

jects but children. It has been said that child study is first for the child, second for the teacher, and last and incidentally for science. It has been called the Copernican change of standpoint in education. It was the dawn of a new day for astronomy when it was found that the sun and not the earth is the centre of our system, it will be the beginning of better things in education when every teacher fully realizes that the child is the centre of all his educational endeavour.—the one object worthy in itself, in relation to which all else is but a means. It is the idea of many teachers that their equipment consists in a stock of approved methods which are capable of universal application. Child study breaks up this idea. The spirit of the teacher is of far more value than his methods. The teacher who pores over the child as over an absorbing book cannot fail to be successful.

Child study revivifies old truths. Many fundamental educational principles have become so commonplace from repetition that they cease to impress. What is more fundamental, for example, than the maxim, Do yourself what you would have your pupils do? and yet how often is its importance entirely forgotten or imperfectly realized. But the teacher who observes the activities of children will never cease to be reminded that a great deal of their education is obtained through imitation of himself and all about them. Will he ever undervalue his own influence, then,—the importance of being himself what he would have his pupils become?

Child study will give continual suggestion of method both in teaching and discipline. It will make the teacher much more skilful in dealing with those ever-present problems—the exceptional child and the bad boy. It will correct faults of method. Is the teacher inclined to do too much himself and leave too little to the child? The observations cannot fail to impress upon him that in many cases he may step aside and leave the result to the child's own activities. The teacher who lives in close communion with the child will possess a power of stimulating his activities in a way that leads to true development.

Child study will make the teacher much more skilful in obtaining the confidence of his pupils. There is something wrong in the atmosphere of a home where the children do not confide in their parents; there is something