

FROM THE NEW BOOKS.

I believe that the school day should be increased to eight hours, the school week to six days, and the school year to twelve months; with elastic provision for home work and out-of-town visiting. I believe that the school activities should include a wide variety of simple hand work and a great deal of our-door play, with ample provision for the things that are done by the Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls; and when children are old enough and strong enough to begin their vocational training, their activities should be combined with work in office and factory. Let no one imagine that such a program is impracticable; for, in the city, school is the sum of all influences outside the home, and the school day is now more than eight hours, the school week is more than six days, and the school lasts the whole year through; these are the facts. Say what you will; and everything is in a dreadful state of confusion excepting only book work.—*W. S. Franklin, in "Bill's School and Mine," Franklin, MacNutt and Charles, South Bethlehem, Pa*

HUMOR IN ITS MANIFESTATIONS.—A sense of humor diffuses itself through all the activities of life, giving to them all a gentle quality that eliminates asperities and renders them gracious and amiable. Like fireflies that bespangle the darkness of the night, humor scintillates through all life's phases and activities and causes the day to go more pleasantly and effectively on. It twinkles through the thoughts and gives to language a sparkle and a nicety that cause it to appeal to the artistic sense. It gives to discourse a piquancy that stimulates but does not irritate. It is the flavour that gives to speech its undulatory quality, and redeems it from desert sameness. It pervades the motives that gives direction as well as a pleasing fertility to all behavior. It is pervasive without becoming obtrusive. It steels into the senses as quietly as the dawn and causes life to smile. It may flash, but humor blithely glides into the consciousness with a radiant kindly smile upon its face. It may sting and inflame, but humor soothes and comforts. The man who has a generous admixture of humor in his nature is an agreeable companion and a sympathetic friend to grown-up people, to children, and to animals. His spirit is genial and people become more kindly and magnanimous in his presence.—*Sense of Humor, in the Vitalizes School, by Francis B. Pearson. The MacMillan Co., of Canada. Price \$1.25.*

The management of home is a business. The housekeeper of today, if she is to manage a home successfully, must be educated in the various duties and responsibilities of her position. Courses in the different branches of domestic science in both public and private schools are furnishing this training to the girls of the country.

But this is not enough. They should be shown the true basis of the management of a home, which lies in a knowledge of the economic principles that underlie the expenditure of the family income. They should be taught how to plan their own expenditures and those of the family. They should learn to keep their own accounts and those of the family in order to help in planning the family expenditures. Properly kept accounts furnish a history of the family expenditures that can be made a valuable aid in future planning.—*Household Accounting, by William Sheaffer, Ph. B. The MacMillan Co., of Canada, Toronto. Price 65c.*

After eliminating the Armenians, the Young Turks prepared the same fate for the Arabs, and they have been engaged on this since 1916. The Arabs in the southern provinces have been able to defend themselves. The Province of Yemen, in the hinterland of Aden, has been in chronic revolt for years, and the Young Turks have abandoned the attempt to subdue its national rulers. The province of Hedjaz, which contains the holy cities of Mecca and Medina, reasserted its independence a few months ago under the leadership of the sheriff of Mecca, who is the hereditary custodian of the holy cities. But Syria, still held down by Ottoman armies, is being Ottomanized with might and main. The Syrian leaders (Moslem or Christian without distinction, for their common crime is that they are Arabs and not Turks) are either dead or in prison; the next blow will fall on the helpless masses. It is the same method as with the Armenians—the same organized direction from the "Union and Progress" Committee at Constantinople—and it will have the same end, unless changes in the military situation intervene.

The whole Young Turkish policy was summed up in a sentence by an Osmanli gendarme to a Danish Red Cross Sister: "First we kill the Armenians, then the Greeks, then the Kurds." The issue resolves itself into a question of time. Which will be destroyed first? The subject peoples or Ottoman ascendancy.—*Methods of Ascendancy in the Round Table, The MacMillan Co., of Canada, Toronto. Price 60c.*

The total enrollment in all the colleges and schools was 64,570. The number of boys was 32,874, and of girls 31,696. The grand total actual daily attendance made by all the pupils enrolled was 10,019,104½. The average actual daily attendance was 50,870. The percentage of regular attendance was 78.78. The total number of teachers employed was 2,064. Of this number 162 were employed in the high schools, 845 in the city graded schools, 499 in the rural municipality schools, and 558 in the rural and assisted schools.—*Report of the Superintendent of Education, 1915-1916. in Public Schools, Province of British Columbia.*

In Congress and out of it, there are those who urge President Wilson and Congress to avoid war. What do these petitioners mean? Do they mean that we should obey German orders to keep our commercial vessels out of the zone and not pursue our lawful trade. Unless we do that how can we avoid war? If the attitude of those who object to hostilities on our part in protection of our fellow citizens is analyzed, it comes to this, that war is so deplorable that we ought not to enter it for any mistreatment of our fellow citizens beyond the confines of our country; that nothing but an invasion and an attack upon our coast and an attempt to capture our cities and overthrow our government would justify our going to war. Everyone deplores war. Everyone would shun it if he could. Its consequences are so terrible that a man who seeks it is either so wantonly reckless of the lives of his fellowmen as to be knavish and cruel, or he is a fool. But in the absence of any international restraint to enforce the right of nations and their citizens against unprovoked attack, war by the offended nation offers the only recourse. It is police measure. It is merely carrying out the principle of self-defence. Our rights are just as much invaded by an attack upon our people in American vessels on the high seas where they have the right to be, as if an attack were made in New York or Boston harbor. A submission in the one case is just as complete and