



YOUTH'S CORNER

EDUCATION
Is
The First Step
to
Being Somebody
Doing Something
Helping Someone
Getting Somewhere

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.

By Walter Raleigh Lovell.

I suspect that most all my friends of Youth's Corner have read or heard a joke about the nerve-racking noise of some daughter, who was learning to play the piano. Many neighbors have been annoyed by the sounds of a never-ending running of the scales, but I am to tell you a story that is different.

In the house next to mine lives a daughter, who, perhaps fortunately for me, has learned to play the piano. Not being musical I cannot judge, but assuredly she is past the beginner's stage. The side window of the living room of this neighboring house faces the windows of my bed-room, windows that are left open at night so that I may get fresh air while I sleep. And now, to be perfectly frank, I have developed the questionable habit of working late at night, sometimes until the wee small hours of the morning, as the result of which I am not frequently an early riser.

Very often, therefore, I lie in the bed in the morning, there come floating on the sweet morning breeze, the golden notes of music. Do I complain because the industrious daughter across the way is practicing for the time when she may play with perfection? By no means, no. How could one be cross or complain, when there comes out of the stillness, waking one so gently that he must ponder a moment whether he is awake or still asleep and dreaming, the sublime strains of Schubert's Serenade? Or again it is a march like "The Stars and Stripes Forever," or perhaps it is some sweet melody, such as "In the Land of Beginning Again," or a fine old hymn; like "Rock of Ages," for, be it said to the credit of this young lady, she never plays jazz; but even so, I could forgive her if she had the wisdom to choose something like, "Nothing could be finer than to be in Carolina in the morning."

But this regular hour at the piano each morning is no play for this young woman; while she gets enjoyment out of it, as everyone should get from his work, it is a matter of duty with her. She realizes that constant and regular practice is the only road to success. And herein lies the lesson of my story.

A friend of mine worked for a wealthy man who bought an expensive automobile, had it made to order in fact. While it was being built, this chauffeur friend of mine was at the factory. He watched the men build up the motor, then he saw it taken down. He was then set to the task of building it up himself. He did it once, twice, three times. When the car was finished and delivered the chauffeur knew it "like a book." It never went to a garage for repairs, the chauffeur had practiced, he knew his car; he could fix it himself.

We read the works of the masters, Shakespeare, Carlyle, Ruskin, Macaulay, Irving, Longfellow, Tarkington and others, and we marvel at the ease with which they analyze, describe, narrate and visualize in the most pleasing style the thoughts which they had. But we little realize the vast amount of practice that was necessary before they even got a hearing, to say nothing of the fame that made them immortal in literature.

Not far from where I live there dwells a renowned scientist, Luther Burbank. A great educator visited

him not long ago; and as he went about inspecting the marvelous work of the plant wizard, he finally asked, "How do you do it, Mr. Burbank?" "Well," answered the latter, "we sometimes have to spend a number of years studying the characteristics of a plant, but when we know them, we just apply the laws, and the rest is easy." Sounds very simple; but those years and years of practice tell the whole tale.

Young people, and old as well, if you would be sure of attaining perfection in any endeavor, don't be afraid to "practice". By this we mean "keep doing it, over and over again." I sometime think the Church would be very much farther on, that Christianity would have reached a greater ascendancy in the world if people would practice more and preach less. It is the same in all walks of life.

Some Sunday School teachers were taking a course in teacher-training. The instructor said, "If you want to know how well you can teach, or how effective your teaching has been, let one of your pupils teach; the pupil will try to imitate you, and the extent of the pupil's success will be the measure of your efficiency."

Truly PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT, short cuts, and "learn how to play in 8 lessons," all of this is make-believe, pure and simple. "There is no royal road to learning"; he who will not practice, can never enter at the portal, "PERFECTION."

Vallejo, Calif.

SHORT TALKS TO YOUNG FOLK.

By S. D. Redmond.

(For The Associated Negro Press)

Youth like time, is ever fleeting. We are young for a season only. The real life is not that of youth but adult life. Youth is only the stage of preparation for real life; hence, we can readily see that in life, as in all things else, where there is no preparation as a rule, there is ever failure. In other words, adult life is always just whatever youth made it.

In youth, we are laying the foundation from every angle. If we lay this foundation well, we shall be enabled to rear a great structure upon it, in after years, but if we are over levituous, and lay it in sand, doomed must be the superstructure of real life.

And a bad foundation can be laid in so many ways; in riotous living, in dissipation, in levity and hilarity, in extravagance, in a failure to decide early upon the serious side of life; hence, the importance of adopting a real life program now and obtain the greatest amount of education and make the greatest preparation possible within your group.

