

The School

"Recti cultus pectora roborant"

Editorial Notes

Education in War Time

Educational progress must not be retarded by war conditions. Not only so, but school activities must receive more attention now than ever before. Education is pre-eminently one of the "essential industries." In England, where the stress of war is more severely felt than elsewhere in the Empire, the present has been chosen as the fitting occasion for what amounts to a revolution in education. The government of every progressive nation, realizing the tremendous importance of education in the national life, is investigating and testing systems with a view to preparation for the reconstruction period.

The attitude of the Government of the United States is thus given in a letter sent out by the Bureau of Education:

"Don't close the schools; use them to maximum capacity. The entire spirit of the Administration in Washington is, and has been from the beginning, that the war should in no way be used as an excuse for giving the children of the country any less education, in quantity or quality, than they otherwise would have had. Both the present demands of the war emergency and the prospective demands of the necessary readjustments inevitably to follow emphasize the need of providing in full measure for the education of all the people. There appears to be nothing in the present or prospective war emergency to justify curtailment in any respect of the sessions of the elementary schools, or of the education of boys and girls under 14 years of age, and nothing which should serve as an excuse for interference with the progressive development of the school system. Opportunities should be found to introduce into the school activities having real educational value, which at the same time link up the Public Schools with the ideals of service and self-sacrifice actuating our people, and bring home to the consciousness of teachers, pupils, and parents the essential unity of the nation in this great crisis. The army and navy do not want, and can not use, boys under 18 years of age, nor boys nor men of any age who are not strong and well-developed physically. So far as the army and navy are concerned, there is nothing more important that the schools can do than to keep going at full capacity, and at the same time to emphasize in every possible way their work in physical education. High school boys will render the best service of which they are capable by remaining in school until completion of the High School course."