DISCUSSES SOME PHASES OF RACIAL WELL-BEING

Subject of Address Before National Education Association by Professor Robert M. Yerkes.

RESEARCH GREATLY NEEDED

Function and Limits of Elective System Topic of Paper by Dean Ballet, of School of Pedagogy, New York University.

"Psychological Aspects of Racial Well-Being" was the title of an address delivered at the recent meeting in New York of the National Educational Association, by Robert M. Yerkes, assistant professor of comparative psychology and psychologist to the Psychopathic Hospital, Boston, Mass.

"Up to a certain point, both negative and positive eugenic procedures are fairly readily selected and as readily put into practice," said Professor Yerkes. "We agree that many human characteristics and conditions of life should be worked against or eradicated. We agree, also, that certain other difficulties and environmental factors should be striven for. Despite endless discussion and arguments concerning the ideal individual, the most worthy aim or goal of our interest and life's striving, we find it reasonably easy to select things in human life which are desirable, suitable, fit, as contrasted with others which are as obviously undesirable and unsuitable from the point of view of the most enlightened and unselfish of men.

"Our educational ideal is the shaping or developing of the individual to maximal social value, but we too often think of educational process as beginning in childhood. In reality, it begins before the birth of the individual. We should, in the interests of racial well-being, so modify our conception of the art of education as to escape this limitation, and we should come to think of the varied conditions of life from the moment of conception onward as more or less valuably educative. It is the ideal role of the educator to so control the conditions of life as to promote racial as well as individual welfare.

"What we agree upon as the desirable type of individual or the valuable course of racial development may be attained only through educational effort and scientific research. So long as we attempt to sharply separate heredity from acquisition, the problems of prenatal development from those of postnatal growth, we shall work against needless odds, for, as a fact, the life of the individual is one and indivisible. Heredity includes certain of its aspects and relations, and those modifications or acquisitions which are the primary concern of education are merely contrasted aspects of the same life. It is, in my opinion, as much the duty of the educator to assure the best educational procedure, that individuals shall be well born as that they shall be well reared, or, in our more conventional language, properly educated.

MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RACIAL WELFARE

"To this end, we must educate toward increasingly inclusive responsibility for racial welfare no less than for the conduct of the individual life. We must master and have mastered those facts of physical and biological, of medical and sociological, of psychological and behavioristic science, upon which the wise control of life must depend. Thus far, the study of the individual as a key to educational procedure has been too much neglected in favor of a study of the conditions of life. It is the educator's opportunity to develop an appreciation of the human organism as a continuum which exists by acting and reacting in a marvellously complex and ever fickly controllable environment.

"Finally, one of the great educational struggles [illegible] inertia, [illegible] individuals, through intelligent interest in adding to the sum of human knowledge. For research along these lines is quite as directly and largely dependent upon educational method as education is itself dependent upon the contributions made by science. And so, as the most obviously important means to racial well-being appear education and research. Our efforts should center in the development of a scientific basis for the control of life, racially and individually considered. Research can thrive in the measure to which educational procedure can improve only in the measure to which research supplies accurate information."

READING CLUBS INSTEAD OF LITERATURE CLASSES

W. S. Hinchman, English master, Groton School, Groton, Mass., discussing "Reading Clubs Instead of Literature Classes," said in part:

"Friends of mine frequently say, 'Oh, yes, I hear you just turn your boys loose in the library.' Unfortunately, that would eliminate the teacher. The chief difference between our reading clubs, which take the place of our literature classes except in the final year, and turning boys loose in the library is that we give the teacher a part to play, of stimulating and suggesting, while the classroom becomes a sort of forum for the exchange of information and ideas. But we do have this similarity to the library scheme: No books are prescribed, and no two boys read the same book unless they want to or unless the class, with the advice and approval of the teacher, elects a particular book for class discussion. No boy, in other words, is condemned to read a book at the same time as other boys and at the same rate of speed—any more than you or I, in forming our reading habits, confine ourselves to a standardized routine as to quality, quantity and speed.

