

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR THEM?

CHILD EDUCATION AND SOME OF ITS PROBLEMS.

Paper Read by Miss Anna C. Weeks Before the Late Teachers' Institute.

At Tuesday's session of the Teachers' Institute the following paper on "What Can We Do for Them?" was read by Miss Anna C. Weeks, Principal of the Sacramento Grammar School.

In those highly respectable educational journals to which we have been so kindly and paternally advised to subscribe, we are constantly meeting with more suggestions, good and otherwise, than we could carry out, were our years of teaching prolonged...

We are not doing our whole duty by nature study, for instance, for none of our pupils have yet been taught the best method of killing the poor little insects that are needed as specimens.

Possibly some parents may forgive us if our very young pupils do not pursue their investigations and our own on their experiments with the realistic toys affected in more progressive towns, for even in the midst of all the enthusiasm worked up there, some be- lieved mothers have been known to draw the line when as food for "ob- servation lessons" anything is to be dug up and brought bodily with their very lively inmates, into the maternal kitchen and back-yard, to the detriment of the family syrup and the family temper.

Conservative as we are, however, we are looking forward to teaching singing by note, without the assistance of a music teacher, many of us bringing to the work the special qualification claimed by Mark Twain when he be- came an agricultural editor—a mind un- biased and unprejudiced by the slightest knowledge of the subject.

Meanwhile, before "our curriculum has been enriched" to such an extent that we are all on the verge of our own schools and our own pupils, and ask ourselves a few very simple and practical questions.

Can any improvement be made in the common speech of our pupils? A man who says "done" and "seen" may be reckless in the use of his double nega- tives is handicapped all his life, never receiving half the credit that he may deserve for general intelligence and a fair amount of scholarship; although, "between you and I," and be considered by nine out of every ten to pay great regard to the niceties of speech.

The simple study of grammar, valuable as it is, will not meet this diffi- culty, for before the part of grammar dealing with verb forms is reached the children will "have come" and "have went" so often along the wrong but familiar road that their steps will not readily be turned in another direction.

I still have much faith in the persistent repetition of the "good usage" exercises to be found in our revised grammars, and I have sometimes wondered whether the teachers of grades below the sixth could not make use of the same or similar exercises until cor- rect forms "sound right" to the young children.

I hesitate to suggest anything that implies additional work for teachers of other grades, but when I talk with in- telligent well-informed boys and girls, who have been eight, ten or twelve years in school, and hear some of them express the most foolish thoughts in a pitifully poor English, I know that we need help, and I turn to the children's natural helpers, the teachers of the primary schools. If you can aid in banishing some half a dozen incorrect expressions, you will earn the thanks of innumerable children who must look to their teachers for deliverance from the tyranny of habits formed during the many hours spent outside of the surroundings of school.

For the expressions already men- tioned we need not reproach ourselves, so far as the formation of the faulty habit

is concerned, but where do the children learn to say "ought" for "naught"? Most of them have no name whatever for the cipher before they attend school, and it is the exception rather than the rule, for them to name it correctly. Why do they insist on declaring that 12 divided by 3 equals to 4? And tell me, O my fellow-sufferers or fellow-criminals—is it our fault that some of them state of a number that they "times" it? By another instead of multiplying it? Is it through our example that they "take and multiply," "take and divide," "take and add," "take and subtract," until one grows so tired of that innocent but often superfluous little word as to be tempted to "take" and banish it entirely, even when its presence is justifiable? These are schoolroom errors, not so serious as the others, because they do not so per- vade the speech of daily life, but errors for us to regret, and to strive to overcome.

Fortunately, faulty forms of speech do not necessarily indicate faulty ac- tions, but when we turn to graver sub- jects, we say, "What can we do for them?" with an anxiety that is deep and real.

Can we arouse a public sentiment against copying during examinations, or making use of the prepared work of others? To this question I frankly confess myself unable to give a satisfactory answer, and for the reasons suggested in the preceding paragraphs.

