

courses in home cooking, sewing, laundering and nursing and also instruction in poultry raising, kitchen gardening and the care and use of milk.

This course and this period should not only prepare the Indian youth for better industrial efficiency, but it should help them find those activities best adapted to themselves and their capacities—it is to these that serious attention is to be paid in the vocational period. At the pre-vocational period an effort is made to determine the amount and character of the academic work by its relative value, importance and application to the problems (and their solution) of the farmer, mechanic and housewife. Many non-essentials are eliminated. One-half of each day is to be devoted to industrial training and instruction and a similar time to scholastic work. The entire aim and purpose is to direct all effort to training Indian young people for active, useful and efficient lives under the conditions and in the environment which they must meet after leaving school. Incidentally the course also directs special attention to health, motherhood, child welfare, civics, extension work, community meetings, etc. The development of this idea will virtually and eventually convert the school into a sort of civic and community center.

The course of study thus outlined has received the hearty approval of the commissioner of Indian Affairs and he desires to initiate it as soon as practicable. At this writing the course is in the hands of the printers at the Government Printing Office. It should be ready shortly. On that account the Commissioner has issued orders to have his committee return to Washington by January 3rd for final plans and instructions relative to the general introduction of the course. A number of superintendents will also be called in at this time to confer with the Indian office and the committee relative to the installation of the new course in all of the Indian schools of the country and to assist in that work. It is expected that the course will be introduced in all Indian schools under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs immediately after the close of the January meeting in Washington City. Perhaps a few pertinent extracts from the introduction to the course of study will better indicate the aim, nature and broad scope of the course:

“The economic needs of all people—of the Indian especially—demand that the schools provide for instruction along eminently practical lines.

“It is hoped that the actual accomplishment of the scheme of education herein scheduled will stimulate many bright, capable and worthy Indian youth to desire to enter other and higher institutions of learning where such institutions possess anything of interest and actual utility to such students.

“Indian schools must train the Indian youth of both sexes to take up