"There is nothing new in the idea I am bringing forward, but we have carried it farther than most schools—carried it, I hope, to a more logical conclusion. The first thing to do is to throw the college list of books immediately out of the window, instead of pretending to dignify what can be done in one year by spreading it thinly over four years. The point is to meet each pupil at his own level and to lead him gradually by the right literary steps for him to a higher level. Such work assumes, of course, that mental discipline is not the object of literature classes and that a set body of literary information is far less important than the habit of reading good books.

"The main method employed by us is as follows: each boy reports on a book from time to time to the class, which discusses the book from whatever angle seems profitable. The teacher is there to prevent irrelevant and haphazard comment, but he is not there to dictate devitalized or meticulous discussion. The fact that he is never quite prepared is one of the most educative parts of the scheme. Such work, moreover, at once liberates the pupil, the teacher and the subject from the superstition that English is a sort of Latin made easy, while it makes possible and desirable discussions which, though really vital, struck with dreadful discord into the solemn dullness of the old-style literature class. No longer required to make all trees grow at the same speed and in the same kind of soil, we find it reasonable to encourage each under its best conditions.

"So far, after three years' trial, the results have been gratifying. We find that our boys read about two and a half times as much as they did under the old system of literature classes and required outside reading, and that they read most of the books we used to prescribe, only in different order. Naturally, a good deal of trash is read—as it used to be, incidentally—but it is now possible to handle it frankly and to show, with some measure of success, its real relation to good literature.

"Since there is no compulsion, there are, of course, a few shirkers, but the number is surprisingly small, far smaller than the number of those at the top who profit by the new liberty. After all, our obligation is to the best as well as to the worst, and the worst are hardly worse off reading nothing than when they took the classics as medicine. With the larger background acquired from the reading club, boys find specific preparation for college simple in the last year. In many instances they have already satisfied the group requirements without knowing it. Finally—and this is the important thing—their reading is rationalized till it seems to bear some vital relation to their lives. We hope they are developing the book habit."

CHANGES LIKELY TO COME AS RESULT OF THE WAR

"Possible Modification in Our Educational Work Likely to Come as a Result of the Great War," was the subject of an address by Professor James E. Russell, dean of the Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York. A summary of his remarks follows:

"In a world-war a world-wide adjustment is taking place. Even America must reckon with a new concept of the state, and with it expect a new type of public education.

"The power of the schoolmaster stands clear in the record of German education. A few generations have made the German schools almost single-handed develop loyalty to a cause, and obedience to authority, cultivate the arts and sciences, develop industries and direct trade—all in a way that is the envy and despair of the rest of the world.

"The Prussian of the nineteenth century just had to be a soldier. The first duty of the German school has been to prepare boys fit in mind and body for military service. Military rule demands obedience; the German school uses implicit obedience irrevocably as the character of the German boy. Everything comes from authority; the boy does not recite, he learns what is given him. Religious instruction begets respect for authority and obedience to superiors. Patriotism is taught in the language, the history and the literature of the fatherland.

"For purposes alike of peace and war productive industry is needed. German trade and commerce have grown as no other country's, due to skill and training in the workmen and intelligent direction from above. The German continuation schools have led the world in supplying skilled workmen, while higher education has cooperated in furthering a world-wide trade.

"The German state takes full control over this system of education. It trains the teachers, inducts them into office, fixes their salaries, pensions them in old age, prescribes the curricula, defines methods of instruction, and by a system of examinations at once judges the output and controls the entrance to all professions and the public service—all to the successful making of God-fearing, patriotic, self-supporting subjects of imperial Germany.

"Our business is to consider anew the rights of the American citizen and his duties toward the state, in order that our professional experts may do their part in the realization of those ideals for which this nation stands. What we need in America is a system of educational administration that shall eliminate the politician, a professional spirit that shall put the public good ahead of personal gain, teaching and school management that shall appreciate reasonable law and secure voluntary obedience to constituted authority, and, finally, educational leadership that shall rise indeed to the heights of patriotic statesmanship."

ELECTIVE SYSTEM SUBJECT OF ADDRESS

Professor Thomas M. Ballet, dean of the School of Pedagogy, New York University, discussed "The Elective System: Its Function and Limits." He said in part:

"The elective system has been administered in high schools and colleges without a clear-cut guiding principle. Can such a principle be found which will determine at the same time its function and its limits?

"All men must acquire a knowledge of the branches which are fundamental in life and in all further education. This includes the elementary school course. There can be no election of studies there for normal minds.