The matter is a peculiarly puzzling phase of child character, for the pupils who copy are not necessarily untruth- ful, or deceitful in regard to anything. The standard of personal truthfulness, and quickness in acknowledging a fault is, I feel assured, steadily rising among our pupils, but when I find among those engaged in copying their work, boys who would put their hands in the fire sooner than tell me a lie, I acknowledge myself perplexed and somewhat discouraged.

It seems to me that in effecting any real and permanent improvement, severity of punishment is of little benefit. I have talked with many boys about the matter, and a casual remark made by one of them struck me as from another town gave in concise form my own con- clusions. Said he, "The teacher there used to watch around, and whenever he caught a boy smoking he whipped him, and then lots of us boys smoked every chance we got just to get ahead of him."

If we desire to overcome the habit can be aroused, and if the weakened will can be gradually strengthened, until the horrible craving can be re- sisted, there is hope of reform. The first condition can generally be achieved without great difficulty, if time and patience can be liberally expended; but strengthening the will of a habitual cigarette smoker often seems as hope- less and exhausting as hammering empty air. The worker's force is spent, and no result is visible. Yet some- times success does come, and even an occasional victory is well worth much labor and anxiety.

I have not the splendid enthu- siasm of inexperience, nor the high hope that springs from ignorance of the dif- ficulties to be encountered, but of my own knowledge I can state that it is a possible thing for a boy to overcome the habit after he has had five or six years, and when he has done it he has fought a harder battle and suffered more in mind and body than anyone can realize unless he himself has agon- ized and striven, and sometimes, in shame and humiliation, has failed. He can do it, and he may do it, but he needs your help, and your thought and your sympathy.

Do not dismiss his case with a single trial, thinking of him with a bit of contempt when he fails. Do not say of him, or even think of him, as a "case" until he has been tried for five and six and seven years, and when he has done it he has fought a harder battle and suffered more in mind and body than anyone can realize unless he himself has agon- ized and striven, and sometimes, in shame and humiliation, has failed. He can do it, and he may do it, but he needs your help, and your thought and your sympathy.

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After that had happened they would always feel a trifle uncomfortable, and their sleep might be a little disturbed, and even though the sheep of the flock did not discover the internal change in their companions, they themselves would be painfully aware that in reality they belonged over on the other side of the fence, where the sinful goats were recklessly disporting themselves.

and, perhaps, they would not be saved hereafter—all of which conditions would be painful and disagreeable. But if they were shaken out of their self complacency; if they could know some- thing of the trials of others; if they could long with a great yearning to save some struggling soul from the shame of defeat; if pity and human feeling and divine forgiveness could fill their softened hearts, they would not have lived in vain, even though at the end their own souls might pass out into the great unknown, moving painfully and fearfully in the shadow of that haunting sin, unconfessed and pen- itence not quite repented. Possibly St. Paul, with his heart torn by the horrible fear lest, having preached to others, he himself might be a cast- away, was more bearable in daily life, as well as a greater power among the Gentiles than had remained the Pharisee who, wrapped in his mantle of self satisfaction, had been led by the strong hands of public opinion and common custom, but yet only sleeping, not dead. For every human being waits somewhere a temptation too strong for him to resist. To deny this is to deny his humanity. Thank- fully, but not without a doubt, might he be educated and guarded that between him and his inevitable conquerer a great guilt is fixed, so that his life may pass to a peaceful close without knowing the agony of that fearful struggle that can end only in defeat. Thankful, but not without a doubt, might he be educated and guarded that between him and his inevitable conquerer a great guilt is fixed, so that his life may pass to a peaceful close without knowing the agony of that fearful struggle that can end only in defeat.

None of us shall see salvation. We do pray for mercy, and that same prayer doeth teach us all to render the deeds of mercy. But through Omnipotence the dif- ference may be slight, to the well- being of the State, to society, to the man himself and to his self-respect is all the difference that exists between happiness and misery—a distance that had to be struck by one who would conceive, except through experience, of the insight born of deep and loving sympathy.

