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Editorial

IS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AS IMPORTANT TO THE UNIVERSITY AS THAT OF LAW OR MEDICINE?*

Twenty-five years ago, when Professor G. Stanley Hall was called upon to address the National Association upon chairs of pedagogy in higher institutions of learning, he introduced his subject by declaring himself to be in a position similar to that of the man who wrote a book having one chapter entitled "Snakes in Ireland," the sole contents of which was the sentence, "There are no snakes in Ireland." So he was obliged to say that at that time there were no chairs of pedagogy in higher institutions of learning in this country; or to be strictly accurate, there were but two. Now, however, we see a marked change; and if the importance of the department of education has received but tardy recognition, that recognition is becoming more secure and hearty as the years go by.

But why ask if the department of education is of as much importance as these others to the university? Why to the university? Is it implied that while the department of education may be of as great general importance as the others, yet it is not of as much particular importance to the university? So it would seem. But why not? We might conceive how a department of mines, for example, might be of less importance than a department of agricul-

ture to a university situated in a country where agriculture is the prevailing occupation and there are no mines to work; but it would be difficult indeed to conceive how a department of education could be of less importance to any university than departments of law or medicine, unless perchance that university were located in a country where the people had rights to defend and bodies to heal but no brains to educate.

But perhaps it may be said that departments of law and medicine bring wealth and standing and dignity and fame to the university. And this leads to the inquiry, What is the true standard of importance for any department or for any institution? Is it not usefulness to mankind? Anything of great use is of great importance. Anything of little use is of little importance. Anything of no use at all is of no importance whatever. The university itself is important, not necessarily in proportion to its standing in the world, but in proportion to its usefulness to the people who created it and whom its end is to serve. And the measure of the importance of any department is the usefulness of that department to the people who are served by the university.

But how useful to the people, and hence how important to the university, are these departments? And which is the most useful? It is difficult to answer these questions, since the mind can hardly comprehend the usefulness of any one of them. It is much like asking which of three telegraph wires crossing yonder street is the longest. Unless some way can be found of getting to the beginning and the end of each, an answer would be mere guess-work. How then shall we be able to compare the usefulness of three professions whose fields of usefulness seem well-nigh boundless? Let us with becoming modesty make the attempt.

The objects of the university are to gather together the sum of human knowledge to increase the sum of knowledge, by research and experiment, to apply know-

ledge wisely to the problems of life, and to train students in both knowledge and wisdom, to the end that mankind may approach more nearly to complete living. In order that these objects may be pursued most successfully, the work of the university is conducted under departments corresponding to the different kinds of knowledge. Among these are the departments of law, of medicine, and of education.

The department of law is designed to study the rights and privileges of mankind in the varied relations of a complex society. Its product is lawyers, set for the defence of human rights as applied to every man, however humble that man may be. If lawyers would adhere more closely to this noble object, the department which trains them would be more useful to mankind than it is, and hence more important than it is to the university.

The department of medicine investigates the laws and conditions of right living, and trains men to devote their powers to the alleviation of suffering and the lengthening of human life. This is indeed a noble calling, honored by the practise of the Great Physician himself, who went about healing the bodies of men that He might more effectually do good to their souls. Happy indeed would it have been for the world if these two lines of work had not become so largely divorced in the practise of the healing art.

The department of education deals with the laws of mental growth and development and with the history and practise of the art of teaching. "Its field," says Hinsdale, "is educational ideas, theories, methods, appliances, and systems." (Report of National Educational Association, 1889, p. 560.) Its claim to a place of usefulness and importance equal at least to that of the departments of law and medicine, lies in its broader scope and more general usefulness. It underlies all departments of the university and of human activity. The services of the lawyer we may dispense with

*Read before the College Section of the Nebraska State Teachers' Association, held at Lincoln, Dec. 25-27, 1907.

if we behave ourselves, and ought to dispense with if we misbehave. If we attend to the laws of health, we may, for the most part, pass the doctor scornfully by, even though we occasionally have to give in and send for him in hot haste when we have the stomach ache. But the teacher is with us a fourth of our time from six to sixteen years of age or longer, and the efforts of his work follow us forever in countless ways of usefulness. "The subject," says Hinsdale again, "which involves all the other subjects, and therefore the subject in which the education of every one should terminate, is the theory and practise of teaching." (Ibid. p. 565).