"All men should be specifically trained for their life work. This is vocational education. The student may elect his vocation, but not his studies. It is the duty of the school to prescribe his studies.

"All men must be educated to perform their duties as citizens. Here the student has no liberty of election. He must be a citizen, and the school prescribes the studies. The study of the Constitution of the United States is a source of time short of non-political knowledge. Ancient and modern history, economics and sociology, as a fit for citizenship. Yet these subjects are always elective, and, in fact, are rarely taught in high schools. All high school pupils should be required to study economics and sociology, as a fit for citizenship. Yet these subjects are always elective, and, in fact, are rarely taught in high schools. All high school pupils should be required to study the problems of public health and other city problems. And all should be required to take a course in ethics.

"In the fourth division all men should be educated for leisure. Here absolute freedom of election must be granted. Men will not pursue an leisure hours what they have no taste for. Much of literature and art comes under this head."

BLACKSBURG

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

BLACKSBURG, VA., July 22.—Mrs. J. B. Tutwiler entertained at the largest reception of the season on Tuesday afternoon in honor of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. James Bruce Tutwiler, Jr., of Philadelphia, a bride of the early summer. In the receiving line with the hostess and guest of honor were Mrs. Thomas Sydnor, of Richmond; Mrs. H. B. Vaughn and Mrs. Thomas Stamworth, of Norfolk; Mrs. Cary B. Preston, of Radford, and Mrs. W. H. Johnson, of Winston-Salem, N. C. Mrs. J. H. Woolwine made the presentations. Mrs. R. L. Fagg presided at the punch bowl and Mrs. C. M. Newman ushered the guests into the dining-room, where a number of young women served refreshments.

Miss Bessie Gaines, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., was the guest this week of President and Mrs. Eggleston, at "The Grove." Miss Belle Johnson, of Richmond, is also the guest of her sister, Mrs. Eggleston.

Mrs. Carter C. Osterbind and children, of Richmond, arrived here on Monday to visit Mr. and Mrs. John L. Eakin.

Miss Eleanor Jones, librarian of the college, and her mother, Mrs. N. M. Jones, have returned from Washington and Baltimore.

Miss Virginia Tompkins returned to her home in New York on Wednesday, after spending several months here with her grandmother, Mrs. Virginia Vawter.

Miss Sarah Smythe, of Charleston, S. C., is the guest of her brother-in-law and sister, Colonel and Mrs. J. S. A. Johnson.

Miss Florence Boatwright, of Danville, arrived here on Thursday to spend a month with her aunt, Mrs. W. B. Penick.

Miss Laura Sawyer has returned from a month's visit to her home in Norfolk.

Mrs. W. B. Henry and Miss Dicie Henry, of Hazelhurst, Miss., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wirt Dunlap.

Anderson T. Ledgerwood, U. S. N., of Fortress Monroe, is spending a month here with his mother, Mrs. James Ledgerwood.

Mrs. J. F. Ware, of Panama, is with her mother, Mrs. N. M. Robinson, here while Captain Ware is on duty at the instruction camp, Plattsburg, N. Y.

APPOMATTOX

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

APPOMATTOX, VA., July 22.—Austin Giles and Miss Etta Lawhorn were married at the home of the bride, on the headwaters of Tye River, in Nelson, on Wednesday.

Mrs. M. L. Bishop, of Roanoke, and Miss Georgie Wiley, of Richmond, have been here on a visit to Mrs. W. B. Caldwell.

Miss Lola Doss has returned to Lynchburg, after an extended visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Doss, near Appomattox.

Miss Virginia Fergusson has gone to Pamplin to spend a week with her friend, Miss Bessie Thornton.

Mrs. W. L. Agee and children, of Roanoke, returned home last week, after spending their vacation with relatives here.

William Marshall, of Roanoke, visited his mother, Mrs. Douglas Marshall, last week.

Miss Maud Cundiff returned to her home in Roanoke, after spending a week with Miss Margaret Agee.

Miss Cordelia Bingham, of Lynchburg, is visiting her sister, Mrs. G. T. Doss, near Spout Spring.

Mrs. George T. Doss has returned home, after a visit to her son at Bedford, Va.