A child of the slums, left to the ma- lign influences that are his terrible birth-gift, finds the most trivial temptations to part with for resis- tance. To the same child, however, from his vicious associates, given higher aims and a more earnest purpose to attain them, the temptations of the other life would cease to be dangerous. His conquering foe is moved back, farther and farther, until he stands, with firm ground under his feet, with free air around him, with not only a desire to do the right, but with some degree of strength with which to fulfill his purpose, and with a thousand chances, where before there was scarcely one, of pressing on from a happy youth to a respected age.

To some extent, in varying degrees, this is the work that we should endeavor to do with the children committed to our care, and in so far as we ignore our responsibility we are faithless to our trust.

How is this to be done? In the first place, we can strive to deal justly with our pupils—not with the apology for justice that is so comparatively easy to administer, and upon which we sometimes pride ourselves, but "strat- tling them all alike." There is some- times no ranker injustice than that fair-sounding method, for real justice deals with each child according to his needs, his capabilities, and his mo- tives, as far as we can ascertain them.

We can endeavor to implant some element of hope in the heart of every child. A discouraged pupil is a source of unhappiness to himself and his parents, and is often an element grad- ually producing an undercurrent of dissatisfaction, affecting the working of the entire class. By word and by act we can preach the "Gospel of the New Chance." No fault that a child can commit is unforfeitable. If the offense requires severe punishment, administer it, and then let that chapter end. It is a poor world that would give a child an opportunity to redden himself, and every new day should be like the beginning of a new life, with the past wrong wiped out, and all the future irradiated by the hope of better things.

If our classes were small enough to allow us to know more of the environ- ments of our pupils; more of their moral and mental and physical limi- tations; more of the difficulties that beset them from without and from within, it would often be easier for us to refrain from the impatient rebuke to them or to their parents, because there would be no impatient thought to urge the utterance. As it is, we can only do our best, remembering that while it is our place to put forth every effort to develop the child's better nature and to check his evil tendencies, it is also our place to make allowances for him in our hearts, to like him, even though we thoroughly dislike some of his actions, and to realize that his laziness, his lack of ability, or his habit of inattention is as much of an affliction as the physical defects of the beloved little cripple, with whom no one is ever impatient. These mental and moral cripples often need the helpful treatment of reproof, and compulsion and punishment, but if we can impress them with the belief that we have a warm personal affection for them and are hopeful of them, both they and their parents look upon our actions in a better spirit, and are not so likely to resent our efforts.

Finally, if we can realize that, viewed in the light of our own knowledge and an infinite strength, our poor little at- tainments and our scanty measure of self-control put us only one short step in advance of the most wavering of our pupils, we can the more easily see his difficulties, and stretch out the helping hand to guide him onward. We can the more easily see the pitfalls that wait for his uncertain feet, and strengthen him in his efforts to avoid them. If we have caught some faint glimpse of the treasures of knowledge, and the noble joy of self-conquest, by the light of our loving sympathy, for him who still sits in the darkness, we can brighten the path that leads through labor and struggle to the lights toward which we lift our long- ing eyes. We can believe, not for the children alone but for ourselves, that no mistake, no lack of success, no wrong-doing, is quite final, and that for each night of failure will dawn a new day of opportunity. And so believ- ing, though we may often be sorry and ashamed, we need never be quite dis- couraged.

Coronado water, Stockton sarsapa- rilla and iron, champagne corder, singe- ale, orange elder, J. McMorry, agent.

NO LEGISLATIVE SOFT-SNAPS

BAD OUTLOOK FOR THE BIEN- NIAL PUSL.

A New Law That Cuts Down the Supply of Leaves and Fishes.

There will be a body blow given to the professional hanger-on, who, for years, has cheerfully munched at the State pie counter during sessions of the Legislature. The expectant constitu- ent who gave his valuable assistance in the matter of hope and possibly with the tacit understanding that he would, in case his "man" was elected, secure an \$8-a-day job, with nothing to do but kill time and draw his salary, must file his claim early or he will learn that "there are others."

