

why commit the crime of attempting to make the clothes of a man fit a child?

It will be interesting for teachers to examine other texts as to their suitability for school use.

Social Betterment

Perhaps even more interesting to teachers than the meeting of the Sunday School Association was that held under the direction of the Social and Moral Reform Council. This Council is a composite body made up of representatives from churches, schools, philanthropic and social organizations of all kinds. It aims to promote betterment of the people. It is a clearing house for all ideas and plans aiming at social welfare. It gives workers an opportunity to know and appreciate one another in their aims, spirit and methods.

It is found that the school is the very centre of this movement. There is practically nothing in the aims of the Social Welfare Congress that does not find its expression in some school. Physical, intellectual, social and moral betterment are the aims of the school. They are likewise the aims of Congress. Naturally enough the school—that is, the elementary school—cannot attempt work that can be done only among adults, and it should not attempt to do what naturally falls to other organizations. It unfortunately happens, however, that more and more the burden of promoting the welfare of the people is being thrown upon the schools. This cannot go on forever. Yet the temptation for social workers is in every case of need to plan out big schemes, and then turn to some existing organization for their execution. That is an easy way out, and the originators of the schemes can enjoy all the joy and comfort that comes to great reformers. It is very pleasant to have the feeling of being a great reformer. We all pass through that stage some time or other.

The school, however, in all seriousness is in a rough way covering the whole field. All that we can hope for is that the best in school procedure shall

become universal, and that there shall be continual adaptation to meet conditions of time and place.

In its endeavor to promote social welfare the school will be drawn in many ways at the same time. There are those who emphasize intellectual attainment, others who think in terms of morality and so on. The man to-day who is most to be feared is he who gives prominence to the improvement of commercial and industrial conditions. In the long run we want not better farms and better railway facilities, but better men, and the school is hopelessly astray when it places anything in the scheme of education higher than moral character. It is important to have school gardens, but more important to have a garden in every heart. It is good to have a hot lunch, it is better to have a fervent spirit. The spiritual and the material are not contradictory. They may develop together. But there is a noticeable tendency in a wealth-producing country to glorify all that is concerned with material production. Let us as teachers not play to the galleries in this matter.

Christmas Morn

The bells ring clear as a bugle note,
Sweet song is thrilling every throat,

'Tis welcome Christmas morning—
Oh, never yet was morn so fair,
Such silent music in the air;

'Tis merrie Christmas morning—

Dear day of all days in the year
Dear day of song, good will, and cheer,
'Tis golden Christmas morning.

The Hope, the Faith, the Love that is,
The Peace, the Holy Promises,
'Tis glorious Christmas morning.

—Joaquin Miller.

By-and-by is a very bad boy,
Shun him at once and forever,
For they who travel with By-and-by
Soon come to the house of never.