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DEPT. H. 78

TORONTO, ONT.

The Western Home Monthly, Winnipeg, Canada

Enclosed find \$ for car's subscription to The WESTERN HOME MONTHLY.

Name.....
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The girl who learns chemistry and bacteriology will be needed in health departments to examine foods, milk and water.

Another employment agent states: "Girls who have creative and artistic ability should not hesitate to enter the field of design." This work is reaching into many new lines, for women are now found as commercial designers, that is, of such things as labels, monograms, trademarks; also as festival, pageant and stage designers, in which a knowledge of historical costume and setting and of the principles of effective composition are of first importance. There are branches of design known as pictorial composition, which includes illustrators for books, magazines, newspapers and advertisements; mural decorators and stained-glass designers. In these directions women are very successful. There is a demand for designers of furniture, lace, mosaics, wall paper, rugs, carpets and all kinds of textiles." Opportunities will open along many new lines of work and a girl in housework may find her future profession if she observes. A colored woman at Saratoga Springs, New York, fried potatoes a new way and began to put out a product that is known in every city as the "Saratoga chip."

There is no other way to progress except the gradual unveiling of successive levels.

The College Graduate

In an article under the question: "What is wrong with the college?" Harold C. Goddard gives us a few thoughts worth considering. He says: "From the kindergarten to the university, our present educational system is undergoing radical readjustment. The wide-spread tendency is to vitalize education by bringing it into closer contact with the actual life. The growth of industrial and agricultural forms of vocational training is becoming general." In referring to the debating society of his own youth, he says their debates created intellectual enthusiasm, and a normal boy or girl introduced into an atmosphere of high intellectual pressure must become mentally enthusiastic. In every college there are students who are intellectually alert, but since a large number of students attend for social reasons—or because "it is the thing to do"—or for no reason at all—the individual intellectual enthusiasm does not fuse into collective intellectual enthusiasm. These indifferent students prevent the emergence of a mental current. One college idler will do more to mar intellectual college atmosphere than three can do to create it. Then get rid of the college idler before he or she contaminates hundreds with the virus of intellectual listlessness.

The first and crying need of the college to-day is the ejection of the student with the idle mind—he is the leper of college society.

The process of vitalizing or humanizing knowledge is the essence of making education liberal and practical. The teacher who helps is the one who makes his subject interesting by making his students feel that his subject is a truth permeating all life. He transforms dead signs and symbols into a temple of intellectual beauty.

The great truth in the doctrine of the liberal education is the perception that power of things that are large and high and far away often bestows the best control over things that are detailed and near. The great truth in the doctrine of the practical education is the perception that nothing is worth while that does not relate itself to the everyday life of man. Results must be shown to be worth while in the light of human life as a whole. The liberal education must remember that a subject has a relationship to the real and palpitating issues of human life; it is necessary that the student be made to see and feel that connection clearly, constantly and vitally.

Youth the period of vision. If we deny vision to our young men and women, let us not complain later if the people perish. Young people should catch a vision at college—a vision that will hold their faces toward a goal amid the blackest passages of their later experience; for

"Tasks in hours of insight willed,
Can be through hours of gloom fulfilled."

In this couplet is the whole philosophy of the liberal education, and of its practical relation to human life.

Mr. Goddard closes his article with the following paragraph in defining the aim of the college student: "Let him come not to acquire the superficial polish of a useless culture; not be transformed into one more crack-brained, pettifogging researcher; not to heap up a little pile of information, or to acquire a few tricks of skill, which a few years later can be converted, unit for unit, into bread and butter—but let him come to acquaint himself with problems of the world as it is now; to make his own all that is choicest in the inheritance of the past, and to catch a vision of the world as it ought to be; and to do all these things not for their own sakes, but to the end that when he approaches his own particular task in the practical world, he may bring to it background, amplitude, imagination, grasp the combined daring and restraint, serenity and tenacity of the disciplined mind."

Good Times

Perhaps the times have been too good for girls. "It is upon the smooth ice that we slip." When it is rough and treacherous we watch our way. When the way is clear we go too fast and give less attention to our steps. In buoyant self-confidence we forget caution. "It takes a steady hand to carry a full cup." When the cup of success is not quite full we walk more carefully for fear of losing what we have gained. Hard times may be necessary—and after all times are not hard so long as we can work and have friends and a bit of sympathy.

The Pleasant Things

Emphasize the pleasant things in life. There are people who emphasize always only the unpleasant happenings. One girl tells me she tries to do her best but those around her are so disagreeable. She is never happy because she continually finds the faults in others. One can not attain any success who sees only imperfect models. The artist chooses a perfect model to copy. Converting a pessimist is not an easy task because their mental blindness is almost chronic. I know of two girls whose minds have been greatly weakened because they thought continually about others' faults.

"Every day is a fresh beginning,
Every morn is the world made new;
You who are weary of sorrow and sighing
Here is a beautiful hope for you."
Every unpleasant thought weakens the mind.

Mrs. Browning says:
"There are nettles everywhere,
But smooth green grasses are more common still;
The blue of heaven is larger than the cloud."

The Question Drawer

Among the questions that have come to me through the mail is this—the question of a doctor in a western town. Is it worth while for parents to deny themselves in order to send their girls to college when they might go to a good high school near home? This man says girls do not appreciate the sacrifice and it is not worth while.

Personally I agree with the doctor. If a girl has educational opportunity near home it is to her advantage to remain home. Away from parental influence she creates ideals that wear her from domestic ties and are not practical in her home environment. This experience often causes heart breaks because of lack of sympathy. If parents have to sacrifice much and the girl is really sincere in her desire to go to college—let her earn her own way by teaching near home for a time. She will appreciate her opportunity more. A college education is a desirable ambition but if gained at the cost of home-love and too much parental sacrifice, the price is too high.

Another question from a social survey class has come to me by mail. "Is the church interested in the laboring man, the mechanic or with us—the