THE EDUCATIONAL HORIZON

A SATURDAY FEATURE—

PRESENTING NEWS AND VIEWS OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS AND ALL OTHERS SEEKING IMPROVEMENT IN EDUCATION

The following was taken from the "News Letter" sent out by the secretary-treasurer of the C. T. F.

The Royal Bank issued a most interesting letter in the month of March on the subject of "Education." The following excerpts are taken from it:

"There is no field of human activity in which educational ideals rationally applied are of more value in business. Besides preparing the mind to accept responsibility for tasks, a liberal education develops a sense of right, duty and honour, more and more, in this modern world, business rests on rectitude, as well as on good judgment."

"Plato gave as his view that health, beauty, wealth, power and other things are ingredients in happiness, but are neutral before education, which teaches how to use them. A more satisfying enunciation of the aim of education can probably be acquired by arranging in order the leading activities of life. They are:

(1) activities which directly minister to self-preservation; (2) those which, by securing the essentials of life, minister indirectly to self-preservation; (3) those which have for their objective the rearing of a family; (4) activities which are involved in the maintenance of proper social and political relations, and (5) activities which Herbert Spencer refers to as miscellaneous, which fill up the leisure part of life, devoted to the gratification of the tastes and feelings."

"Education today, in its best sense, means educating for a fluid society, in which every person is free to move in any direction his disposition takes him, so long as he does not cause too much friction in his contacts with others similarly pursuing their own lives. Education has become increasingly miscellaneous and encyclopaedic. Job specialization demands a more deliberate and specific form of vocational training for those who desire it; intelligent participation in civic and political affairs requires a broad general education; and the responsibility of social life calls for guidance such as never was attempted in past generations."

"If the idea of advancing education appeals to the people, then they must be prepared to pay teachers salaries which compare favourably with industry."

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED

Do not **confuse** or interchange the meanings of the following words:

Statue, stature, and statute. Statue means a carved or moulded figure; stature means height; statute means a law.

Instants, and instance. Instants means small portions of time; instance means an example.

Allusion and illusion. Allusion means a reference; illusion means a deceptive appearance.

Lead and led. Led is the past tense of the verb to lead. Lead is the present tense.

Awful. Means filling with awe or filled with awe.

Do not use in the sense of uncivil, serious, or ludicrous, or (in the adverbial form) in the sense of very, extremely.

Because. Not to be used for the fact that. "The fact that (not because) he is absent is no reason why we should not proceed.

Blame on. A crudity for put the blame on or blame. Say: "Don't blame me."

Caused by. To be used only when it refers definitely to a noun.

Could of. An illiterate form arising from slovenly pronunciation. Use could have. Avoid also may of, would of.

Guess. Expresses conjecture. Not to be used in formal composition for think, suppose, or expect.

LITERATURE (The Story of Gareth and Linet)

1. What was Gareth's first request? That he have food and lodging for one year.
2. What was Gareth's second request? That he be allowed to go to the rescue of the unknown lady.
3. What was Gareth's third request? That he be knighted by Sir Lancelot.
4. What battle deeds did Sir Gareth perform on his way to the Castle of the Red Lawns? He defeated Sir Kay; held his own against Sir Lancelot; killed the six thieves; overcame the Green Knight and the Red Knight; overcame Sir Persant.
5. Why had the knight of the Red Lawns murdered all the Knights who came against him? Because Lancelot and Gawaine had slain the brother of his lady love.
6. What was the great virtue in the ring which Liones gave to Gareth? He who wore it should lose no blood; and it continually changed the color of his armour.
7. Did Liones love Gareth? Liones loved Gareth at first sight and before she knew who he was.
8. What do you think of the use of numbers of colors, of proper names, of times and distances in this story?

Is scientific accuracy important in a story of this kind?

These made the story more vivid and gave a touch of reality to it. Scientific accuracy is not important. In fact it would detract from the interest and would rob it of the Early Middle age effect which the author trys so well to give it.

WHAT ADVANTAGES ACCRUE FROM REGULAR INSPECTION AND EARLY TREATMENT OF THE TEETH?

