

### MUCH EDUCATION IS SUPERFICIAL, MAYBE

#### THINKS NOTED PUBLICIST

William Lyon Phelps in July Issue of Scribner's Magazine Talks about Freak Culture

William Lyon Phelps discovers a disquieting thought in the zeal for information which is now sweeping the country. In his "As I Like It" department, in the July Scribner's Magazine, he says:

"There is just now a universal eagerness for education that has its pathetic side; and yet this particular thirst is better than the mere love of money or the itch for social prominence. Millions have apparently suddenly discovered that they have a mind with nothing in it. Accordingly we find among the best-sellers 'The Outline of History,' 'The Story of Man-kind,' 'The Outline of Science,' 'The Outline of Literature,' 'The Story of Philosophy,' and so on.

"Instead of 'Get rich quick' the slogan seems to be 'Education without pain.' And instead of books on table-manners, deportment, and clothes, we have flaring advertisements 'How many of these words can you pronounce correctly?' giving a list and the price of the book where such precious information is to be found. Ignorance has suddenly—quite suddenly—become more shameful than poverty or boorishness. Advertisements contain pictures of a disappointed female rebuking a penitent male, 'You didn't say a word the entire evening.' One book will turn this numskull into a brilliant conversationist. Buy it! Or you see a picture of a man with a countenance 'Here comes John Anderson! He will know!' It appears John, at a trifling expense, has bought the right book. The prodigious success of 'Ask Me Another,' and the sincere flattery shown by the immense number of imitations following in its wake, indicate the speed and the direction of the current.

"Furthermore, the increasing variety of schemes by which those who know will pick the right reading for those who don't, is corroborative testimony. Perhaps this is all to the good; and yet there will arise a disquieting thought—Is this flurry a quest for learning, or a desire not to be

### LAW CHANGES PARDON AND PAROLE DIVISION

One of the most important acts of the Fifty-fifth general assembly, having for its object a change of the Administrative Code, is that affecting the Division of Pardons and Paroles. Membership in this division is increased to ten, including the supervisor, with all members having equal authority, and a majority vote of the membership being necessary in all actions taken.

The Division of Pardons and Paroles is that body under the Department of Public Welfare to which is assigned the duty under the indeterminate law of hearing cases of inmates in the penal and reformatory institutions when eligible to parole, at that time granting parole or fixing time to be served. In the past the Division of Pardons and Paroles has also had under its direction the supervision and after care of paroles from Joliet, Chester, Pontiac, Geneva and St. Charles. Under the changes made by the legislature these duties will be assigned to a new division under the Department of Public Welfare.

Children visiting the Art Institute will always find the gallery set aside for their special benefit filled with interesting things for them to see. The bronze fountain in the center of the room, showing two boys fighting over a dolphin, throws a gentle spray of water into the pool below, in which swim a number of gold fish. Just now the gallery has on its walls an exhibition of the work of school children from 8 to 14 years of age. There is a circus made by the younger children from clay, colored bright and gay with water colors; here you see the fat man, the living skeleton, the bearded lady, the popcorn vendor, the giraffe, the lion and tiger, and all the other animals. There are also a number of black and white silhouettes, cut out by the very clever fingers of the children in the middle grades. Drawings, oil paintings, water colors, and jewel and other boxes and picture frames made out of gesso are also on display. The exhibition will last until July 25.

### STATE PROVIDES INSECT POISONS

The concocting of poisons that will appeal to insects with discriminating tastes is one of the problems engaging scientists at Urbana. Continued success in combating the many kinds of insects which attack the foliage, fruit, stems, branches, and even the roots of our important crops, constantly demands new and more effective poisons for killing these pests, according to W. P. Flint, chief entomologist of the the Illinois State Natural History Survey, who is in charge of this experimental work.

The finding of suitable poisons is no easy task, Mr. Flint says, because some insects are very particular in their tastes. "The readily detect poisons that are sprayed or dusted over the leaves of plants and refuse to feed there. For example, the larvae of some moths that attack shade trees will die of starvation rather than eat leaves sprayed with arsenical compounds.