We conclude, therefore, looking broadly at the usefulness of these three departments in their relation to the common people, that the department of education is of at least as great importance as that of the others, and we join heartily with Professor Seeley in saying that since "the theory of education covers the period from earliest childhood until manhood's estate is reached, it will thus be seen that pedagogical training to the college student is one of the most important lines of work to which he can turn his attention, from a professional and social standpoint as well as from self interest." And we also agree with him in declaring that "there ought never a student to be graduated from any college who has not had definite instruction in the history and science of education and the laws of pedagogical discipline and training." (Ibid. 1890, p. 674).

Moreover, looking at the question more narrowly, and considering the acknowledged fact that the influence of the department of education is felt throughout all the other departments of the university, stimulating increased interest in methods of instruction and promoting the teaching art; pondering also the sentiment of Professor Fitch, of England, that "the great function of the university is to teach and to supply the world with its teachers, but that no university can be said to perform the latter duty so long as it does not provide adequate professional training for the teachers' work" (Ibid. 1890, p. 673),—we are unable to resist the conclusion that the department of education is of as great importance to the university as either the department of law or that of medicine, and hence that

it ought to receive as liberal support from the state and as loyal adherence from the people as do these other departments.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

The following resolutions of sympathy were passed by the Faculty of Union College upon learning of the death of Elder W. D. Curtis, Educational Secretary of the Lake Union Conference:—

WHEREAS, We, the Faculty of Union College, have recently received word of the sudden death of Brother W. D. Curtis, for several years past Sabbath-school and Educational Field Secretary of the Lake Union Conference, therefore

RESOLVED, That we extend to the family of Brother Curtis and to our brethren of the Lake Union Conference our sincere sympathy in this sore trial and bereavement.

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the Conference and to the family of the deceased.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

The University of Pennsylvania has just issued its announcement in regard to requirements to be met in the future by students entering its Medical school.

"Beginning 1908-09, Biology, Inorganic Chemistry, and Physics will be added to the present requirement (diploma covering a four years' graded course in a High School, or its equivalent).

"Beginning 1909-10, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, plus the completion of work equivalent to that prescribed for the Freshman class in a recognized College.

"Beginning 1910-11, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, plus the completion of work equivalent to that prescribed for the Freshman and Sophomore classes in a recognized College.

"Students who have completed their Junior year in a recognized College will be admitted without examination and will be permitted to make up deficiencies in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. (This exemption is cheerfully made because of our appreciation of the value of the education, the method of study, the application and systematic thought, resulting from work in an academic College.)"

EDUCATIONAL WORK IN THE NORTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

The following extracts from a letter by Brother C. L. Benson, giving an account of his experience in the educational work will be read with deep interest by all:—

"From December 6-19, in company with Brother Wall, I visited some Russian German churches and schools in the northern part of South Dakota. Never have I had so many experiences in such a short time. It was like being in the old country. Our means of communication were painfully limited. They could not talk English and I could talk but a very little broken German; but good intentions and pleasant faces covered a multitude of unexpressed thoughts. I had my first experience of talking through an interpreter, as I spoke eight times in this unsatisfying manner.

"At Bowdle we were glad to meet and visit Brother Henry Willers and wife. They are each teaching a church school in that country. They enjoy their work and are a great help to the Bowdle church. Brother Willers drives five miles each morning to his school, which consists of thirty-three pupils. His school house is the district building. Sister Willers drives a mile each morning to her school, which holds forth in a 12 x 12 foot 'doby' house. In the room is a six or eight foot table, about which thirteen studious boys and girls sit, their books stacked, or rather ricked, in the center of the table. In the same room is a stove, a bed, and the teacher's table. But in spite of the fact that when one turns, all have to turn, they have a splendid school.

