

### The Doctor Looks At Education

By G. C. Armitage, B. A., M. D.

The field of education is so broad, so diversified, so universal, so necessary and so powerful that one can only touch the fringe of it in a short article. To a doctor, who was exposed to education from early years, education is a continuing process.

True the formal schooling ends, but that is really only the beginning of learning. The results of training in individuals young and old, is evidenced in their daily behaviour. The sources of education are broadly, the home, the school, the church, and the school of experience. Not infrequently the physician's patient is one who is ill physically and mentally on account of inadequate adjustment to a poorly chosen vocation.

The process of learning begins at birth. Some of the early behaviour-patterns of an infant are due to instinctive actions, but a mother appreciates how quickly a baby learns both good and bad habits. That is why a mother cautions the other members of the household "not to spoil the baby".

There is an old saying that, "as the twig is bent so the tree will grow" — which is true to a certain point. It takes into account the environmental factors in the developing child, but it leaves out the seed from which the twig sprung, in other words heredity.

Many studies have been made on the influence of environment and heredity upon the moulding of a personality. Both are important, both share in the growth of the individual and should be taken into consideration in the

class-room. The necessary discipline at school with the correct directives of the teacher helps to correct faulty environmental influences of some children. In a large class there may be a great span between the intelligence of a bright child and one who is not so gifted. This is unfortunate for often class progress is held up by the mentally dull one. The ideal plan would be to segregate children in school according to their intelligence. This is done in some schools, but it is impossible as a general measure throughout the country.

The effort of trying to keep the class together may have an effect on both the brightest and the duller member of the group. Thus one child is frustrated in not progressing consistent with his ability, and at the other end of the scale the dullard is being pushed beyond his inherent intelligence and is resentful of all that school implies.

When adolescence is reached education assumes formal as well as extramural components. Often the "out of school" activities seem to crowd out the time necessary for home study. A balance is necessary and it is in this respect that the parents can properly direct their children.

At this age, characterized by marked physical and mental development, certain freedom of thought and action must be accorded youth, tempered certainly by the discipline which a sensible home and community demands. From a doctor's viewpoint it appears that a grounding in the bio-

logical sciences should be an essential study for this age group. It is but the truths of life, and we should educate to live.

In the high school group it is essential that the students be exposed to various subjects both from the standpoint of pure knowledge obtained and the opportunity presented to choose courses according to one's likes or dislikes. Thus having experienced varying studies different groups will gravitate into "science", "history", etc. as befits each individual person.

Some individuals, through family pressure or other influences will be urged along the course of study which may be distasteful to them. This is wrong. Let the schools follow on with the idea of Personnel Selection which the army found most useful in trying within broad limits to allocate each man to the type of work best fitted to his mental and physical make-up.

The scope of Adult Education is unlimited. Many people feel the need of further training and if true interest is present this group is receptive to direction in its chosen field. In the armed services the men with special training made more rapid progress than those without. To the youth of the land this was glaringly highlighted, and as a result we now find our schools and universities crowded with earnest, knowledge-seeking young veterans intent on gaining that extra education that will give them the basis necessary to forge ahead of the general masses.

In passing it will be noted that although it is obligatory for children to attend school to a certain age, not all have the mental capacity to fully benefit from it. However, there are bril-

liant students who are denied higher education on account of strained financial circumstances, for these it appears logical that more extensive scholarships or subsidies be established to allow them to achieve their goal. This is being done for young veterans. Surely the country as a whole can similarly reward those who contribute to our way of life in times of peace. We must educate all for a useful life within each individual's capabilities and in that manner strive for happiness which is the rainbow that colours the fruits of true success.

#### SOUTH PORCUPINE

### Children Enjoy Kiwanis Party On Hallowe'en

Many householders are grateful to the Kiwanis Club for a peaceful and undisturbed Hallowe'en night. All the youngsters in town were at a big social affair of their own at the Arena, where a program of games and fun and prizes was presented for their benefit by the Kiwanis Club.

Shell-out tickets had been sold previously, and prizes went to Jean Deacon, Billy Carruthers and Bobby Rodgers in town, and John Scott, Billy Reid and Marion Sharp at the Dome School, for selling most tickets.

The prize winners for costumes for girls (we could not get the boy prize winners easily) were as follows: Best-dressed girl, Velma Kemp (old fashioned lady); second prize, Marilyn Miller; best comic girl, Dorothy Anderson, as "Aunt Jemima"; second

comic, Patricia Welsh; best original costume, Norma Campagna, as a soap advertisement; second original, Marjorie Daly; best-dressed couple, Graham Wright and Billy Rodgers, as a gypsy king and queen; second best couple, Rayburn Coyne and Mary K. Coyne, as a "just-married" couple.

Non-skating competitors were as follows: best dressed, Donna Marie Starling as a shepherdess; second best, Kathleen McDonald as a lady in red; best comic, Leona Gauthier as a witch; second comic, Louise Rosebrugh as Granny McGillicuddy; most original, Helen Kelly as pussy-cat; best-dressed couple, Rene Huot and Roland Huot, as a "Gentleman from Holland and lady"; second best, Louise Nightingale and Simone Noel as the Gold-dust twins.

#### SOUTH PORCUPINE

### Agostino Cundari Passes Suddenly

Agostino Cundari, of 28 William Ave., aged 48, died in Porcupine General Hospital on Friday morning very suddenly.

He was at his usual employment at the Dome mines on Thursday morning, and was taken ill with a heart attack. His condition necessitated his removal to hospital, and a few hours saw the end.

On Saturday evening the body was taken from Hunkin's funeral parlors to the home of his brother, Joseph Cundari, at 124 Main St.

A very large number of friends and his own countrymen attended the funeral which took place on Sunday from

St. Joachim's Roman Catholic Church with Father LaSalle conducting the service.

Palbearers were Frank Adams, Ralph Cosco, Primo Belloni, Guy Gece, Recco Talginitz, and Pete Sciolli.

The deceased had been resident here for 26 years and has a wife and family in Italy. Mr. J. Cundari, a brother, and a nephew in Timmins are his only relatives in Canada.

Out-of-town residents attending the funeral were Messrs. A. Carbono of Thorold, J. Walters of Welland and Mr. and Mrs. E. Walters of Thorold.

#### SOUTH PORCUPINE

### Pupils Observe Education Week

This is Education Week throughout Canada. South Porcupine and Dome Public Schools are holding their usual open house programs to which all parents and interested friends are invited.

South Porcupine school was open on Wednesday evening, and Dome school on Thursday afternoon, serving tea at 4 p.m.

Various displays of writing, art, etc. were on view for admiring parents to see, and teachers were present for parents to consult.

Marshall-Ecclestone's window has on display this week some excellent art and penmanship from the South Porcupine public school.

Tomorrow afternoon students from both public schools will broadcast a program over CKGB from 2 to 2:15 p.m.

Mr. King tells his Cabinet: "We are in an emergency." If that's news to the Cabinet, they should be in some other line of work.



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