

# EDUCATION A FACTOR LIFE

By H. L. Foster, '28

(An Oration)

Master of Ceremonies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The innumerable drops of water which together form the mighty Atlantic are each possible of identity if one could but isolate them from the mass. But taken in their totality, rising, falling, mingling and intermingling they form a solid front of strength irresistible in its force. They may float battleships and commercial craft of every description or furnish hydro-electric power for millions of cities. Even to a great extent practical applications have been made of education. Its process is like Tennyson's brook and forever flows the stream of human material that leads to literary heights. Ever since those far-distant days of the fifth century men of great intellect and deep thought, who, without education, climbed to the topmost rung of the ladder of achievement have realized that the complexity of modern life, the ramifications of accumulated intelligence of the civilized world and the tremendous competitions in modern times make it difficult for one to overcome the handicaps imposed by the failure to secure an educational training.

What is the purpose of education? The primary purpose of education is to give knowledge. What is the essential importance of knowledge? It is knowledge that has made possible the stream of discovery: all our modern methods of wrestling from the soil nature's resources; and has enabled men to soar above the clouds on magic wings. It has unraveled the mysterious laws of nature; and one barrier after another has given away to intellect until the mind, majestic in its strength has mounted step by step up the ladder of success.

But knowledge, however practical its value, is not the sole aim of education. Not only should we seek personal development, but, as citizens of a democracy we must consider our value to our country. The most fundamental need of any country is the need of good citizenship. So vital to a nation's strength is a high order of citizenship that we may term the following proposition self-evident: No nation can stand permanently higher than the level of its citizenship; a nation can not enjoy more security than that which the quality of its citizenship affords.

And if these truths are so evident that we accept them without hesitation; it is equally true that the greatest nation must eventually sink to any level to which the citizenship descends. The fate of our nation and the fate of posterity rests in the hands of American citizens. The ideals and principles of the future generation of America are in the hands of her citizens. The hour has come when the fundamental principles and basic ideas must be in the minds of our boys and girls, for they are the leaders of unborn generations.

Every seed that falls upon fertile soil now will blossom at some future time. What a garden of useful citizens, what a harvest of noble deeds would be the result if youth would but take advantage of their impressionable years. The noble deeds and principles will not only stimulate future posterity, but will spur them to higher accomplishments and give them more happiness in life. They will receive more respect from their contemporaries without which no individual can be contented.

But even with these accomplishments there is one element without which our progress would stand condemned before the great and Omniscient Educator. We must develop values that are infinite and eternal. Education has a manifold aim as complicated as life itself. To unfold the proper spiritual values in the boys and girls is absolutely essential to the solution of our problems.

Since, then, intellectual attainments are so precious, and wisdom so grand in its achievements, oh! youth! drink deep from the ocean of knowledge. While fleets might sink, storehouses crumble, and riches fade

away, the intellectual store and the Christian principles gathered will be permanent and enduring and as unending as the constant flow of the Niagara. From the banks of education dividends are perpetual, wealth undiminished.

Education means peace, prosperity, inspiration to the youth and comfort and edification for the old. The Christian principles stand like the granite rock of Gibraltar; the silent and permanent progress we make in spite of all obstacles will tower beyond the blue secrets of the heavens and spread all its trophies at our feet.

Go forward, oh, youth! Take your pen of knowledge, dip it into the ink of opportunity and write on the skies of success, seal it with education and religious principles.

## WITH THE ALUMNI

By C. Henry White

The old "Grads" of our beloved University as well as the former stars of the team are doubtless thinking about our Annual Easter Monday game. On Easter Monday the thoughts of many are very likely to reflect upon our old stars. Paul Richardson, "Biggie" McCrorey, and "Wing" have passed off the stage of action. Yet the boys are determined to maintain the record of winning. We have won all the games that we have played this season.

The Easter Monday game will be played at Wearn Field as usual. It is hoped that the next Easter Monday game will be played at the University Park. The students of Smith are longing to see and are waiting the construction of a stadium.

Let the loyal members of the Alumni Association come to the next meeting of the Association with formulated plans by which means this stadium may be built. I wonder how long will the Alumni of this institution permit the students to pay three hundred and fifty dollars for the use of Wearn Field!

Attorney R. W. Williamson, class of '90, of New Bern, N. C., is an asset to the Negroes of Eastern North Carolina.

Dr. C. H. Shute, the head of the Department of English Bible, Johnson C. Smith University, is a Commissioner of Catawba Presbytery to the General Assembly, which will convene at San Francisco, California.

Rev. H. W. Cooper, D. D., class '06, is a spiritual uplift to the people of Columbus, Ohio.

Drs. J. A. Pethel, class of '96, and F. L. Landers, Jr., class of '20, are holding their own in the city of Charlotte, N. C.

Dr. W. L. Metz, class of '95, is better known as "Uncle Billie." He is a great influence for good at Edisto Island, South Carolina. The results of his influence have reached the campus. He believes in student activities. He is a subscriber for "The University Student." The students of J. C. S. University would like to have a large number of the loyal sons of Smith to become subscribers for "The University Student." The yearly subscription rate is only one dollar. Make money order payable to The Secretary of the "University Student."