"We spent the first half of the Week of Prayer at Sutley. There we have a large German church; but although a host of children and young people attended Sabbath-school not one belonged to the church. During our stay with them the Lord came very near, and thirteen of the young people gave their hearts to God. Never have I heard parents pray so earnestly for their children and agonize before God in their behalf. And the Lord heard and answered.

"December 20 I reached Harvey, N. Dakota, and I am now at the Academy, which is under the charge of Prof. N. W. Lawrence. It was a treat to see the familiar

faces of Sister Shepherd and Carl Shepherd, Miss Gertrude Thompson, and Prof. F. G. Specht. These are all descendants of dear old Union. Miss Thompson is preceptress and teacher, Mrs. Shepherd is matron, while Professor Shepherd is preceptor and teacher, and Professor Specht has charge of the German work.

"There are forty-eight students here, the most of whom are Christians and look forward to entering the work after securing a good preparation. In the chapel is a large picture of Union College, which looks very good to me, and I feel it is an inspiration to the students, several of whom expect to attend Union in the future.

"The students and teachers gave over \$100 for their annual offering.

"Rejoicing with you in the large attendance at Union, and trusting that you may be able to help us secure some teachers very soon, I remain,

"Yours in behalf of our young people.
"C. L. BENSON"

J. H. HUKILL

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LUMBER YARD

PROGRAM FOR THE EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE CENTRAL UNION CONFERENCE

To be held at Boulder, Colo., Jan. 20-22

FIRST MEETING, 7:30 P. M., JAN. 20

Opening Exercises.

Review of Church School Work in C. U. Conf., B. E. Huffman.

Appointment of Secretary of the Meetings.

Reports and Observations by Conference Superintendents.

Appointment of Committees.

SECOND MEETING, 9 A. M., JAN. 21

Opening Exercises.

Bible Study: "Unity and Uniformity in the Lord's Work," Elder A. T. Robinson. Discussion led by Conference Presidents.

Papers.

Discussions.

THIRD MEETING, 2 P. M., JAN. 21

FOURTH MEETING, 7:30 P. M., JAN. 21

FIFTH MEETING, 9 A. M., JAN. 22

SIXTH MEETING, 2 P. M., JAN. 22

SEVENTH MEETING, 7:30 P. M., JAN. 22

PAPERS FOR DISCUSSION

"Pupils' Examinations and Diplomas," H. M. Hiatt; Discussion led by Miss Nora Hough.

"Grading of Schools; Amount of Work Belonging to Each Grade," Miss Mary Zener; Discussion led by Miss Alma Graf.

"Teachers' Examinations and Certificates," Miss Alma Graf; Discussion led by Miss Nora Hough.

"Duties of Superintendents to Teachers and Schools," Eld. J. H. Wheeler; Discussion led by Eld. F. M. Wilcox and Carrie B. Watts.

"Teachers' Institutes and Summer Schools," Miss Sarah Peck; Discussion led by Eld. A. T. Robinson and Miss Nora Hough.

"Reading Circle Work," Miss Nora Hough; Discussion led by Miss Mary Zener and Miss Alma Graf.

"Financial Support of Church and Intermediate Schools," Eld. A. T. Robinson; Discussion led by H. M. Hiatt.

"Industrial School Work," Miss

Sarah Peck; Discussion led by H. M. Hiatt.

"Intermediate School Work, Its Purpose and Character," Eld. E. T. Russell; Discussion led by Eld. G. F. Watson.

"The Schools of the Prophets, Our Model," Eld. D. U. Hale. Discussion led by Eld. Chas. Thompson.

News and Notes

The following College View church school pupils have not been tardy nor absent since school began: ninth grade, Addie Soucey, Zella Schmaltz, Lysle Spear; eighth grade, Anna Harris; seventh grade, Leslie Spear, Maggie Jenkins; sixth grade, Amy Wiseman, Gracie Butte; fifth grade, Clifford McKim, John Whitnack, Everett Kirk; fourth grade, Herbert Nelson; third grade, Merle Threlkeld; second grade, Chris Sorenson, Oscar Nelson.