(1) Cavities are discovered and filled when they are small and before the pulp (nerve) becomes involved. The tooth thus retains its healthy pulp and a root end abscess will not develop. Cavities should be discovered before the tooth starts to ache.

(2) Conditions which may lead to pyorrhea are detected and corrected and if the disease has started it will be recognized at an early stage when proper treatment will bring satisfactory results.

(3) Pernicious habits (such as thumb and lip sucking) and other conditions which may cause irregularity of the teeth will be noticed and the proper steps to correct them will be taken.

(4) Instruction and supervision in mouth care will be given. The best way to cure disease is to prevent it. Some men are born with good teeth; some men preserve their teeth; while others have false teeth thrust upon them. Every child should have his teeth examined by a dentist at least twice a year.

A COMPOSITION EXERCISE

"Nice" may mean almost anything. Consequently it is not used much by writers or speakers who really have something to say about the thing they are describing. Below is a list of words which may be used instead of "nice". Write the sentence below using the most suitable word in place of nice.

Words: Pleasant, suitable, refreshing, agreeable, beautiful, interesting, appetizing, attractive, restful, dainty, enjoyable, charming, delightful, becoming, and tasty.

1. It is nice to feel the wind on one's face.
2. It is nice to hear the rain on the roof.
3. She wore a beautiful dress.
4. The sandwiches are very nice.
5. Yesterday was a nice day.
6. We had a nice time at the party.
7. That's a nice picture.
8. This is a nice piece of lace.
9. This will be nice for Tommy.
10. The book is very nice.
11. She has a nice voice.
12. The apples look very nice.
13. She has a nice manner.
14. It was not a nice surprise.
15. We received a nice invitation.

AN AQUARIUM

To make an aquarium: 1. Place in a jar a layer of sand an inch or more in depth. 2. In this sand plant the water plants which you are growing under water in a pond or stream; the plants most available are waterweed, bladderworst, water starwort, watercress, stoneworts, frog spittle, or water silk.

3. Place on top a layer of small stones or gravel; this is to hold the plants in place.

4. Tip the jar a little and pour in very gently at one side water taken from a pond or stream. Fill the jar to within two or three inches of the top; if it be a jelly tumbler, fill to within an inch of the top. 5. Let it settle.

6. Place it in a window which does not get too direct sunlight. A north window is the best place; if there is no north window in the school room, place it far enough at one side of some other window so that it will not receive too much sunlight.

7. To get living creatures for the aquarium use a dip net, which is made like a shallow insect net.

8. Dip deep into the edges of the pond and be sure to bring up some of the leaves and mud, for it is in these that the little water animals live.

9. As fast as dipped up, these should be placed in a pail of water, so that they may be carried to the schoolroom.

10. After the material has been brought into the shoolroom, it should be poured out into a shallow pan so that it can be sorted into other containers for further study. A little experience will soon show what kinds of creatures are likely to eat others in an aquarium. By putting similar ones together in one container, it will be quite possible to distribute them in such a manner that there will not be many fatalities. It is well to put only a few creatures in each container.

The school aquarium may be a very simple affair and still be effective. Almost any glass receptacle will do, glass being chosen because of its transparency, so that the life within may be observed. Tumblers, jelly tumblers, fruit jars, butter jars, candy jars, and battery jars are all available for aquaria. The tumblers are especially recommended for observing the habits of aquatic insects.

SCIENTIFIC ATTITUDES

1. A *curiosity* to know about one's environment.
2. The belief that nothing can happen without a cause and that occurrences that seem strange and mysterious can always be explained by natural causes.
3. An unwillingness to accept as facts any statements that are not supported by convincing proof.
4. The *determination not to believe in superstitions of any sort.*
5. The belief that truth itself never changes, but that our ideas of what is true changes as we gain more and more knowledge.
6. An intention not to experiment blindly and carelessly, but to begin work only after careful planning.
7. The *determination to be careful* and accurate in all one's observations.
8. A willingness to consider all the evidence and to try to decide whether it really relates to the matter which is being considered, whether it is sound and sensible, and whether it is complete enough to allow a conclusion to be made.
9. A determination not to base final conclusions on one or a few observations, but to work as long as may be necessary in order to secure an answer to a problem.
10. The desire to do one's own observing and experimenting, but a willingness to use the results of other scientists' work.
11. The willingness to change an opinion or a conclusion if later evidence shows that it is wrong.
12. The intention to respect another's point of view and the determination to prevent one's own likes and dislikes from influencing one's judgment.

