

For the community it means good-looking buildings, a well planned attractive centre, kept neat and free from unsightly objects, such as advertisements or piles of rubbish: it means good railway station surroundings, a playground or park as a recreation centre for old and young, good school and grounds, a properly kept cemetery; it means a suitable community hall for meetings and entertainments and clubs.

For the school it means a refined atmosphere in which the pupils will acquire good manners and courtesy, a building that shall be as good a piece of architecture as possible, suitable colors on the walls, without and within, some prints of good works of art in the class and assembly rooms and halls: it means play-grounds and pupils' gardens, planted with trees and flowers, with spaces for shade and enjoyment of nature all well cared for, so that a chance visitor may be impressed by their appearance and suitability.

The school has a great opportunity to render a signal service to the pupil in addition to teaching the three "R's" and a few other minor branches of knowledge. The average of devotion and self-giving on the part of our teachers is very high. All honor to the multitude of women and men, who in remote districts, and often with little sympathy and appreciation from the parents and for small stipends, are giving of their best to inspire and refine and enrich the lives of their charges! They are most influential nation builders because they are workers at the foundations. They come next to the parents in opportunity to shape the character of the future men and women of this country, and it behooves the school boards to stand behind them in a more positive and definite way than that of merely seeing that fuel is supplied and pay cheques issued.

What then may the teacher and the trustees do to benefit the pupils in ways I have suggested. Fundamentally, manners and courtesy should be inculcated. The quiet, gentle and firm manner of the teacher, supplemented by an occasional remark on self-conduct and proper treatment of others, will be of

great value, to implant habitual self-control and consideration for others that answer to gentle breeding. No teacher can do this by precept who cannot do it unconsciously. Many a hoyden or bully may be transformed by the example or the gently given suggestion of a sympathetic teacher. The school building and grounds should be a training place in the manners and conduct appropriate to the stage of the child's growth, which will thus flower later in proper manners and conduct for the adult.

An extension of this inculcation of good manners would be in influencing the pupils to orderliness in life and habits and in leading them to do everything in an artistic way. Most children at a certain age have an instinctive desire to do well and appear well and are keen to act on suggestion by which they may improve their conduct. These hints frequently influence their whole after life for the better.

Music, literature and the fine arts have a refining influence, besides furnishing the mind with images of beauty and stirring the imagination and stimulating the creative faculty. Music is used as far as possible in the schools. Literature is a main reliance of the curriculum. The fine arts, in the form of drawing and painting by the pupils have a limited place. More use should be made of pictures by which to initiate the child into an undreamed-of world of beauty and significance. Nothing could be easier, considering its value, and nothing would so interest the children or be more really profitable to them. A few good prints could be secured and framed permanently or changed from time to time, or a larger number could be pinned up for a while and taken down to make room for another set. Every school should have some good pictures on its walls, the meaning of which would be explained to each incoming class, and so much of their significance as paintings or statues or buildings made clear as the pupils could grasp.

An appropriation of \$50 to \$100 for this purpose, not necessarily voted in one year, ought to be made for every