

Hold High the Torch!

THE NOBLE efforts put forth by some of America's most spiritually inspired educational leaders, to have the adult elementary citizenship training schools established as part of the American public school system, are gradually showing a healthy reaction in public opinion, particularly in the more settled centers of our country where civic assets are given some thought and consideration. Inasmuch as there are several states, with a large untrained immigrant population and a number of native illiterates, where the adult education movement, as yet, has received but scant consideration, this fact becomes an undeniable criterion of the prevalent civic standards in such states.

America's system in government depends on intelligent citizenship. Training for citizenship therefore becomes one of the chief responsibilities with the citizens of America in every cycle of time. Neglect this duty for a decade or two and you can account for some of the signs of the lowered standards which are vexing our civic cosmos at the present time.

Where educational supervisors and educational boards recommend and appropriate substantial sums for fads for elementary and high schools, but frown disapprovingly on requests for limited funds to carry on adult elementary training for citizenship, it is safe to conjecture that the standards in civic intelligence and responsibility in citizenship have dropped to a level that is threatening the very foundation of our governmental form and organization.

The community that is backing its night schools in citizenship training, where the illiterate and the uninformed adults are instructed by able teachers, where the school houses are nightly turned into social as well as educational Americanization centers, where the townspeople meet to chat and chum with the strangers within our gates, where the torch of Liberty will never burn low, the spirit of unity will never be wanting and the soil will be too healthy for the weed of intolerance, treason and anarchy.



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