As a matter of fact, under Chapter XXVII of the Statutes of 1897, which in its wisdom the Legislature of that year saw fit to enact, \$8-a-day jobs will be as scarce as angels' visits and as hard to get as ice in Cuba. As a fur- ther matter of fact, the Senate and Assembly will have just two jobs of the \$8 description to give away—one to be drawn by the Secretary of the Senate, the other by the chief clerk of the Assembly. From the present out- look the "army" will hunger and possi- bly starve, before the public till will be opened for them. The picking will be short.

In the past year by the members of both branches of the Legislature dis- posed of about sixty-eight \$8-a-day jobs. Now each branch of the Legislature will have fourteen \$8-a-day places to dispose of, and those who come late will be obliged to put up with \$4, \$3 or \$2.50 jobs, and falling in these will be cast upon the cold charity of an unsympathetic world. It would appear that a good thing for the place seeker to do would be to stay at home, unless he has a "cinch," before he tries to work the Legislature.

In the matter of porters, engineers, electricians, etc., the Secretary of State, as custodian of the building, must use his own judgment in employing a suffi- cient force to keep the building clean, warm and well lighted, as the Legisla- ture will have none of it.

It is a favorite after the statutory and official positions shall have been filled, as the law explicitly pro- vides that "no other officers, employes, or attaches are to be employed, except—

SENATE. Per Diem Each. Old Law. President \$10.00, President pro tem 8.00, Secretary 8.00, Assistant Secretaries 8.00, Sergeant at Arms 6.00, Assistant Sergeants at Arms 6.00, Bookkeepers 6.00, Minute Clerk 6.00, Messengers and Folding Clerks 6.00, Journal Clerk 6.00, Assistant Journal Clerk 6.00, Enrolling Clerk 6.00, Assistant Enrolling Clerks 6.00, Postmaster 4.00, Assistant Postmaster 4.00, Porters 4.00, Pages 4.00, Chaplain 3.00, Historiographer 3.00, Assistant Historiographer 3.00, Bill Clerks 3.00, Assistant Bill Clerks 3.00, Mail Carrier and Folding Clerk 3.00, Mail Carrier 3.00, Electrician 3.00, Engineer 3.00, Messenger to Printer 3.00, Assistant Messenger to Printer 3.00, Messenger to President 3.00, Janitors 3.00, Stenographers 3.00, Committee Clerks 3.00, Committee Messengers 3.00, Stenographers 3.00, Committee Sergeants at Arms 3.00, Committee Messengers 3.00, Committee Porters 3.00.

The list of officers, attaches and employes of the Assembly will be identical in number with those of the Senate, except that there will be the following additional: Two bill filers, at \$4 per day each; two pages, at \$4 per day each; one assistant bill clerk, at \$4 per day; five committee clerks, at \$4 per day each; two committee clerks, at \$6 per day each, and one stenographer, at \$5 per day.

Hotel Arrivals. Arrivals at the Golden Eagle Hotel yesterday; G. L. McCandless, Sacramento; F. G. Craft, Los Angeles; G. Lippman, Philadelphia; H. P. Briscoe, Chico; A. V. Love, Harriet, C. Wad- leigh, Los Angeles; H. C. Nason, Palo Alto; M. G. Hoffman, E. J. Isham, A. W. H. Hine, San Francisco.

THE SIMPLEST CURE FOR INDIGES- TION. As well as the Safest and Cheapest. The new medical discovery, Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, digest the food in- stead of making the worn out stomach do all the work, give it a much needed rest, and a cure of dyspepsia is the natural result.

You get nourishment and rest at the same time because these tablets will thoroughly digest all wholesome food taken into the stomach whether the stomach works or not. A cure is cer- tain to result because the digestive or- gans are given a chance to rest and recover their natural vigor and tone. The tablets are then no longer re- quired.