Miss Beulah Caldwell, of Bedford, is visiting at the home of Robert Caldwell.

John Scott, of New York, visited his country home here last week.

FARMVILLE

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

FARMVILLE, VA., July 22.—Miss Mabel Paulett is visiting friends in Richmond.

Morton Cralle and son, of Groesbeck, Tex., are visiting in the home of Mrs. Mildred Cralle.

Mrs. C. M. Robertson has gone to her old home in Louisa County for a visit to friends and relatives.

Mrs. George T. Vaughan, of Washington, is visiting her mother, Mrs. William G. Venable.

Mrs. J. Taylor Thompson and son, O'Ferrall, left on Wednesday for Massanutten Springs.

Misses Patsy Watkins and Lee Drummella left yesterday for Montreat, N. C., where they go as delegates from the Farmville Presbyterian Church to a conference of Sunday school workers. They were accompanied by Miss Elizabeth Lowman, of Roanoke.

Mrs. A. F. Howard is on a visit to friends in Richmond.

Mrs. James A. Spencer has gone to Montreat, N. C., and before returning to Farmville will visit her daughter at Asheville.

M. C. Turpin, of Pittsburgh, is a guest in the home of Colin Stokes.

Mrs. F. W. Hubbard and son have returned from a visit to Eastern Virginia.

Mrs. John Fentress and daughters, Misses Lillian and Elizabeth, are visiting Mrs. W. F. Burger.

Miss Martha Boyle, of Washington, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. S. W. Watkins.

Mrs. P. W. Payne and children, of South Richmond, have returned home, after a visit to Mrs. Payne's mother, Mrs. J. R. Noel.

VIRGINIA MINERAL SPRINGS

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

VIRGINIA MINERAL SPRINGS, VA., July 22.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stump, of Pocahontas, have arrived in their car, and have given several automobile parties to places of interest about here.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Spencer, of Roanoke, gave an automobile party to Craig Healing Spring; their guests being Miss Mamie Spencer, Mrs. Jesse Jones and Mrs. Henry Loftin, of Lynchburg.

The Bathing is especially good now, and parties are made up every day.

There was a large picnic to Meadowcreek Falls on Thursday.

Among the recent arrivals from Lynchburg are: Mrs. Henry Loftin, Miss Elizabeth Isbell, Mrs. J. L. Jones, L. C. Burke, Miss Mamie Spencer, Dr. J. P. Clark, wife and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Crowder and son, Mrs. E. C. Glass, Mrs. S. H. Franklin and family, Mrs. E. D. Miller and daughter, C. M. Guggenheimer and son, J. Frank West and family, Mrs. Lizzie James, Mrs. J. R. Clark, Pendleton Clark, Neil McKnight.

From Roanoke are registered Mr. and Mrs. John S. Adamson, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Hurt, C. D. Hurt, F. R. Hurt, Jr., W. E. Hurt and family.

Other recent arrivals include: Mrs. C. M. Doel, Richmond; R. W. Downs, Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Moomaw, S. B. Johnston, Misses Grace and Rosebud Leach, Richmond; Miss Helen Leach, Clifton Forge; W. H. Ranson, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Cole, Petersburg; Mrs. Preston Jones, Waynesboro; Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Layne, Bluefield; Mrs. E. K. Richardson, Covington; W. G. Entrekin, O. K. Lee, St. Louis; C. G. Newman, Richmond.

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MANY OTHER AMUSEMENTS

Motor Trips to Lexington, Tennis Matches, Fishing and Dancing Included—Hotel Register Shows Number of Recent Arrivals.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

NATURAL BRIDGE, VA., July 22.—Sunlit days and moonlit nights here give every opportunity for out-door pleasures. There are motor and driving trips to Lexington and other points of interest; tennis matches, fishing and swimming, and then dancing at the end of the day. The less strenuous sit in the swing chairs on the lawn, while they embroider, exchange stitches and news, or are deep in the pages of the latest book from the hotel library. The swimming pool, fed by a clear mountain stream near by, is always popular. As this is in charge of a swimming teacher, even the most timid can be persuaded to take a plunge.

Mrs. James Morrison, of Lynchburg, and her two children, Fred and Margaret, have returned to the Bridge this year.

