

for vegetable products, but that others should be devoted to the growing of good potatoes, and all kinds of vegetables. The experience of last year will be of value and the results should be in proportion to the proficiency.

The writer has before him a circular letter sent out by the ex-food controller for Canada, W. J. Hanna, in which he makes an urgent appeal for greater food production, and points out the fact that besides the cultivation of market gardens, poultry keeping within municipal areas under reasonable restrictions would also be of great benefit. An opportunity is thus afforded to not only fulfil the crying need for greater food production but to give the children practical demonstration along these lines.

In many cases the raising of poultry, the attendance to and the direction of work in the school gardens will add more duties in the already over-crowded program, but surely that is all the more opportunity for further self-sacrifice and devotion of the teachers who have already done so much to strengthen the industrial and fighting armies Overseas.

In future numbers of the REVIEW, throughout the summer, timely articles will be contributed which ought to prove of much assistance and value in the work of greater food production, giving practical advice to teachers and children. The first will appear in the March issue.

LIVING IN THE PAST BY THE MOVIES

BY ERNEST A. DENCH.

(Special to the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.)

However good the printed page or still photograph may be in recalling the past, there is nothing to equal, yet excel, the film. The dead come to life again, and pleasant events in one's lifetime can be recalled.

To begin with history first, the only way by which we can learn the history of our forefathers is through the historian's facile pen. Word painting has its limitations,— that is, we miss the actual seeing of things.

But the camera cannot lie. What better sight could one have than to be treated to seeing the fight for independence in motion pictures, or the Civil War? I am not alluding to the historical picture produced by the manufacturers to-day, for these are only based on history, but I refer to genuine films taken at the time these great events took place. Alas, the cinematograph was not thought of then, so these things will never become a reality.

Then, again, what could be better than seeing our ancestors come to life again? How amusing it would be to see them in their quaint dresses, amid an archaic environment and the customs that prevailed at that time.

This brings me down to modern times. What about the events that occur day by day and are duly recorded by the cinematograph camera? Beyond them interesting us, nothing is apparently being done to preserve these films for the sake of posterity. The American government has ordered films of the red Indians to be taken, but practically no move has been made in other directions. A good law would be to compel film producers to forward a copy of every topic they make to their respective government headquarters so that a permanent record may be kept. Far from resenting such a bill coming to pass, the producers would only be too willing to oblige.

A hundred years hence the world will have progressed as it has during the last century, so what better medium for recalling the past is there than the versatile cinematograph?

Children will have no need to be taught history and progress by dull books— Moving Pictures will reveal everything in actual reality. Thus will the fullest development of the film as an educational medium have been reached.

The sooner that this important matter is given the attention it demands the better.

The producers have been very good in their laudable attempts to reproduce history and costume plays on the screen, but however excellent their efforts may be, they cannot approach the real thing, although one cannot overlook the marvelous character of the film actor's make-up. The producers are to be praised for adhering strictly to history and not allowing any anachronisms to appear.

For all this, one knows that he is only witnessing a rehash of the past, so they therefore fail to convince like the genuine historical film would.

Even now when a famous personage dies, his features have usually been caught by the Moving Picture camera and the animated newspapers revive the scenes, which are received with increased interest and enthusiasm. This surely is a good proof of the necessity for the cinematograph to be utilized as a permanent recorder of history.

France has already established a cinema archive for the purpose of preserving the most important public events taking place the world over, so why should we lag behind?