

GOOD DEFINITION OF MAN OF EDUCATION

Knowledge of English Indispensable, Says Professor.

There have been of late, perhaps more than the usual number of attempts, both by professional educators and by writers for the popular magazines, to define what is meant by being educated. More than twenty-five years ago George Herbert Palmer, professor of philosophy in Harvard university, said in a commencement address delivered at the University of Michigan: "Good judges have said that he, and he alone, is a well-educated person who uses his language with power and beauty." Later his address was published under the title of "Self-Cultivation in English," and it is today as applicable and stimulating as ever. Every teacher, every school principal and every member of a school committee in the country should read it for its excellence as a piece of literary composition no less than as a source of inspiration and guidance, advises the Youth's Companion.

Although Professor Palmer's remark is of universal application, it must be taken in this country with reference to English, for, no matter how well a man may know any other language, he is heavily handicapped if he does not know how to use the language of the overwhelming majority with a certain degree of accuracy and ease, if not "with power and beauty." It is in this respect that our public schools have done perhaps their most useful work. A common language is a great national benefit, and the established use of English throughout the United States is something to be grateful for. Other languages have their place and value, but the official language of the country must be the common possession of all. The story of the Tower of Babel is still in point.

And knowledge of English does not mean merely the ability to read simple prose and to repeat the stock phrases of the day, mixed with slang. It means, as Professor Palmer so tersely specified, the ability to speak and write with "accuracy, audacity and range." Here is at least one goal toward which all of our educational institutions can safely press forward. Shortcomings in other subjects can be concealed, but faulty English, whether in speech or in writing, is sure to reveal itself at the first contact. It is only the masters that can afford to commit errors.

Mother Understood

She is a wonderful little mother, lovable, sweet, decidedly unsophisticated and always concerned over the welfare of her big boy, whose late hours had worried her not a little.

"What time did you get in last night?" she inquired at breakfast.

"This morning you mean, mother; it was 12:15."

"And where were you, might I ask?"

"Went to a dance and had a little dinner afterward. Cover charge and all didn't make it very costly."

She had heard of cover charges at such affairs, but had never quite understood. She studied a moment and then:

"Rather expensive, I should think it seems to me that you'd get tired of paying for table covers."—Indianapolis News.

Vitality of Beet Seeds

Beet seeds retain their germinating power for 17 years, according to experiments recently conducted by Prof. K. Dorph-Petersen of the Danish seed testing station. A considerable amount of this stock was stored away 17 years ago and some withdrawn for experiment every year. The tests showed 85 per cent of germination the second year and 24 per cent the seventeenth year of dormancy. Seeds of white clover germinated after 25 years. Only a few grass species tested showed much life after seven or eight years. Various environmental conditions may influence the length of time a seed may remain alive, Professor Dorph-Petersen believes.

Goats Do Damage

The Bulgarian sheep and goat census for the current year shows that there is a pair of sheep, or a sheep and a goat, for every man, woman and child in Bulgaria, with a part of a sheep or a goat to spare. Sheep, however, are much preferred to goats by the Bulgarian government. The reason is that goats, feeding on the fresh, young tops of shrubs and the small trees, apparently are eating the country bare of forests. Hence steps are being taken to discourage their increase.

"Love's Labor Lost"

Little Miss Dorothy May Bovard, 1852 North Pennsylvania street, who has just reached the age of nine, was being quizzed the other day concerning her "boy friends." This was the conversation:

"Well, Dorothy, have you a beau?" the visitor asked.

Dorothy May's face lighted up and smilingly she said: "Sure I have a beau," then her smile changed to sadness as she added, "But he doesn't pay any attention to me."—Indianapolis News.

—If you see it in the "Watchman" you know it's true.

Parsi Put Their Dead on Towers of Silence

It was a terrifying sight and I was the first European to see it. I had to camouflage myself and to dress and act like a native of India in order to visit the sacred burial places of the Parsi, says a writer in "Deutsche Medizinische Wochenschrift."

The burial places, or rather the storing places, of the dead are the Towers of Silence. Foreigners can never get there, dead or alive. All photographs are prohibited. Only by special influence was it possible for me to get near these strange towers. A Parsi to whom I had been recommended by a friend agreed to guide me.