Mr. J. W. Wondly of Peoria, Ill., writes: "I was unable to eat anything, but the plainest food and even that often distressed me, but since using one box of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets I can eat anything and everything I want." Mrs. Samuel Kepple of Girty, Pa., writes: "I have been entirely relieved of my stomach troubles by your table- ts. I suffered three years with sour stomach and gas at night. I am thank- ful for them." Mrs. A. E. Bowen, Barnard, Vt., writes: "I think Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are the best thing for dyspep- sia I ever took. I would recommend them to any one troubled as bad as I was." One's Dyspepsia Tablets will not dis- appoint because they cure dyspepsia surely and lastingly by causing the food to be properly assimilated, and cure constipation by producing the proper quantity of bile. Sold by all druggists at 50 cents per package. Send for free book on stomach diseases to Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich.

ing that the Secretary (of the Senate) or Clerk (of the Assembly) may employ at any time temporary employes, with the consent of four-fifths of the mem- bers elected to the Senate or to the Assembly."

That means that if nine Senators ob- ject to employing the disappointed con- stituent, he must go elsewhere to board, or that if seventeen Assemblymen can- not be convinced of the necessity of the additional services of the expectant person who performed valiant and meritorious services during the cam- paign, that he shall languish, and feed elsewhere than at the State's lunch counter.

Heretofore a vast army of attaches of the preceding Legislature have come "on to Sacramento" to assist in open- ing the new Legislature, and, incidentally, to draw their mileage salary, but all that is different now, and the "professional" who pays out his scant dollars for rail- road fare will find, as did the dog's- meat man, that "times is changed." The new law has definitely settled that point, and no Clerk of the Assembly may ap- point a division of the spoils. "The law," said a fitting brilliant Police Court lawyer in this city several years ago, "is the law," and this is what it now says:

"Section 237—The Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the Assembly, the Minute Clerks and the Sergeant-at- Arms of each house, for any session, must, at the next succeeding session of the body, perform the duties of their offices until their successors are elected and qualified. Said officers, and no others, shall be allowed mileage. The Secretary of the Senate may appoint a postmaster, three gatekeepers and three pages. The Chief Clerk of the Assembly may appoint a postmaster, three gatekeepers, and three pages. The Ser- geant-at-Arms of the Senate and of the Assembly may each appoint an Assis- tant Sergeant-at-Arms. There shall be no other officers or employes of either house until the permanent organiza- tion is completed. Such officers shall serve only until said permanent or- ganization is completed."

Facts are stubborn things, and the fact above quoted is the stubbornest thing the ordinary mileage seeking at- tache and employe ever went up against.

In order that the old and the new methods may be appreciated and un- derstood, comparative lists of the offi- cers, employes and attaches of the Sen- ate alone under the old law of 1895 (the closing down of the State Printing Of- fice by Governor Budd having precluded the publishing of the State's blue book two years ago) with the list of those allowed under the present law, is given below:

SENATE. Per Diem Each. New Law. President \$10.00, President pro tem 8.00, Secretary 8.00, Assistant Secretaries 8.00, Sergeant at Arms 6.00, Assistant Sergeants at Arms 6.00, Bookkeepers 6.00, Minute Clerk 6.00, Messengers and Folding Clerks 6.00, Journal Clerk 6.00, Assistant Journal Clerk 6.00, Enrolling Clerk 6.00, Assistant Enrolling Clerks 6.00, Postmaster 4.00, Assistant Postmaster 4.00, Porters 4.00, Pages 4.00, Chaplain 3.00, Historiographer 3.00, Assistant Historiographer 3.00, Bill Clerks 3.00, Assistant Bill Clerks 3.00, Mail Carrier and Folding Clerk 3.00, Mail Carrier 3.00, Electrician 3.00, Engineer 3.00, Messenger to Printer 3.00, Assistant Messenger to Printer 3.00, Messenger to President 3.00, Janitors 3.00, Stenographers 3.00, Committee Clerks 3.00, Committee Messengers 3.00, Stenographers 3.00, Committee Sergeants at Arms 3.00, Committee Messengers 3.00, Committee Porters 3.00.

one stenographer, at \$5 per day. The totals under the old law, assum- ing that the Senate and Assembly had the same number of employes, aggregated \$1,826 per day; under the new, \$460, a saving of \$1,366 a day. But for thirty days of the session this sav- ing will be \$1,340 a day, because two \$5 clerks are not to be chosen until the thirtieth day, as is shown above.