We can, as a rule, get a very good indication of what a boy or girl is going to do, quite early in life; for whenever we come across one of some years, who never gave indication of a serious thought, but seemed content at all times to "sniggle," "giggle," and "good time" the time away, we may very safely conclude that in them there is altogether a sandy foundation being laid and that the superstructure will be worth just about as much as the "sand" in which it is laid.

And when we are talking to the youth of today, we are talking to the men and women of tomorrow, and the men and women of tomorrow, can be no better than the foundations the youth of today are laying.

We shall reap no better than we sow. If we plant acorns we are going to grow oaks, not chestnuts. If we set hen eggs, we need not expect to hatch turkeys, but chickens; and so in life, we need not expect to reap great things at harvest time, when we planted in stubble fields, upon the rocks, in soil which had neither fertility nor preparation.

Failures as adults as a rule are due to failures of youth.

The World of women.

Edited by Miss Mary L. Mason.

The Open Door.

Last time we wrote for this column, we were tempted to peep through an Open Door into the new vista of 1925. The glories and wonders revealed tempt us to explore. What a world it is becoming for women! Countless pioneer fields waving beckoning fingers; all of the old avenues of activity widening and increasing in interest!

In Texas and Wyoming inaugurations of women, and initial messages to the legislatures.

In Texas, "Ma" Ferguson turning with a woman's natural impulse to pity, and a woman's revulsion to bondage to a consideration of the cases of prisoners, and a revelation in the way of a plan to set ajar a door of hope to any one overtaken in crime. Her thought is a possible parole for any prisoner.

And then, what an idea for securing additional, and we might easily believe, unlimited funds for education by a tax on smokers. How cheerfully the tax will be accepted by those myriad slaves of nicotine, who can scarcely deprive themselves of its charms long enough to worship.

Women and the Law.

Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt of California, in her capacity, of Ass't. Attorney General is particularly successful in her prosecution of cases of violation of the Prohibition Law.

Judge Mary O'Toole of the District of Columbia Municipal Court, is making a splendid record for far reaching decisions.

Judge Catherine Sellers of the D. C. Juvenile Court, is in every sense of the word a woman of broad mind and warm heart. No child can ever be too poor, too repulsive or too degraded to enlist her sympathy. She always seasons her justice, with mercy.

Mrs. Mina Van Winkle, Lieutenant of Policewomen for Washington, D. C., is in every sense a unique character; thoroughly womanly herself, she is a born protector of womanhood and girlhood; in defense of womanhood she has contended against her superiors in office and has won.

The Headquarters of the National Association of Policewomen has been established in Washington this month. Dr. Georgiana Simpson, the first colored woman to receive the title of Ph. D., in this country, has recently published in French a book on the life of Toussaint L'Ouverture. She is at this writing now engaged in reading the proof sheets of a text book in the study of French for High School and College students. This is as it should be. Those who have earned for themselves the highest awards of scholarship should make contributions to the education and to the literature of the race.

Concerning Our Voyagers.

We have been looking with interest at the pictures which the Missionary Seer so kindly offers for our delectation this month. Some of our old friends we should scarcely have known were it not for their names printed under them, so remarkably young and handsome do they appear. All this is no doubt the holiday lustre not yet worn off.

What a noble ship carrying the resident bishop to his new home! May his accomplishments be as promising as his send off!

Always we hear of the meagre sums at the disposal of the missionaries. We know our poverty. Let us hear more and more definitely in the new era of church administration about how far the little bit in hand really did go.

As to Ideals.

The primitive woman was a tender of the home fires. One thought longingly of her in connection with comfort and good cheer and light.

The home fire is symbolic. Woman must ever be a keeper of ideals for the race. She must bear aloft a star. She must fan a flame of inspiration. She must breathe a prayer of hope. Later in this column we hope to continually point out ideals. We are



REVERENCE
Planted in Childhood
will
Bear Fruit in Manhood
in
**BETTER LIVES
HAPPIER HOMES
NOBLER CITIZENS**

THE MINISTRY OF HEALING.

Rev. E. George Biddle, D. D.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all of His benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities. Who healeth all thy diseases. Psal. 103:2, 3.

What a wonderful, almost startling word this third verse is. FORGIVENESS of iniquities, and HEALING of diseases; the promise of forgiveness is not a particle stronger, or more definite than the promise of healing. Why then do we as a Church teach most emphatically the first half of this verse, and almost utterly ignore the other half. I bless the Lord for not only having forgiven me my iniquities, but also for healing of sicknesses and diseases.

