

Eastern Clackamas News

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The Personal Equation In Teaching

In a letter to the Outlook a prominent New York lawyer, some time since, lamented the fact, that at his alma mater, Yale college the classes had become so large, that it was impossible for the professors to know personally and individually those who attended their lectures.

He compared this condition very unfavorably with that in his own time, when the professors were in personal touch with their students and knew most of them intimately. In his estimation this loss of personal contact was a decided detriment.

He was right, for no matter how excellent the methods, or the course of study, or even the lectures, the personal equation cannot be ignored with impunity. Because the successful application of these depends on their being administered with good common sense, adapting them to the needs of the individual students. This cannot be done unless those to whom the administration is committed, know something of the students under their care.

President Garfield once remarked that his idea of a university, was a board plank with Mark Hopkins at one end, and a boy at the other end. One of the most noted headmasters in England, made it a cardinal principle that he should be in personal touch with every boy in the school. In order to insure this, he strictly limited the number, which meant the loss of seven or eight thousand dollars income to himself per year. But he magnified his office, consequently financial gain did not count.

But what was the glory of his work? The sending out of thousands of boys to the work of life stimulated to high endeavor, through their personal association with him. He stamped his own image, as it were, on them and taught them to think and act as he did. Thus he became a great master and all the greater because his whole teaching was permeated with religious force, for he consecrated all teaching to

the service of God, and the boys were made aware of this.

No teacher can be truly successful unless he thus gives himself to his pupils, and his highest reward will be when sooner or later they rise up and call him blessed. There can be no greater satisfaction to the true teacher, than to hear a pupil declare "You have been one of those who have influenced me for good."

The former slogan of the Liberty Loan campaigns, "Buy until it hurts," is to be changed to "Buy until it helps." Not that this means until it helps your country, but until it helps you and gives you a clearer vision and understanding of your responsibility.

But the first slogan, in spite of its being open to misconception, expressed an important requirement. For the broadening effect of subscribing for the Liberty Loan will not be felt unless it entails the pinch of sacrifice.

Ninety-three members of the I. W. W. including W. D. Hayward, are now in Fort Leavenworth beginning their long sentences, for having violated the espionage act in fighting the selective draft and otherwise opposing the war. This will prove to a certain element that the government is in earnest and will use to the full extent, the powers which have been conferred upon it, for the successful prosecution of the war. If any foolhardy person attempts to throw a monkey wrench into the machinery, he will only suffer for his stupidity.

The Crown Prince in an interview recently stated that the Americans did not know what they were fighting for. He had asked one, a prisoner, who replied "for Alsace" and thought Alsace was a lake. But the question with which the Crown Prince should be concerned is "Can the Americans Fight?" His boches will answer that for him most decidedly in the affirmative.

The News extends its greetings and heartiest wishes for a successful school year to Superintendent Signs, his able corps of teachers and the pupils in both buildings.

Today is registration day for the unregistered between the ages of 18 and 45. Are you one of the 3520 due from this county? If so, have you registered?

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