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"A HEAVY LOAD."

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and making exact sciences of agriculture and horticulture. State and local agricultural societies, public schools and even the Sunday schools are giving the children plants to care for and sometimes offer prizes for those which show the best results at the end of a given period. The general adoption of the "Pingree potato plan" indicates a strong popular reaction toward agriculture. Many cities are looking out for larger play grounds for the schools. We may expect soon to see tracts of land set apart near large cities for summer schools of agriculture where during the long vacations pupils of the public schools will be taught how to make plants grow and the crops, large or small, will be valuable food. This is quite as practicable as the potato plan. It would take no more time and might prove slightly more valuable to the community and quite as healthful for the individual as the athletic sports which now demand so much energy. As Emerson says: "We must learn the homely laws of fire and water, we must feed, wash, plant, build. These are the ends of necessity, and first in the order of nature. Poverty, frost, famine, disease, debt are the beadles and guardsmen that hold us to common sense."

The chief criticism to be made upon our present system of manual training is that the different branches are not well fitted together and adjusted to other school studies. If we take the home as the centre and focus all branches upon that, they will gradually settle to their proper places.

While all these home sciences demand mental as well as manual effort there is a tendency toward too much theory and too little practical work. The strong point of manual training is the tangible result it gives. The pupil actually makes a garment, cooks a loaf of bread. He does not dream over some impossible financial transaction such as he may do some day, as may be the case with the arithmetic lesson.

In the day nurseries the babies are started in the right way and the kindergarten follows with its wise plan of organized play. The kitchen garden scheme might be expanded and joined with the paper folding and clay modelling, with a view toward the wood working and cooking and sewing to follow. Leather work, printing, laundry work should have their places.

There should be no distinction of sex —the girls should learn carpentry and the boys cookery. While these lessons are in progress the arithmetic lessons should be in the line of household accounts, and measurements of the grocery and workshop. Geography, also, may be adapted to such lessons.

Each of these home sciences must be reduced to its lowest terms, that no unnecessary steps be taken. It is quite possible to teach the fundamental principles of cookery in a dozen lessons,—as a business it is another matter that may be left for the trade schools,—but so long as human beings have to eat, every boy and girl should be taught how to select and prepare simple foods.

Each child's bent may be discovered and thus he can be directed to the proper trade school. Meanwhile in the absence of trade schools the start given by the manual training school often aids in placing the boys and girls where they may earn their living by an occupation for which each is adapted by nature.

When hand and brain are evenly trained and the boys and girls are taught that home is the place to use their best efforts, and economy and thrift are made popular, there will be few social problems to be solved.

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work. The parlor and lecture room on the first floor accommodate three hundred people. An art studio occupies one wing, and above are a large parlor, attractive balconies, and thirty or more sleeping rooms held exclusively for women. The Woman's Council and other called meetings of woman's organizations are held here, besides all the important work of the W. C. T. U. The auditorium accommodates easily twenty-five hundred people, and twice daily is filled with large and attentive audiences to listen to lectures, concerts, or entertainments planned for the assembly season.

Many interesting things could be written of the work done in the different departments during the season just closed, but it is the Woman's Council only that is to be described here.

Six years ago Marion Harland and Margaret Sangster held the first session, and followed that with a second the next year. Miss Mary A. Green of Boston succeeded them, giving a course of lectures on legal questions as affecting women. Three years ago, Mrs. Irma T. Jones of Lansing, Mich., was invited to have charge of the council and plan its work. Last summer Mrs. Helen Campbell and Mrs. Ellen Henrotin were the leading speakers.

The programme this year has included Mrs. Helen Campbell, Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson, Lucy A. Leggett, and Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago. Morning sessions were held each day for discussion of the lecture of the previous afternoon.

Household economics was the general subject considered, and great interest was aroused by Mrs. Campbell's lectures on the "Evolution of the House," "Decoration," "Nutritive Function of the Household," and "The Servant Question."

Jane Addams in "Women in Two Belated Trades," spoke from the side of the employé. All these subjects were discussed from an impersonal and scientific standpoint, and the talks were exceptionally earnest and intelligent. It argues well for the future that more and more women are able to look existing evils squarely in the face and talk and work intelligently for their righting.

There is a possibility that from this council may result a coöperative New England kitchen for instruction in scientific and heathful cookery. It is evident that food thus prepared would find a quick and profitable market, for the food supply on the resort grounds scarcely equals the demand. Whatever may be attempted will be in the line of practical instruction for every-day needs, and more healthful diet, rather than rich and elaborate bills of fare. So large a proportion of Bay View visitors are women, that the results of a successful venture of this sort could not fail to be wide-reaching and beneficent.

Michigan's State Federation of Women's Clubs has a standing committee on household economics which is arranging plans to stimulate interest and study of that science among the fifty or more clubs of which the Federation is composed. The need for more exact knowledge on these themes and more healthful diet is so universal, that federations of women's clubs and summer assemblies the country over could do no greater service to humanity than to extend opportunities of gaining help and stimulus to its acquisition.

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