Jesus as certainly bare our diseases as He bare our sins, and I see no reason why we should be under the burden of the one, any more than of the other. In the great Evangelical Prophecy of Isaiah, it is said; Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. Chapter 53, 4, 5. The Hebrew word translated "griefs" in the above verse, is choli and means "sickness, weakness, pain," and is so considered when quoted in the New Testament, (see Matthew 8, 17) "Healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the Prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." (The Revised Version substitutes the word "diseases" for "sicknesses.")

Now since Jesus bare our iniquities, we are freed from them, on condition of faith and obedience; on the same condition we may take our sicknesses and diseases, to Him for deliverance. Why not? He bore both our INIQUITIES and OUR SICKNESSES. And by faith we "Bless the LORD for deliverance from both." The Christian Church of our day has departed from the Faith of our Fathers, in reference to Healing. In the Epistle of James, "The Lord's Brother"; the very first book of the New Testament, we are advised as follows in reference to sickness: "Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with the oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up, and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed." James 5:14, 15, 16.

This is The Ministry of Healing the Church has very greatly departed from. Jesus is the same today as when on earth in the flesh, and He has ordained that His Church should carry on the same work. He called the Twelve Apostles, and sent them forth with power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and "TO HEAL ALL MANNER OF SICKNESS AND ALL MANNER OF DISEASE." Matt 10:1. He gave practically the same commission and power to the "Seventy"; Says Luke, "The Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them out two and two;"

growing rich in them.
Always let us be glad!

Washington, D. C.

FAMILY ALTAR

and their instruction was to "HEAL THE SICK." Luke 10:1-9.

If our Zion would only honor this commission,—This "MINISTRY OF HEALING," the result would be a Nation-wide Revival. Said Spurgeon, in his comment on this Psalm: "WHO HEALETH ALL THY DISEASES," "When the cause is gone, namely, iniquity, the effect ceases. Sicknesses of body and soul come into the world by sin, and as sin is eradicated, diseases bodily, mental and spiritual will vanish, till the inhabitant shall no more say, I am sick." Many-sided is the character of our Heavenly Father, for, having forgiven us as a judge, he then COMES AS A PHYSICIAN." Treasury of David, vol. 4. p. 448.

Remember Jehovah has said, "I AM THE LORD THAT HEALETH THEE." Ex. 15:26. We sing, "The GREAT PHYSICIAN now is near;" By Faith, Love and Obedience we may have Him. I have been deathly sick several times in my life time, but in answer to faith and prayer, "The Great Physician," has Healed me. Praise Him.

North Cambridge, Mass.

WARNING THE MOVIE STRUCK.

By J. A. (Billboard) Jackson.

(For The Associated Negro Press)

A story that originates according to its date line, in Los Angeles has been appearing under splash headlines in the colored weeklies headed "Great Demand For Colored Film Actors." The effect of this story is to say the least pernicious.

In common with the rest of humanity, our young folks are "Movie Mad." It seems that all of them would like to appear in the movies. The offices of the trade journals have been pestered to death with inquiries about how to get into the film companies. Stories such as the one under discussion encourages these film struck ones to abandon less spectacular vocations, their schools and mere jobs to seek the elusive fame so glibly promised by implication in that story.

The story reports that 500 calls have been received at one office specializing in Negro talent in 1924. There is no doubt of the truth of that; but this office has on file the names of 67 file workers who are booked with reasonable steadiness from that same office. Lord knows how many more are registered in that same office, waiting to catch the crumbs—the atmosphere and mob scene jobs—mere days work at long intervals.

If that 67 worked absolutely equitably there would have been less than 8 jobs each during the whole year. Had those same jobs been divided among the whole registered list, there would have been but little employment for each. So do not rush to California. It is hard for white performers and much more so for Negroes; for the whites may find occasional work there; but the Negro's usual avenues to work are filled with Japanese, Chinese and Mexicans.

Another thing to keep in mind is the fact that when the film directors want Negro types in the white companies, they want real Negroes. For once the genuine article comes into its own.

Where the lighter persons happens to be acquainted with casting offices and if he is of the special type that can be adapted, he or she may work as a Mexican, East Indian, Carribean, Arabian, Moor, etc., through the scale of darker races. Even in this, if the parts are "fat" with opportunities, the white artists have become so expert in the art of make-up that they have all the advantage of being first choice at the work available.

We share with the California writer a degree of pleasure in reporting progress for our folks in the "Movies"; but the burden of responsibility that must rest with some one for encouraging the thousands of light headed and beautiful girls to chase a probable will-o-the-wisp prompts us to set warning signals.