TO CONSTRUCT YANGTZE RIVER DAM

The Yangtze River is the longest of the three great Chinese rivers. It, too, is the most important commercially. It rises in the *south-central part of the continent of Asia, in the plateau of Tibet*, flows northeastward; then southeastward. After an irregular course, winding more than 3,000 miles, it enters the Yellow Sea through an estuary about thirty

The upper part of the course is between mountains, and the channel is narrow and the stream rapid, often interrupted by rapids and falls. The tide ascends the river for 450 miles and it is navigable for 600 miles. The chief tributaries are the Han, from the north, and the Wer, the Heng and the Kan from the south. Some of these are navigable for considerable distances. With its many tributaries and hundreds of connecting canals, the Yangtze River forms a system of waterways which serves the greater part of China proper. The steamers which ply its lower course and the junks and smaller craft which go farther inland distribute half of the sea commerce of the country.

At present, waterpower in the Yangtze basin is used only for grinding grain in old-fashioned mills and lifting water into irrigation ditches by a system much as it was 1,000 years ago. Ancient earthen dikes and the broad overflow lakes which lie between Ichang and Hankow afford the only means of flood control.

Now a plan is being drawn for a huge dam to be constructed on the Yangtze River, a plan for the world's greatest irrigation and hydro-electric power project.

John Lucian Savage, who designed Boulder Dam, Grand Coulee Dam, and 60 others, is the technical expert beyond this great scheme for which the plans are being drawn up in Denver office of the United States Bureau of Reclamation. The gigantic dam now in blueprints will back up the Yangtze's water in a reservoir 250 miles long, a lake twice as large as the one behind Boulder Dam. This reservoir would hold back the river in flood season and would supply ample water for irrigation during dry spells. It could generate about twice as much current as Boulder Dam, Grand Coulee, and Shasta combined. Half of its power would electrify the area of a circle 1,000 miles in diameter, and the other half would turn the wheels of much needed chemical-fertilizer plants. These plants, it is estimated, would fill China's requirements and provide a large surplus for export. In addition the dam would extend the limit of steam navigation several hundred miles upstream. At present the gorges and rapids above Ichang are impassable except for small boats hauled by gangs of coolies, steamers will sail as far as the war-time capital of Chungking. Plans call for enormous cranes which will straddle the lock and lift specailly constructed steamers. Carrying the ship, the cranes will roll past the dam and lower the vessel into the water beyond. W. A.

AUSTRALIA (Continued)

In the Federal Parliament there are 111 (Senate, 36; House of Representatives, 75). In the states a total of 496.

Altogether there are 609 Federal and State members. There's a move to increase the number of Federal members because of increasing Commonwealth power and responsibilities.

The first Premier of Australia was Sir Edmund Barton.

Australia is one of the five self-governing Dominions, (the others are Canada, South Africa, New Zealand and Eire), which are all part of the British Commonwealth of Nations. The only constitutional link is the Crown, but there is also the strong and unbreakable link of blood and brotherhood with Britain and with other parts of the Empire.

H. R. H. the Duke of Gloucester is the Governor-General of Australia. His authority is that of all Governors-General, who are the direct representative of the King in the Commonwealth. He is, of course, entitled to the special ceremonials reserved for members of the Royal Family. His duties include the opening of the Commonwealth Parliament and the commissioning of Prime Minister to form Governments. He will preside at meetings of the Commonwealth Executive Council, and will doubtless undertake the many public duties associated with the office.

The Commonwealth of Australia has Ministers in the United States, China, Russia. High Commissioners have been appointed to Britain, Canada, New Zealand and India.

