

of an inch, the gymnasts .3, and those who took no training lost .1 (one-tenth). In breadth of shoulders the rowers and those who took gymnastics alike gained .7 of an inch, while those who took no training gained nothing.

The strength of a chain is the strength of its weakest link. The weight and substance of a tool are as important as the keenness of its edge. If the school is to fulfil its social mission of the training of boys and girls for healthy and effective manhood and happy and serene womanhood; if it is to equip them to stand the strain of business competition and to bear the burden of household care, it is bound to train sound bodies as the basis of sound minds.

Manual training is an essential feature of the social mission of the common schools. It unites mind and body in harmonious development and healthful exercise. Those who are to be artisans need it, if industrially we are to keep pace with the manufacturing nations of Europe in the skill of our workmen and the artistic finish of our manufactured goods. The surgeon, the dentist, the artist all need it for their professions. But they need it most who will never use it in these special ways. No man can thoroughly appreciate a good thing made by another, unless he has some faint conception of how to make the thing himself. Manual training is essential to elevate the taste of the consumer as well as to increase the skill of the producer. It is necessary as a common bond of appreciation and fellowship between rich and poor. This is its great social mission. Says Felix Adler, "Twenty-five years ago we fought to keep this people a united nation. Then was State arrayed against State. To-day class is beginning to be arrayed against class. The chief source of the danger, I think, lies in this, that the two classes of society have become so widely separated by difference of

interest and pursuits that they no longer fully understand each other, and misunderstanding is the fruitful mother-source of hatred and dissension. This must not continue. The manual laborer must have time for intellectual improvement. The intellectual classes on the other hand must learn manual labor; and this they can best do in early youth, in school, before the differentiation of pursuits has yet begun.

Manual training calls into eager and enjoyable activity the whole power of the child; and thus crowds out the baser passions that root themselves in idleness and inactivity. It awakens self-confidence and dignity; and founds the sense of personal property on its true foundation in labor performed. By giving a tangible and interesting object to work for, it stimulates attention, concentration, perseverance and continuity of effort as no formal exercise of abstract will could ever do. It awakens latent constructive and artistic powers which would otherwise become atrophied by disuse. It stimulates invention, and cultivates taste. In the power to labor diligently and patiently with hand and eye it lays the firm foundation for that patience and industry of mind on which all worthy intellectual achievements rest.

*(To be continued.)*

A public school is a State institution, where children are educated to be good, noble men, and loyal, useful citizens, and the State is within its right in having such an institution.

Next to the Home and the Church, the Public School is the most important institution in modern society for the benefit of mankind. The school is the sphere of the State, the Home is the sphere of the parent, and the Church is the sphere of the prophet of God.