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SELF-DISCOVERY

This article was brought forth in response to the oft-repeated declarations of pupils to the effect that they are unable to grasp the principles of mathematics, or grammar, or some other study, and sometimes they go so far as to declare that their's is a hopeless case. Such ideas are far from correct.

All through life, young friends, we are constantly surprised by revelations, new glimpses of ourselves, which prove that we have been using only a part of our forces, often a very small part because of our ignorance of the great possibilities locked up within us.

Many is the man or woman, who when suddenly thrust into positions of responsibility, have developed splendid qualities which they had previously never utilized. They did not even know that they possessed them. The truth is that the majority of us are virtually strangers to ourselves. We know much less of ourselves than we do of those about us. The great majority of us never find our highest, most potent, self.

If every one of our young men and women could be aroused, waked up to their possibilities, to the potencies that are latent in each of them, and would do their best to utilize them, so rapid would be the advance, so marvelous the change, that a wonderful transformation would take place and astound them as well as all who know them. Dig down into yourself; there is where you will find the power. Most of us look outside instead of inside for our motor force.

Since time began the human race has been hunting for help to bear its misfortunes, to improve conditions, but ever seeking relief from without. We are just beginning to find that the help we have been crying for and looking for is inside and not outside of us. The power to obtain anything we need or can want is within us awaiting release, opportunity for expression.

Many of you may honestly believe that you are doing your level best in your work, that you are using every bit of your energy and to the best possible advantage, but if some great additional motive for exertion should come into your lives today you would astonish yourselves and those who know you by the undreamed-of strength and added ability you would develop to meet the occasion. We all need to be

aroused, to be waked up to a knowledge of the working powers locked up within us. The first step toward living a real life is self-discovery, for no matter how great are one's dormant abilities we cannot use more of them than we have discovered.

It seems that the real problem of education is how best to show youth its possibilities, to arouse in young people their latent energies, how to give the boy and girl a picture of their highest possible self and how to stimulate its growth and development. The real education is through evolution, calling out what is in the mind, developing it, exercising the mental faculties, until they become vigorous and strong enough to seize, to grip, and to hold. The educator who by encouragement and inspiration leads youth to self-discovery is the greatest of all educators.

You will never make your life count for much until you at least try to find yourself. In order to do this you should put yourself in the most favorable position for self-discovery. You should, if possible, keep close to people who have succeeded in a large way along the line of your ambition. Contact with strong, forceful personalities is a great help in self-discovery. Our sprinters when training for a track meet make better time when running with another. The determination to keep up, or to get a little ahead, is thus stimulated. Two boys running neck and neck will make better time than either one could make alone because each stimulates, urges and inspires the other.

All through life you will come across ambition arousers, these character molders, and if you are eager to follow up the lead they give, you cannot help being benefited. So we say, if possible, get into the ambition arousing, stimulating environment. You will find that it will stir you to redouble your efforts, will awaken your slumbering powers and spur you on to renewed endeavor.

The constant effort to better our best, to reach a high ideal, calls out the finest and noblest qualities in our natures. If we were looking for an employe and found a person who had this characteristic we would ask for no further recommendation.

Nothing else so reveals the very heart and marrow

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