Mrs. W. H. Parrish, of Richmond, is a member of the summer colony and is welcomed by old friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Westmoreland Davis, of Leesburg, Va., spent the week-end here while on a motor trip to Bristol, Va.

Miss Helen Barbour, of Salem, Va., is visiting Mrs. Buist Allan, of Atlanta, for several days.

John Moyler and Miss Agnes Moyler, of Petersburg, Va., and Miss Mary P. Long and Masters Long, of Abingdon, Va., were members of a motor party that stopped here on the way to Abingdon.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Love, of Detroit, came here on their way to the Old Sweet Springs.

Mrs. E. E. Souther and Miss Cornelia Souther, of St. Louis, Mo., are new members of the summer colony.

Mrs. Joseph Mullineaux and Miss Jeanette Forest, of Bala, Pa., and Misses Edna Hyde and Irene R. Schofield, of Roxborough, Pa., are spending several days at the bridge.

MANY RECENT ARRIVALS NOTED ON THE REGISTER

Among the latest arrivals are Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Nolting, of Richmond; L. F. Bauer, Jr., and A. Hillman, of New Haven, Conn.; Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Berhaus, of New York; Miss Caroline L. Hall and Miss Elizabeth J. Harris, of Elizabeth, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. James J. Hickey, of Richmond; Mrs. B. M. Walker, of Danville; Mrs. B. H. Alevans, of New York; Dr. C. T. Jones, Charles R. Stribling and Charles R. Stribling, Jr., of Petersburg, Va.; Mrs. Belknap, of Chicago; Charles G. Hubbard, of Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Bosart and daughter, of West New Brighton, N. Y.; Mrs. J. L. Goss, of Clinton, Mo.; Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Straus, of Richmond; Miss Rosa Lewis, Mrs. H. R. Steptoe, Misses Evelyn Lewis and Lucy Steptoe, of Lynchburg; Charles J. Stringer, of Cincinnati; E. Nortz, of New York; W. W. Doherty, Lynchburg; A. A. Trippe, of Phoenix, Ariz.; Julian Connor, of Lexington, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Kittredge, of Clarkton, Va.; John J. Lincoln and John J. Lincoln, Jr., of Elkhorn, W. Va.; John C. Barnum, of Connecticut; Seth Thayer, of Port Washington, N. Y.; M. Moses and N. C. Adkerson, of Lynchburg; E. S. Wefing, R. R. Rice, S. E. Montgomery and H. L. Pride, of Apalachicola, Fla.; H. A. Thompson and Mrs. Thompson, of East McKeesport, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Thompson, of Irwin, Pa.; J. S. Moore, of Portsmouth, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Schuler and Miss E. L. Cook, of Cleveland, Ohio; H. M. Norden, A. G. Strassberg, George Strobel and Edward Reatz, of Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. James I. Tate, Miss Edith Wren, Master J. D. Mahoney and I. A. Ellen, of Chilhowie, Va.

YELLOW SULPHUR SPRINGS

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

YELLOW SULPHUR SPRINGS, VA., July 22.—The rains of the week have prevented the guests at the Yellow Sulphur from enjoying as much tennis and as many outings as usual, and have made bridge and tenpins decidedly more popular than heretofore.

Mrs. A. W. Hughlett, of Atlanta, Ga., arrived here early in the week to join her mother, Mrs. John Bradbury, of Petersburg, and her sisters, Mrs. R. N. Craddock, of Dinwiddie, and Mrs. R. T. Jones, of Danville. Dr. A. H. Straus, of Richmond, has joined his family here, after a trip through Southwest Virginia.

Mrs. Janie Browning Huff was called to the home of her sister, Mrs. W. A. Trotter, in Charlottesville on Thursday by the news that the latter's husband had been killed while serving as an officer in the English army.

Arrivals for the week include: Misses Florence Lewis and Elizabeth McConnell, Roanoke; Miss Pattie Taylor, Clarksville; Mrs. F. C. Parish, Mrs. Crumpler, Suffolk; Mrs. S. W. Kelly, Norfolk; Mrs. J. F. Wilroy, Drivers; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Terry, Salem; Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Johnston, Portsmouth; M. Lloyd Freese, Washington; J. S. Fitts, W. L. McClung, Salem; R. W. Starrett, Roanoke.

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