

HIGH SCHOOL ADVICE TO BOYS AND GIRLS

E. R. Whitney of Schenectady Tells Why Many Students Leave

He Gives Daily Programme—Says Going Through School is Like Journeying on a Four Years' Pilgrimage.

(New York Times.) Superintendent of Schools, E. R. Whitney of Schenectady, recently issued a brief circular containing much pertinent advice to high school boys and girls.

"Going through high school," he says, "is like going on a four years' pilgrimage toward a definite destination. Many start. Few arrive. Many fall by the wayside. Some because they are tired. A few because they are weak and cannot endure the journey. Some are sick and so fall out. Some

are financially unable to pursue the course. The largest number of those who drop out do so because they are discouraged and lack ambition and are just plain lazy.

"Some are distracted from the main highway by allurements from the side. The socially inclined spend their energies in chasing butterflies, which dance up and down mountain steeples, until they fall exhausted. Some, the getting toward their destination, stop by the wayside to play with bright pebbles they find on the road. Some, the visionary, fly kites of many colors, losing valuable time by untying the cords from the tree tops.

"Some proceed at such a slow rate that they lag so far behind the main procession that they think their leaders (teachers) can no longer lead or instruct them. Others, baited by the glint and glimmer of gold offered by those along the road who would exchange money for work, drop out of line and always afterward regret doing so. It is evident that if you would reach your destination you must go to-

ward it with vigor, with determination, with effort, and enthusiasm. To succeed, you must exert every fibre of your being and resist all distracting allurements that hinder your progress.

The following helpful suggestions are offered in the circular:

"1. Keep your mind on the goal—graduation. Never lose sight of that—graduation in four years; in less than four if you can, but graduation!

"2. But a notebook and use it every day. In it write (a) Your daily program of recitation—subject, room, teacher's name, teacher's date and time for make-up work, (b) Your daily program of preparation. The time you set for the preparation of each of the subjects mentioned in (a). This program must be conscientiously carried out each day. Let nothing interfere with your daily preparation of lessons. Business (school work) before mere leisure! Do your school work well and you will have pleasure, too. You cannot get all your lessons in school. There is not time enough at school for that. If possible, have a quiet place all your own at home in which to study from two to four hours each school day. (c) Assignments of lessons for next school day. (d) Points of each day's lessons you do not fully understand, but will learn.

"3. How to study the next lesson. (a) Read it all through very slowly once. (If mathematics, one problem at a time, if foreign language, one sentence at a time), making sure you know what the main points are. Learn to distinguish the main points from the minor points. (b) Begin again at the beginning and analyze very carefully. Study until you know all the lesson thoroughly. Question yourself about each statement or part, and answer your questions. (c) Write out the lesson, and then make a synopsis of it as a whole. (d) Do not let anything about your lesson go by not understood. If you cannot find out for yourself after long and faithful study, ask your teacher next day. Remember that other lessons are apt to come that depend on thorough understanding of this one. (e) Review work of each week.

"4. Always recite when called on. Never falter, shirk, or be a quitter. You will gain strength and confidence by getting up on your feet and trying. Both your teacher and your classmates

despise the shirker who will not even try, while they always respect your honest effort. Your teacher wants you to pass, but you must do your part. Do your best and get credit for it. Stand up squarely on both feet, think of the question asked and answer in a clear voice so that the teacher and the class can easily hear you. If you do this, you will feel better and next time it will be easier to do.

"5. Be prompt, punctual, regular in your habits and dependable. If a written lesson is due at 8:15 Wednesday, do not think that any time Friday will do just as well. It will not. If you are delegated to do a certain task, do it on time, do all of it, and do it so well that it cannot be done better by some one else. But it is more important that the written work should be done by you and be yours only than that work not done by you should be handed in as yours, when it is not. The written work called for is not for the benefit of the teacher, but for all. It is not merely the paper your teacher wants to see. No, it is your intellectual growth she wants to observe. You cheat no one but yourself when you dishonestly hand in written work that is not yours."

FAVORS LAW TO PAY BONUS FOR BABIES

Women Who Risk Their Lives Deserve it as Much as Soldiers, Says Senator Straus—Should Have a Pension, Too.

New York, June 8.—Ways and means to make effective the Sheppard-Towner bill, recently passed by the Legislature, were discussed this week at a meeting of the United Organizations at 610 Lexington avenue. Mrs. Frank A. Vandenberg, the chairman, presided. The speakers were Senator Nathan Straus, J. Lillian Wald of the Henry Street Settlement, Mrs. Willis G. Mitchell, vice-chairman of the United Organizations, and Dr. Matthias Nichol, Deputy State Commissioner of Health. Senator Straus complimented Mrs. Vandenberg and Mrs. Mitchell for the tireless efforts of the women's organizations in putting through the bill. But the real task, he said, was to make the law effective; the women must not slacken their efforts, not only to enforce the Sheppard-Towner bill but also to introduce new legislation along the same lines.

"The enactment of a law providing a bonus for maternity," he said, "is one of the possibilities for further legislation. The greatest need of civilization is better babies, and women who risk their lives in this task deserve a bonus quite as much as the soldier who fought to preserve it. Prospective mothers, too, should have a pension to enable them to escape during this critical period from toil and worry. These are suggestions as to how the women who have built up their splendid organization may use it to continue the work which they have so successfully begun."

Miss Wald spoke of the tremendous reduction in tuberculosis, as a result of a campaign of education, and declared that an equal success could be attained in the field of child welfare by a similar educational campaign. To accomplish this, she said, the printed word was not sufficient. Actual ministration at the needed time, she said, was indispensable. Women properly trained must go into the homes, she said, to supplement the printed educational propaganda.

Dr. Nichol said that women could most successfully carry on the work along public health lines and urged them to continue their efforts. There was a great need, he said, for properly trained nurses of the right type to go into the rural districts. Women doctors, too, were needed. In spite of the liberal salaries paid by the State Board, he said, it was impossible to obtain a large enough personnel to carry on the work in the rural districts, where thousands of mothers die in childbirth for want of proper care.

By the provisions of the proposed "State aid to health" bill, Dr. Nichol said, Boards of Supervisors in rural communities may appropriate money for any public health measure, an equal sum to be given by the State.

John A. Barry received official confirmation yesterday from the Department of Justice, Ottawa, of his appointment to the county court judgeship, succeeding Hon. J. R. Armstrong. The official notification said that he would assume the duties of his new office on June 15.

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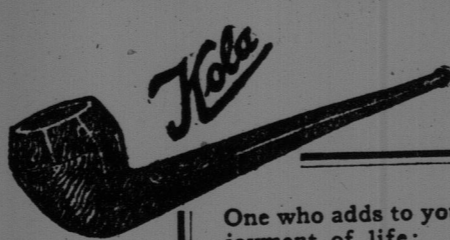
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