

The Western School Journal

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Editorial

The New Year

To some of us it is a return to an old manner of life; to others it is the beginning of a new order of things; to all it is a call to a service which demands intelligence, patience and devotion.

The wish of the Journal is that in the year to come all our teachers may have abundant success, and that the success may be of such a kind as to win the approval of the parents and the pupils, and the consciences of the teachers themselves.

What is it to succeed? What but to minister faithfully to the highest needs of the pupils and the permanent welfare of the province?

May each pupil be enriched in experience! May he know something more of truth, feel something more of beauty, have greater zeal for righteousness! May he learn to be right in intention, faithful and persevering in all forms of action! May he have power to do good and power to resist evil! May he through the exercise of head, heart and hand develop power for action! May he in work and play learn the joy and the glory of service for others! May he learn that the way to save his life is to lose it!

May each community be blessed because of the work that is done in the little red schoolhouse! May there be brighter homes, more loving relationships, more generous culture, higher ideals and loftier aspirations! May there be around every fireside more of the spirit of comradeship, more of the

spirit of song, more of the joy of living! May there be among the churches less of bitter rivalry and more of Christian unity! May there be in public affairs zeal for community welfare and honesty of administration! And may men and women everywhere, because of the influence of the teacher, learn to be holier, sweeter and more refined!

This is the best wish of the Journal for the year 1915-1916. If there is in this wish little reference to the programme of study and the system of examination, it is because these are only means to ends. Education is a serious business. It deals with life, in individuals and communities. He who thinks in lesser terms than this has missed the mark. The guiding motto for every teacher is this: "I have come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

Goodness

Benevolence, or the doing of good, is the universal vocation to which all men are called. As the years multiply I have the ever growing conviction that the real interpretation of life is to be found only in a steadfast devotion to the doing of good; that in the intent of our Creator our one mission on this earth is to renew its face physically and morally; to reconvert it into a paradise for human habitation and delight; and to restore to man the lost image in which he was created. All other vocations—all trades, employments, professions—should be held