The Commonwealth of Australia is an independent and democratic nation. It is one of the United Nations, and before the war sent its own representative to the League of Nations. It sends its own Ministers to foreign capitals. Its executive can declare war.

The Commonwealth's Minister for External Affairs has made it clear that Australia realizes it will have to play its part in guarding the security and prosperity of the Pacific as its share of the world's peace planning. Its particular interest will be an extended Australian zone, including the islands close to its shores, which have a community of interest in defence, in trade and in transport. There is no wish to alter the sovereignty of the territories concerned, but the Australian Government contemplates a general understanding on these and related matters with other Governments concerned and has already made a pact with the New Zealand Government.

For Australia, a young, virile and growing nation, the problems of governing and developing a continent, and of sharing the responsibility for the oceans which surround it, offer a challenge and a promise in the prosperous and peaceful world of the future.

The first fleet arrived in Botany Bay in 1788.

Gold was discovered in Victoria in 1850. The Commonwealth of Australia was proclaimed in 1900. Australia was at war with Germany in 1914. Ross Smith and Keith Smith made first flight from Britain in 1919. Kingsford Smith and Ulm made first trans-Pacific flight in 1928. Sydney Harbour bridge was opened in 1932. Scott and Black flew from Britain in record time of 71 hours in 1934. Australia was at war with Germany in 1939. The first Minister to Commonwealth arrived from U. S. A. in 1940. At war with Japan in 1941. Australia-New Zealand pact signed at Canberra in 1944.

THE HUMMING BIRD

The Humming bird is a beautiful one, of which there are more than 400 species, living exclusively in America, abounding especially in the tropics. The name is given the birds because of the sound made by their rapidly moving wings in flight. Some humming birds are not larger than a bumble bee, and the largest do not exceed the sparrow in size. They have slender beaks, which are generally long and sometimes curved. The tongue is long, thread-like, forked at the point and capable of being protruded from the bill to a considerable distance. Humming birds never light to take food, but, hovering before a flower, supporting themselves by the rapid vibrations of their wings, they search the blossom for insects, which form a great proportion of their food, and for nectar which the plants secrete. They build their nests of wonderfully fine workmanship, which are lined within with soft wool and usually covered on the outside with lichens, which serve to conceal the nest. Two small eggs are laid, and they are always plain white. There are many species in the United States, but the only one found east of the Mississippi River is the ruby-throated humming bird. Some humming birds are plainly colored, while others are ornamented in numberless ways by brilliant patches of color on the throat, long graceful feathers in the tail, crests, ruffs, bunches of feathers upon the legs and a brilliant metalic luster to the feathers. The humming birds are the only birds that can fly backward and are also the only birds that can remain poised in the air without changing their position. They are the smallest birds in the world.

TERN

Tern, a bird of the gull family, is seen along lakes and rivers and on the seacoast. These long-winged, graceful birds are sometimes known as sea swallows. They may be distinguished by their long, slender, straight bills, pointed wings and forked tails. The legs are relatively shorter than those of the true gulls. They are bold, but wary, birds, whose habit it is to plunge into the water for their prey, sometimes completely immersing their bodies. The largest species, the Caspian tern, has a wing expanse of about four feet and is found not only in Europe, Asia and Afria, but also in America. There are about twenty species common to North America. The Arctic tern travels farther than any other bird. Each year it flies from the Arctic to the Antarctic regions and back again, a total distance of 22,000 miles.

First Gentleman: "Why did you break your engagement with that school teacher?"

Second Gentleman: "I didn't show up one night and she wanted me to bring a written excuse signed by my mother."

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ROBERT HARRIS

Robert Harris was born in the Vale of Conway, Wales, but came to Prince Edward Island at the age of seven. After his schooling in Charlottetown he worked as a surveyor. He then went on a sailing vessel to England, where he studied painting in London. He continued his studies in Paris and travelled in Belgium, Holland and Italy. After this thorough training Harris returned to Canada, first settling in Toronto, then moving to Montreal, where he lived until his death. He was a charter member, and an early president of the Royal Canadian Academy.