Twenty of the College View young people, who were recently from Michigan, met at the home of Elder and Mrs. S. M. Butler, Saturday night at 7 P. M. Short speeches were made, including such subjects as, "My Trip from Michigan to College View," "Michigan Flowers," "Michigan Animals," and "Michigan Scenery." Professor Caviness gave a talk on "Reveries of Former Days in Michigan with its Sports." Mr. Chauncey Smith sang the solo, "Nearer My Heavenly Home." When the time for separation came, all were agreed to remain true and loyal to the fair "Lake State."

Home of my heart I sing of thee
Michigan, my Michigan.
Thy rock bound shores I long to see,
Michigan, my Michigan.
From Saginaw's tall whispering pines
To Lake Superior's farthest mines,
Fair in the light of memory shines
Michigan, my Michigan.

NOTICE

The prayer meeting for District Number Seven will be held at the home of Brother Campbell, Wednesday evening, at seven o'clock.

The Educational Messenger

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ADVERTISING RATES.—A few advertisements will be received at twenty-five cents per running inch for each insertion of display matter and five cents per line for reading notices, with ten per cent discount for three months' time, fifteen per cent discount for six months, and twenty per cent discount for one year. Cash in advance for less than three months.

Entered at the post office in College View, Neb., as second class matter, under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

News and Notes

Send the MESSENGER home.

Elder E. T. Russell is visiting a few of the churches in Kansas.

Edith Peterson has returned from a visit to her home at Elm Creek, Neb.

Chas. Foss has accepted a position as engineer in a sanitarium at Comanche, Iowa.

Fred Rigby was in College View last Sabbath and left Sunday for his home in Yuma, Colo.

Geneva Dawson visited at her home in Battle Creek, Mich., during the holiday vacation.

Nettie Monroe, of the Nebraska Sanitarium, has returned from a visit to Kearney, Nebraska.

Edith Mauk has returned to her home at Broken Bow, Neb. Later she plans to accompany her parents to Texas.

Word has been received of the death of Max, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Brown, at their home near Minatare, Nebraska.

Winnie Hunt, who has been spending several weeks with relatives in the village, returned to Hastings, Neb., with Mrs. M. E. Ellis.

Louise Mathwig, of Oelrichs, S. Dak., a student of 1902, entered school this week. Her brother, E. A. Mathwig, is at home on the farm.

Cards have been received from Coorabong, N. S. W., Australia, announcing the marriage of Ethel W. Hoopes to Cecil K. Meyers, Oct. 17, 1907.

Minnie Twiss and Myrtle Barry, of Maywood, Neb., have been visiting Mrs. D. R. Calahan at the Nebraska Sanitarium. Both are old Union College students.

John Shively, of Woodburn, Iowa, visited his sister Edith a few days this week. Mr. Shively is returning from a trip to Colorado and will visit relatives in Nebraska before going to Iowa.

Miss Millie Rogers, assistant history teacher, has returned from Kalona, Iowa, bringing her mother to the Nebraska Sanitarium. During Miss Rogers' absence her classes have been carried on by student teachers.

Sunday evening, December 29, the members of the Swedish literary society, gave a short program and reception in the Scandinavian chapel of the College. A pleasant and profitable evening was spent by the students of this department.

Whose MESSENGER do you read? Your own or your neighbor's?

Elder and Mrs. A. T. Robinson, of Hastings, Neb., were visitors in College View last week.

Henry A. Beltz, of LaCross, Kans., brother of O. S. Beltz, entered school this week.

Florence Miller, a Union College student in 1900, is state Sabbath-school secretary of South Dakota.

Prof. E. D. Kirby, of Battle Creek, Mich., visited his family in College View during the holidays.

Eugene Stansbury, of the Omaha Medical College, was in College View the first of the week.

Bertha Mosser, of Shelton, Neb., is visiting her sisters, Sadie and Alice, who are taking the nurses' course at the Nebraska Sanitarium.

Bert Hall, who has been visiting relatives in Morrill, Kans., stopped in College View while on his way to his home in Crawford, Neb.

Jensina and Anna Anderson have returned from Glenwood, Iowa. They were accompanied by their brother James, who will enter College.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Westermeyer, of Bazine, Kans., are visiting their children, J. A., L. E., William, and Ida, who are students in Union College.

