID EULOGY AT MYRON REED'S GRAVE

Among all the preachers of the gospel who have championed the cause of the down trodden and oppressed none can compare with the late Myron Reed of Denver. The workingmen of that city appreciated the service he rendered to them, and after his death they erected a monument over his grave.

Samuel Gompers was chosen as the principal speaker at the unveiling of the monument. The following is an excerpt of his address on that occasion. It illustrated his depth of feeling toward the man who was ever sympathetic in behalf of the lowly of his day:

"He preached that duty here only could mean salvation there. His life exemplified the divine injunction 'Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.' He believed that the road to Heaven lies through an earth made habitable to men, developed to the highest plane, mentally, morally, physically, socially, industrially.

"His life typified the sermon on the mount. He sought to give to every need of man his undivided assistance and his sympathy was world-wide. He sought in every day life to obey the injunction 'Suffer little children to come unto me,' and so he wished to open for them the doors of the factory, the department store and the sweatshop.

"He was almost a divine personality. He sought tirelessly to give when opportunity offered, and often created the opportunity. He was a tireless champion of right and justice; he saw no place in the universal plan for wrong and oppression. In him was a true type of a tribune of the people.

"To him the world was too small to hold an evil thing unchallenged. It was my pleasure to know him personally and today, standing over his hallowed resting place, I recall the hearty handshake that always spoke so eloquently his interest and sympathy."

HOO'S HOO TODAY; UNCLE SAM OF LABOR

By J. W. C., The Souix City Journal

By J. W. C., The Sioux City Journal.

Who's hailed as It and All the Works
In union labor ranks?
Who makes the spiels and calls the strikes
And drafts the eight-hour planks?
Who drops remarks of lurid hue
Anent the "scabs" and "rats?"
Who looks for union labels from
Our half-soles to our hats?
Who's not as keen as he might be
In re Detective Burns,
And who would gladly lay upon
His bier a bunch of ferns?
Who's wont to air at every chance
His views on Justice Wright,
Although it means a dungeon deep,
And neither food nor light?
Who doesn't seem for courts nor jails
To give a tinker's dam?
That Gompers man who's sometimes known
As Labor's Uncle Sam.

RARE COMPLIMENT TO GRAND OLD MAN

Probably the finest compliment ever paid to American labor was by the North Carolina legislature, January 27, 1909, on the occasion of the fifty-ninth birthday of Samuel Gompers, when the state senate as a mark of respect to Mr. Gompers and the American labor movement, adjourned its afternoon session. Senator Dockery, at the request of the Raleigh labor unions, introduced the resolution calling for the adjournment.

A press dispatch stated that "some of the senators expressed dissatisfaction when they realized what was done. While others approved the unprecedented action of so honoring a man still living and one who is not admired by all in this region."

DECLARES UNION LABOR CHIEFTAIN IS STALWART CHAMPION OF RIGHTS OF MAN

Last October Mr. Gompers visited the city of St. Louis, and while there he was invited to address the City Club. The next issue of the Club's Bulletin contained the following pen picture of the President of the American Federation of Labor:

"Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, addressed the club Sept. 7. His subject was "The Work, and Aspirations of Organized Labor." There was an unusually big crowd present. They enjoyed the speech. They should have. It was a rattling good speech.

"Sam Gompers is a name well known to the American people as any other in the national directory, not even excepting those ubiquitous initials, T. R. There is something sturdy about the name. It has the atmosphere of strength, of stability. Of course back of the name is the record of strength and stability. Mr. Gompers has been the head of organized labor in this country for thirty years. No one has ever seriously contested his leadership. No other such tenure of continuous power is known to our politics.

Is Labor's Premier.

"He is labor's premier by the indisputable title of capacity. And when the emotional character of Mr. Gompers' constituency is considered, with its fluctuating fortunes and the tremendous issues it has bought, and the fact that through it all this man has directed the policy of labor in the large sense so satisfactorily that no measurable opposition to him ever has developed, it is a career that stamps him unmistakably a man.

