

PEDAGOGICAL PAGE.
Devoted to the Interests of Teaching.
Thomas C. Amick, Ph. D., Editor.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The different states of the Union support schools which continue in session from four to nine months. The value of these schools in training the future citizens of the states is not to be calculated in money. Young manhood and young womanhood is being developed and brought out, the talent powers of our young people are being unfolded, and the state will soon feel the effects of what is being done. A great upward moving impulse will move the state to a higher plane of moral and political activity than has ever been attained unto heretofore.

Moral Instruction.

But what about the moral instruction given in these schools? Many teachers have considered and do now still consider that their duties are done when they have given instruction along intellectual lines. Some have even left the Bible out of the school and not only do they neglect the reading of this Book, but they neglect even the semblance of a morning prayer.

We maintain that the tendency in this direction is becoming somewhat alarming, for upon the moral development of the children depends the stability and power of the state. Unless we are taught to be morally upright when young we may not expect to be truly strong as moral beings when we are old. And that state founded upon any thing but a true system of ethics and morals can not stand.

A Suggested Morning Exercise.

Scripture lesson without comment along any denominational lines, but any comment to help make the lesson strong and clear.

Song. This may be religious or devotional in its nature, or from time to time some good patriotic hymn.

Prayer. Let this prayer be offhand by the teacher or both teacher and pupils may join in the Lord's Prayer.

Five minutes talk on some heroic character either from sacred or profane history, but the character must be one of a truly heroic moral character. Or the talk may be made on any special subject or topic that would draw out the moral nature of the children.

Variation.

An exercise conducted in the same way from day to day soon becomes monotonous. Therefore the teacher should vary the exercises daily. Variety is the spice of life. It takes but little mathematical calculation to see that the above suggested morning exercise may be varied so as to make twenty four separate and distinct exercises. By just a little ingenuity of the teacher in adding to this suggestion a still greater variation can be made. But, above all things, do not allow the morning service to develop into a rut. This kills where a little variety will make alive.

How Moral Instruction May be Given.

There is hardly a subject that can be taught but contains moral lessons that may be easily impressed. The student studying any of the natural sciences takes hold of that which comes direct from the hand of God. In the study of Geography we come into touch with the finger prints of the Creator. Every hill, valley, plain, rock, stream, and every mass of land of

whatever nature we can call to mind is a product of creative wisdom. No moral lessons in Geography! The subject is full of them. But the teacher must use tact in preparing them and bringing them out.

Literature.

This subject is full of lessons that will develop the idea of right in the mind of the pupil. Even in our first readers we may find material that puts the pupil into touch with the good, the beautiful, and the true. Not a poem from any of the great masters, not a phrase selection from one of the great writers of prose can be found, but contains help and instruction for the moral nature of the child.

Nature Study.

Again we are brought face to face with the works of the author of all good. What beauty and harmony in the crystals of snow! How lovely the delicate flower! What beauty in its tints! Who wove those delicate tints and made them so beautiful to behold? May not our lives be made as beautiful as they? How may we weave into the web of our lives such tints of love, of hope, of faith, of trust, of obedience, and of all good graces that they may have the beauty of the rose. It can be done. It is as easily done as to weave therein the threads of hate, of evil and sin, and we should teach the children to see and to know this truth.

The Question Corner.

The first teacher sending in a solution to all these problems will receive the *Elon College Weekly* one year free of any charge.

1. A piece of timber is 11 feet long. It is 9 inches square at one end and 4 inches square at the other. How many board feet are there in the piece of timber.

2. Four bells toll at intervals of 12, and 14 minutes respectively. If they begin at the same time, how often will they toll together in 7 hours?

3. Two partners, A and B, gain \$249. A owns three fourths of the stock, lacking \$10.00, and gains \$175. Find the amount of their stock.

4. In a pair of scales a body weighed 31 1/4 pounds in one scale and 20 pounds in the other. Find the true weight.

5. Bought three watches for \$90.00 and sold them at equal prices. On the first I gained 80 per cent, on the second 20 per cent, and on the third I lost 10 per cent. Find the cost of each watch.

6. I marked goods to gain 50 per cent; but, by using an incorrect yard stick, I made only 20 per cent. Find the length of the yard stick.

PROGRESS OF THE HOOKWORM CAMPAIGN IN THE STATE.

The progress of the campaign against hookworm disease in North Carolina is splendidly shown by the growth in the number who have sent specimens of feces to the State Laboratory of Hygiene. During the year of 1910 the growth was as follows:

First quarter, 70 examinations, second quarter, 486 examinations, third quarter, 2421 examinations, fourth quarter, 4972 examinations, Jan.-Feb., 1911, 5478 examinations.

These examinations represent school children more largely than any other class, however the State militia, a large number of college students, and other adults are included. Many physicians treat the disease without having a laboratory examination made. It is learned from those in

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the State who are treating the disease about one-half the active practitioners, that about 15,000 cases have already been treated. The Hookworm Commission, State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C., will send literature about this disease which has been found to affect about one-third of the people, free and the State Laboratory of Hygiene, Raleigh, N. C., will make the examinations for it free.