

the only other place where an efficient system of education was in vogue was in the State Reformatory for boys who had been fortunate enough to commit a crime against the laws of the people. At the Convention of 1908, a committee reported that this new system was the most important influence introduced into railroad organization during the present generation. This is the exact antithesis of technical training. The schools are brought into the shops by private enterprise instead of the shops being brought into the schools by public subsidy. The practical and theoretical are so thoroughly united that "the grease of the shop is literally rubbed into the lesson sheets."

In quite this fashion were those craftsmen educated who built the pyramids, the Parthenon, and the cathedrals of Europe; and we must admit that the results were fairly satisfactory, especially when we reflect upon our own achievements in the building line during the past five hundred years. All work is one, and there is no essential distinction between work and play. A professional golf-player is believed to have joy in his work and yet his occupation is no different from that of the man who has been trained from his youth upward to stand upon the steel framework of a bridge and place with swiftness, accuracy, and force successive blows of a long-handled hammer upon the head of a red-hot rivet. One of the best amateur golf players I ever knew was so trained, and he informed me that both occupations gave him the same delight.

A boy who is to practise a craft cannot begin too soon if he is to make it a part of himself. He must begin early when his muscular sense is easily impressed, and qualify himself, not for any one work but for all work. Then he will perform all tasks with joy. Those precious years of youth our boys spend in schools with books, striving to develop a mind which is not there to develop, and allowing a body to lie idle until it has become too fixed to acquire a habit as part of itself. Our workmen are as inefficient as they are because they have never learned a trade, never impressed it upon their muscular sense, never made it a part of themselves. They are amateurs, and will never be anything else no matter how long they may continue to exercise their calling.