LINDLEY'S CHERUB TEA. AMUSEMENTS. Orpheum. 3 Performances—3 OPENING AT THE SATUR- DAY MATINEE. Saturday, November 26-27, November 28-29, Mr. Jenness presents Mr. Augustus Thomas' great play.

ALABAMA. Interpreted by a first-class com- pany of players. Seats now on sale at box of- fice. Open daily at 9 a. m.

UNDER THE DOME. An American story of thrilling and heartfelt interest. Gallery 15 cents, Balcony 25 cents, Orchestra and first rows Dress Circle 50 cents. Seats now on sale.

ENTERTAINMENT. MUSICAL, LITERARY AND ATH- LETIC. GARDEN, URSULA, De- cember 1, 1895, at 8 o'clock, for benefit of Oak Park M. E. Church. Admission 25 cents.



BEGINNING THIS MORNING Semi-Annual Sale Of Carpet Remnants

Twice every year (at the end of the seasons) the people of Sacramento, who have single rooms to carpet, are offered the privilege of selecting from our stock of remnants, which have accumulated from the season's selling, at prices very much below the regular quotations.

Announcement regarding this sale seems necessary only as a medium for information—not solicitation, for the response to the advertising of previous sales has been immediate and great.

The feature of this season's event, which begins to-day, is the unmistakable QUALITY FOR PRICE presented in all grades. Some of our finest patterns in Ingrains, Tapestries, Body Brussels, Axminsters and Velvets are represented among the pieces, in lengths from one to forty yards.

The entire line of remnants, regardless of quality, has been reduced 25 per cent, and in many cases 35 per cent from regular selling figures—or in other words to exact factory prices. The values offered are in some instances really phenomenal and can not be duplicated in ordinary merchandising.

Bring the sizes of your rooms and remember that no remnant will be cut—each piece must be purchased as a whole.

John Breuner CORNER SIXTH AND K.

Lodge pins and charms. Madam, is your husband a Mason, an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias, or a member of any fraternal organization? If so he would appreciate a present of an emblematic pin or charm. We have a superior assortment of these and can surely please you.

KLUNE & FLOBERG, Jewelers, 528 K Street.

FEMININE HAT SEEKERS. you should not buy without looking here. We are doing a large and successful business and possess superior advantages in buying and selling. Our sole thought and work is millinery. This is not a high priced place either, as you will quickly see by calling.

FOR YOUR FATHER, HUSBAND OR BROTHER you will soon be looking for something in the way of XMAS present. We would like to make a timely suggestion to you, and something they would appreciate very much is one of our nice SMOKING JACKETS. We carry a full line and have a nice assortment to select from. It would be a good idea to select now, while the assortment is large. All prices from \$4.50 to \$12.

MASON'S Men's Furnishing Goods, 528 J STREET.

AUCTIONS. Auction Sale of Real Estate IN LOUISIANA TRACT, OAK PARK, TUESDAY, November 28th, at 10 a. m., on the premises, the tract and acre of ground in above tract; also, barn, fruit trees, etc. Sale positive, as owner is leaving city. No limit; no reserve; highest bidder gets it. SIMMONS & CO., Auctioneers, Salesroom, 1016 Fourth street.

Advertisement for 'The woman who has a heavy task before her—dishes to wash or a floor to scrub has a friend in this great cleaner' featuring 'Washing Powder'.

Advertisement for 'LINDLEY'S CHERUB TEA' and 'Orpheum' theater.

Advertisement for 'MASON'S Men's Furnishing Goods' and 'W. H. SHERBURN, General Auctioneer'.