Fred Juhl, former College engineer, arrived in College View last Monday. He spent the day previous visiting Ensley Strite in St. Paul, Minn., and reports Ensley as doing well.

We learn from the *Northern Union Reaper* that O. A. Roderick and Maggie Buckstead were married December 18 at Parker, S. Dak. They are both connected with the Chamberlain Sanitarium.

During the week of prayer the teachers at the church school were assisted in their services by Elder B. E. Huffman, Otto M. John, Mrs. S. M. Butler, Elder E. E. Farnsworth, and Elder C. R. Kite.

Wednesday evening, December 25, the Sanitarium management provided a brief entertainment for the patients and helpers. The program consisted of speeches and recitations. Music was supplied by twelve members of the College orchestra.

Monday evening, December 24, a surprise party was given Miss Bell, Principal of the church school, at the home of Mr. Harris, by her students. The evening was pleasantly spent, the children presenting Miss Bell with a number of pretty Christmas gifts.

Elder L. H. Christian, of Milwaukee, Wis., addressed the students at the chapel hour Wednesday morning. He spoke of the work which must be done for the foreigners in this country, and urged all present to gain a speedy preparation to go out into the harvest field.

We have received two beautiful songs, entitled, "Footsteps That Never Come" and "Homeward." These two songs are published in folder form, and twenty-five cents will purchase them both. Address, Charles P. Whitford, Orlando, Florida. These songs have been given to Brother Whitford by their authors to assist him during his declining health, and all orders will be promptly filled and duly appreciated by all concerned.

Mary Thompson, who is working in the office of the Iowa Conference, Des Moines, Iowa, visited friends in College View over Sabbath.

Professor and Mrs. E. E. Farnsworth spent the vacation at Shelton, Neb. Vacations seem to agree with Professor as he gained six pounds while gone.

C. G. Bellah, general canvassing agent of the Central Union Conference, has arrived in College View to spend a week in the interest of the canvassing work in the College.

E. A. Wells, of Hemingford, Neb., stopped in College View on his way to Missouri, taking with him his daughter Nellie, and Minnie Kinkle for a short vacation.

Ella Gettman, of Chicago, Ill., and Lon Wise, of Cortland, Neb., were married at the home of the bride in Chicago Christmas eve. They visited in College View the first of the week.

After our reference to the subject three weeks ago, several of our delinquent subscribers responded with their dues. In accordance with our promise at that time, we are compelled to drop from our list those who have not sent in their renewal for the paper.

The graduating exercises of the Colorado Sanitarium were held at the church in Boulder, Colo., December 12. There were fifteen members in the class. Ruby Wright, a former Union College student, will go to the Portland, Oregon, Sanitarium to take charge of the ladies' bath room.

Married, December 23, at the home of the bride's parents near Russell, Mr. William Walker and Miss Emma Curtis, Elder T. Godfrey reading the ceremony which made them husband and wife. The wedding was very quiet, only a few friends besides the immediate relatives being present to enjoy the occasion.—*Iowa Worker's Bulletin*.

Miss Matilda Erickson spent last Friday, Sabbath, and Sunday, in Council Bluffs, where a Young People's Convention was held. On account of the holidays the attendance was not as large as had been expected, but a live interest and enthusiasm was manifest by those attending the sessions. The young people there are planning to start a church library.

The following note of interest is quoted from a letter received from H. M. Hiatt, of the Kansas Conference Y. P. Department:—

"We have organized a Religious Liberty Committee of three to look after the interests of the Religious Liberty Work and have already supplied fifty-five officers of our county (Kansas City, Kan.) with *Liberty* and "Open Letter." Letters of appreciation are already coming in."

Last Friday evening was the regular time for the meeting of the young men's division of the Missionary Volunteer Society. The meeting was in charge of Prof. O. J. Graf. Considerable interest was manifested in extracts from a letter written by Elder J. C. Rogers, our missionary to Nyassaland, British Central Africa, in which he reported the progress of our mission school there. Over one hundred students are enrolled. Professor Rogers is planning to introduce the industries of carpentry, printing, and blacksmithing into this school.