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H. E. WADSWORTH, Superintendent

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THINKING

How many, or how few of us, really think? Ordinarily we say we think—but do we in the fullest sense of the term? We accept many conditions and statements as right and true because some one in whom we have confidence gives us his views on the matter. Or, on the other hand, we “jump at conclusions.” In such a course we are following the line of least resistance—are really drifting mentally. It seems as though it is too much of an effort, too great a strain, for us to settle down to a course of serious thinking for ourselves. We apparently, in too many cases, prefer that somebody else do our thinking for us. The pity of it!

Has it ever occurred to the reader that the progress made by mankind to date is the result of thought—thinking followed by action? The whole of civilization as we find it today is the result of thought. It is a reflection of the workings of the human mind for countless generations. Thinking has placed us where we are. Every one of the many inventions for productiveness stand for human thought; the same may be said of those labor-saving conveniences with which we have surrounded ourselves—all are the result of thinking! It cannot truthfully be said that these achievements are the result of the thinking masses, but rather of the thinking few, a single individual in a generation in many instances—such as Thomas Edison of today.

It is easy for us to be mistaken, even if we do some thinking. Such being true, is it not of greatest importance that we do a lot of thinking—deep and serious thinking? Many a sad mistake would have been