On Malabar hill there is a grove, surrounded by a high wall. A road takes one up to the house of the guards. We happened to see the burial of a rich Parsi. The body was dressed in white linen and lay on a network of strong linen straps held up by 12 carriers. The entire mourning crowd, dressed in white instead of black, followed the corpse two and two. Each couple was tied together by a white linen ribbon. Eagles and hawks circled about in the air.

I was unable to get to the Towers of Silence proper, but my companion described the burial procedure. The corpse is laid on the platform of one of the towers by men who are employed for their whole lifetime in this work. As the body begins to decay the eagles come down. The skeleton remains for about three months and then is buried in a valley.

Possibility Venus of Milo Never Had Arms

It may be some consolation to art lovers throughout the world, who have wondered in what position were the missing arms of the famous Venus of Milo statue in the Louvre, to learn that even the ancients themselves were perplexed on this point, according to a letter to the Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

Doctor Edde, a French physician, has just made known that during a recent visit to Egypt he came into possession of a small bronze statuette of the same period as the Venus de Milo. This statuette is an exact copy of the famous Venus, and like the original, it has no arms. Doctor Edde therefore concludes that the Venus de Milo never at any time had arms, and he believes that the sculptor, when he had carved out of stone such a divine form, gave up all idea of adding arms.

When the Venus de Milo was discovered on the island of Milo a large reward was offered to anyone who could find the arms, but, in spite of extensive search, nothing was discovered.

For Umbrella Protection

A well-known business man had a bad habit of losing umbrellas, and as they were usually expensive ones, he hit upon the happy idea of having his telephone number engraved on the handle. Since then he lost his umbrella half a dozen times, but owing to the telephone number he has always recovered it. The finder does not have to send it back; he rings up the number and the owner gladly calls for it. If the finder is dishonest he will not feel comfortable with that tell-tale number, and if he himself loses it, as ten to one he will, a more honest person will eventually inform the original owner. The latter, of course, will know nothing of the umbrella's adventures if only the umbrella could talk!

You Tell Him!

Johnson had obtained work in a railway yard and was told to mark some trucks.

"Here's a piece of chalk," said the foreman. "Mark each of 'em eleven."

A little later the foreman came around again to see how the new hand had been getting on. He found him sitting on a bucket regarding a truck thoughtfully. Marked upon it was a large 1.

"What does this mean?" asked the foreman. "Only one truck done, and the number wrong at that. I said eleven, not one."

"I know," said Johnson, "but I couldn't think on which side of the '1' the other '1' goes!"

How to Win a Man

"A man longs for your love until you have given it to him—after that not only does he cease to desire your love, but frequently ceases to love you also. Moral—Never show him that you love him—he'll be much happier if you don't."

"A man can be clumsy, stupid, ugly and base, and yet have the eyes of a beautiful woman follow him adoringly about a room full of attractive people. Heaven knows what the explanation is!"

"No wife should try to keep her husband at home during the evening. Take a cub from a club and you get 'em."—"Mere Man," by Honor Bright.

Orthodoxy

The orthodox Jew is bigoted and austere. He is a glutton for pain and sorrow. He likes to brood and pity himself. He has no instinct for the joy of living and disapproves of such a trait in others.

But he does not take life indifferently; neither is he bumptious about it. He has strength of character and is able to thrive in the face of adversity. He believes in work. He is seldom a drunkard and eats with prudence, and clean food. He is a man of spiritual ideals and a moral man. He loves law and order and seldom gets into the criminal class.—Sonya Levien, in Hearst's International.

Business Outlook

Conditions in our country are ripe for a period of prosperity. We have emerged from a time of severe depression. The past year has been one of liquidation with dullness in trade and manufacturing.

All this is changed

Big crops here and poor ones abroad have raised the price of wheat and other farm products. This means increased buying power on the part of our farmers.

Radical legislation is not to be feared. Banking conditions are sound, money is easy, credit is abundant. Car loadings are the greatest in our history and the railroads are in condition to make long deferred extensions and improvements. Conditions in Europe are rapidly improving.

The outlook is bright for business of every kind.

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