

by its contribution to supply a definite felt need of each particular country. Germany needs soldiers to fight for her prestige, not now in arms as formerly, but in industries and her education is securing the result with remarkable success. England's needs are commercial but her education system does not yet take up and accept its purpose. The United States—depending so much upon her individual citizens needs first of all—citizens with a feeling of responsibility of citizenship and a knowledge of its duties. France needs energetic individuality of purpose in her citizens. So each country has its needs and education is becoming more universally recognized as a means for satisfying them. In this is seen the necessity for an educational system and its nationalization. In it too, will be recognized the fact that education is only a means to an end and that it in turn must have its machinery,—means, whereby it may attain its ends. Now at last in this machinery we come to examinations and find they also are a means to an end and not an end in themselves. The mistake is so often made of making an examination the goal of years of instruction, that it seems necessary to be quite definite at this point. Now to say that examinations are not a goal properly, is in sense equivalent to saying that they are not necessary. They are important and in our present system are at times absolutely necessary. But they must not be substituted as an end for education and moreover they must not be employed without regard for the one supreme purpose—immediate or remote, which the entire system of education aims to promote.

The teacher who would avoid this erroneous substitution and make examinations an effectual means in education should know the nature and needs of childhood and youth. This is an apparent deviation, but it touches upon a principle which lies at the root of successful teaching and is closely connected with an abuse of examinations. If a high degree of intellectual culture is desired for the individual, no period of the individual's life can be denied that which is suited to the culture of that period, but each period should be rounded out completely. Examinations that are given as a