**Not Injurious to Plants**  
"If we know an insect's preferences we can deal with it better. The Japanese beetle, for instance, is attracted by garaniol, an aromatic coal-tar product, and by using it large numbers of this pest can be brought to one place and then killed by spraying them with a special soap solution.

"But it frequently happens that when we have found a substance to which insects offer no objections, it proves to be injurious to plants. And with many of the poisons now being used, there is a very narrow margin between the points where the insects are killed and the plants are injured. This is especially true of certain oil emulsions which will burn the leaves if they are applied too strong and will fail to kill the insects if they are applied too weak.

**Harmless to Man**  
"In addition to this it is necessary to find material which will not leave a poisonous coating on vegetables or fruits that are to be used for human food.

"Moreover, after we have discovered a mixture that pleases one pest,

another pest with a different peculiarity of taste may appear on the same crop, and we must cater to it by using a different poison. This is the case with the Mexican bean beetle, a pest which is about to invade Illinois, and with the Japanese beetle.

"In fact, it is necessary to be experimenting constantly with all kinds of new materials in order to protect our orchards, gardens, and fields adequately with sprays and dusts."

**Few Prove Good**  
The work of developing the needed sprays and dusts in Illinois is done by the State Natural History Survey at Urbana, Carbondale, Jacksonville, and Aurora, where specialists are carrying out practical tests. Many new poisons are tested every year but only a few are found to meet the rigid requirements.

Hundreds of thousands of gallons of sprays which have been perfected by the Eurvey's investigators during the last few years are being used this season in orchards and fields throughout the state.

As a part of this service, the entomologists of the Survey are ready to answer questions and give directions at any time for handling these new and efficient materials.

### FILM COOLIDGE WHILE FISHING; GIVE REASONS

The newspaper photographers at Rapid City have finally achieved their desire and made a picture of the President while fishing. For three

years now the photographers have been persistent in their request that they be permitted to take a picture of the President's fishing activities, and finally he allowed them to have their way.

For the information of the public, it's just as well to make known that the multitude of pictures of the President which daily flow out of the Black Hills are frankly not of his seeking. The President is still hoping for the dawning of even a single day when he will be able to walk, ride, fish or hunt without an accompanying battery of motion picture photographers.

It might surprise the public to know that the pictures which it daily sees, really represent only one of every ten requests made of him. In this particular case, it can be said, the President's decision to allow the photographers to picture him while fishing was made only after a delegation of camera men had waited on him and asked him as a favor to consent—because of the many demands which had been made by the people throughout the country for this particular type of picture.



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### ILLINOIS PRODUCTS COMMISSION, PLAN

#### Bill Passed by Legislature Is Signed by Governor; Nine Members

Illinois is prepared to press its claims as one of the leading manufacturing states in the Union, and in this will seek to bring about a closer relation between producers and consumers. During the session of the legislature plans along this line were considered and organization of the "Buy Illinois Products Commission" was authorized. The measure has been signed by Governor Small.


Under the provisions of the act the commission will be composed of nine members, as follows: a farmer, manufacturer, labor official, banker, coal mine operator, canner, newspaper publisher, member of Chamber of Commerce, with the Director of Agriculture an ex officio member.

Appointment to the commission carries no salary, but an appropriation of \$15,000 is carried for the conduct of the work of the commission. The object sought will be to bring about a better co-operation between Illinois producers and consumers, induce a reciprocal tendency on the part of workers of the various industries of the state to purchase each others products and to encourage in Illinois the purchase and consumption of Illinois products.

Miss Bernice Cole, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. M. Cole of 315 Essex road, Kenilworth, left Thursday of last week with friends for a month's stay on the west coast. She will stop at Banff and Lake Louise, and will then visit relatives in Seattle. Mr. Cole will meet Bernice in San Francisco, and they will make several stops on their way to Pasadena, Cal. On the return trip, they will stop at the Grand Canyon and arrive in Kenilworth about September 10.

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