"Well, he looks the part and he talks the part. He has the jaw of the fighter, the broad forehead of the sound thinker, but the rigor of his countenance is softened by the idealism which undoubtedly is his. There is a good deal of the dreamer in Sam Gompers. A hundred years from now his name is going to be written big in the books. It will be found in that elect company of Jews of which Brandeis is the head. Only by that time, of course, the racial identity of those men will have disappeared from the historical viewpoint and they will stand out as the twentieth century crusaders.

For Right of Man.

"For Gompers is the champion of the rights of man. His philosophy crops out repeatedly. As for example, "The tariff should be taken out of politics. It is class legislation. It should be placed on the basis of fact adjusted to industrial conditions." The crowd applauded that expression. But the economist quickly surrendered to the flesh and blood philosopher when he exclaimed: "The powers of the human brain and hand to produce cannot be measured by laws. There is a vital difference, gentlemen, between the human heart-beat and a side of bacon." The crowd applauded that, too.

"Mr. Gompers answered the criticisms by Mr. Taft upon the leaders of organized labor in an interview a few days before. He bitterly assailed Taft's views, but that done, he quickly turned to the captivating personality of the ex-President, whose charm, he said, all recognize and admire.

"A man with a mission and a message is Samuel Gompers, intense in his beliefs and sincere in his convictions, and—one would guess—a delightful, lovable companion."

SAFEGUARDS AND GOGGLES MINIMIZE THE DANGERS OF WORK ABOUT EMERY WHEELS WHICH INJURED MANY MEN

Courtesy of Oliver Iron Mining Co.

Safety first is proving as profitable as it is humane. The Oliver Iron Mining company has expended considerable money in making a dangerous occupation safe, and its officers are learning that such expenditures pay. The number of accidents have greatly decreased as the result of their safety program. In the above picture the workman is doubly protected. The wheel is equipped with a safety collar, a substantial guard covering the wheel. Goggles worn by the man protect his eyes from flying chips. Another valuable guard is a plate glass between the man's face and the wheel which protects him from emery dust. Great numbers of workmen have been injured in the past while employed about unguarded emery wheels. They have been regarded as the most dangerous feature of work about machine and blacksmith shops. Safety first has made these wheels practically proof against accident. Note also how well the belts are guarded.

MASTER MIND HELPS TEN MILLION PEOPLE

An editorial published in the Springfield, Ohio, Sun, throws a luminous side light on the character of the Federation's president. It says:

"To a certain extent this man holds the destinies of ten millions of people in the palm of his hand, for they follow him and his organization, but they do not follow him like a sheep follows a leader—he does not do business that way; if he did he could not lead the American workmen; he could not have built up the organization of which he is president.

"A good old quaker who was very poor, was awakened one night by a burglar who had entered his room, and he was rummaging through a desk. Failing to find anything, the gentleman of the jimmy started out of the room, when the quaker raised up in bed and said: "Tarry, my brother, and I will help thee.'

"That is the way Samuel Gompers has attained his hold upon the workmen—he has searched with them. When they break into his office for advice and fail to find it, he says, 'tarry, my brothers, and I will search with you.' When there is dissatisfaction in the ranks of labor, he does not, like a czar, order men to do this or that, but he says to them, let us search together for a solution of this question.'

"And manufacturers are glad to have him search with them, and the laboring men are glad to have him search with them; and grand old Samuel Gompers, like the good old quaker, is ruffled not whether he finds anything of value. That is the way this master mind helps ten million of people—by searching with them, by not letting them know that his is a greater mind than theirs.

"Perhaps he has never thought of that himself, and so long as he continues to search with them, just so long will they be in position to take advantage of whatever truth is fond in the searching."

HUH!

He's always borrowing, this mutt,
On others he depends;
He is devoid of feeling, but
He likes to touch his friends.

DAILY HEALTH HINTS.

Never call a man a liar if he is bigger than you are.

HICKORY
KELLEY - HOW - THOMSON - CO.
DULUTH MINNESOTA

THE
Best Known
HARDWARE
MARK
IN THE
Northwest

These Signs
Mark the
Dealers'
Store