Harris is famous as the painter of The Fathers of Confederation; he also painted portraits of many noted Canadians including Sir John A. MacDonald, Lord Strathcona, and Sir William Osler. His style, typical of the latter Victorian period, is characterized by truth to nature. Harris was one of the pioneers in the painting of the Canadian scene.

CURRENT EXENTS

The Secretary of the Interior in United States is J. A. Krug.

Field Marshal Alexander's new title—Viscount Alexander of Tunis and of Errigal in the County of Donegal.

President of Finland is Premier Paasikivi.

Premier of Belgium is Dr. Paul-Henri Spaak.

Chief of the Naval Staff in Canada is Vice-Admiral Howard E. Reid.

Russians expect to have all forces evacuated from the Danish Island (Bornholm Island) in April.

The temporary home of the U. N. O. is Hunter College, Bronx, New York.

United States Secretary of the Treasury, Fred M. Vinson, was elected chairman of the twin Boards of Governors of the new World Bank and the World Monetary Fund at the International Monetary Conference at Savannah, Georgia, on March 11, 1946.

The fourth Council meeting of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Association opened in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on March 15. Delegates from 47 countries gathered to plot the last year of the U. N. R. R. A.'s work. Three years ago, U. N. R. R. A. was born in the same setting as this meeting.

Bornholm, Danish island, Baltic Sea; kaolin, freestone; fisheries; flax, hemp, oats. Chief town, Ronne. Area, 225 square miles; population 44,000.

Winner of the Governor-General's 1945 Literary Award for fiction is Hugh MacLennan.

Abril, a synthetic wax recently discovered by U. K. scientists is shortly to come into large scale production. It will take the place of natural waxes used for high pressure lubrication.

This Department is conducted by the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation. Contributions are welcomed and should be addressed to Millar MacFadyen, 8 1-2 Felling St., Charlottetown.

DIAMOND RUSH

The year 1946 is the diamond anniversary of the diamond rush in South Africa, which started in 1871.

Tug Goes To Aid Of Grounded Ship

(By The Canadian Press)

HALIFAX, April 25 — Maritime Towing Company officials said tonight they expected their big ocean-going tug Foundation Franklin to reach the Greek freighter Aifios, aground on Sable Island, about midnight tonight.

The 5,116-ton ship, bound for Halifax for a cargo of pit-props, grounded 150 yards off the shore of the treacherous sand, 170 miles southeast of the Nova Scotia coast late last night.

Department of Transport officials at Halifax said the freighter was caught fast off East Light on the south side of the shifting sands that have been called "the graveyard of the Atlantic."

The Foundation Franklin, veteran of many a deep-sea rescue, was accompanying the crippled freighter Laconia Victory to Boston when the first wireless on the grounding of the Aifios reached her.

The tug immediately put about and headed for Sable Island.

(By The Canadian Press)

HALIFAX, April 25 — The liner Letitia, making her third voyage in "operation stork", arrived here today with more than 800 brides and children of Canadian servicemen aboard.

Loneliest passenger was 10-months-old Michele Chicoine, for whom the Red Cross acted as mother during the seven-day voyage. Little Chicoine's mother died at her birth and she was going to live with her father, Wilfrid Chicoine of Rigaud, Que.

Keep Check On Lumber Prices

(By The Canadian Press)

OTTAWA, April 25—The Price Board tonight issued an order aimed specifically at eliminating "upgrading" of lumber and other infractions of price ceiling regulations and warned that effective control on prices of lumber, shingles and laths will be maintained in future.

Board officials said some manufacturers and dealers have taken advantage of current conditions to break ceiling prices by upgrading their shipments, with the result lumber dealers have been forced to pay top prices for poor quality material.

The order, which became effective today, provides that experienced graders may inspect and grade shipments before they are unloaded by the buyers and compare the results with the seller's invoice. Two invoices must be given to the buyer at each sale, one to be filed immediately with the nearest office of the Board. A system of "surprise spot" checking also is in operation for shipments by rail, water or highway.

Enforcement officials emphasized that all offenders will be prosecuted.

Airborne wastes, such as dusts, fumes and corrosive vapours, can cause severe damages to products in many types of factories and must be scientifically eliminated.

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