Dr. G. W. Long, class of '05, is a Commissioner of Fairfield Presbytery to the General Assembly at San Francisco, California.

Members of the Missionary Quartette: Mr. I. M. Martin, class of '98; Prof. A. A. Adair, class of '07; and Rev. S. Q. Mitchell, class '11, have recently returned from a very successful Northern tour on which they sang. This tour was made under the auspices of the Board of National Missions. Mr. Martin is a Sunday school Missionary and is located at Charlotte, N. C. Prof. Adair is also a Sunday school Missionary and is located at Chester, S. C. Rev. S. Q. Mitchell is the Principal of Selden Institute, Brunswick, Ga.

The "Biddle Spirit," which has been lately transformed into the "Smith Spirit," is upheld by the Downing Brothers. Dr. L. C. Downing, class of '07, is a noteworthy physician of Roanoke, Va. Prof. L. K. Downing, class of '16, is a professor of Civil Engineering, Howard University, Washington, D. C. Drs. E. D. Downing,

class of '10, and G. P. Downing, class of '18, are two of the leading dentists of Roanoke, Va.

Dr. W. P. Walker, class of '13, is a successful dentist at Anniston, Alabama.

Dr. H. S. Johnson, class of '15, is the leading dentist at Charleston, S. C.

Rev. J. E. McMillan, class of '15, and Dr. C. N. McMillan, class of '18, are doing splendid work at Sanford, N. C.

Rev. O. E. Sanders, class of '15, has been chosen pastor of Brandon Presbyterian church, Charlotte, N. C.

Prof. L. S. Cozart, class of '16, is reflecting credit upon himself and his Alma Mater. He is the Principal of Washington High School, Raleigh, North Carolina. For a number of years he was a Professor at Mary Potter Memorial School, Oxford.

Professors L. D. Taylor, class of '20, and J. H. Gunn, class of '22, are successful musicians in the city of Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. F. M. Morton, class of '20, is the Florida State Manager of The Standard Life Insurance Company of Atlanta, Ga. He is located at Jacksonville.

It is to be regretted that the death of Rev. F. L. Brodie, D. D., called home Mr. A. A. Brodie, class of '20; Dr. F. L. Brodie, class of '20; and Mr. M. T. Brodie, class of '22. Dr. A. A. Brodie is located in the City of New York. Dr. F. L. Brodie is practicing dentistry in Philadelphia. Mr. M. T. Brodie is a senior at Meharry Medical College.

Mr. R. B. Dungee, class of '26, is in Charlotte waiting on the Easter Monday game. He is a Professor of English at Booker Washington High School, Norfolk, Va.

Mr. W. A. ("Wing") McIver, class of '26, an old sure and slugging batter of Smith's nine, is teaching in Cleveland County Training School, Shelby, N. C. He is also coaching the baseball team there. seemed quite natural to see him among the boys.

Mr. Geo. L. Allen, the poet of the class of '26, is continuing his poetic work. His poetic productions have won prizes for him. A poem that is published in this issue of "The University Student," was composed by him and published in "The Lyric West," a white poetry composition magazine, of Los Angeles, California. The title of this poem is "Vision."

Countee Cullen is using two of Mr. Allen's productions in his "Anthology of Negro Poets" which will be published next Fall. Mr. Cullen has written Mr. Allen encouraging him to continue in his literary endeavors. We wish him much success in this work.

## POEMS

VISION

By George Leonard Allen

Suddenly I stopped entranced, and breathless stood.....

The loveliest vision I have ever seen Before me lay, amid the trees' dark green, Deep in the shadowy stillness of the wood! A sylvan pool.—A slender dark-eyed maid Poised like a bronze Diana on its brim,— A very naiad, brown and straight and slim, A perfect poem 'neath the forest's shade!

I stood there but a moment's space, or less While branches, wind-caressed, swayed overhead,

Scarce breathing, lest this dream of loveliness

Should flee before my vandal, pagan tread! But—hist!—the gleam of bare brown arms upthrown,—

A flash,—a splash!—and lo! the nymph was gone!

Cultivate high ambitions. Never be satisfied with yourself. Don't be satisfied because you are getting by as well as or better than your classmates. Pick out someone who is doing better than you and strive to beat his record.

NEW QUESTIONS.

1. Was Dred Scott ever set free?
2. Which are the five largest States of America?
3. Who was the first Negro to hold a federal office?
4. Was Massachusetts the only Colonial State that had laws against witchcraft?
5. Did any Speaker of the House ever succeed to the Presidency?

ANSWERS TO LAST QUESTIONS

1. An American woman does not lose her citizenship on marrying an alien.
2. The reputable English language contains approximately 700,000 words.
3. The abbreviation, S. O. S., is a simple, unmistakable, wireless message of distress at sea substituted for earlier, Come quickly, distress."
4. Porto Rico as a protectorate of the United States, has the prohibition laws.
5. The navy fires 21 guns as an international salute.

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