

# MOVIES AND RADIO TO BE THE TUTORS OF FUTURE DAYS

### Science Makes Wonderful Progress in Facilities of Education. New Inventions Will Provide Knowledge at a Low Cost. Lecture Courses Hold Great Possibilities.

By CALEB JOHNSON (Special Writer for The Democrat)

A few weeks ago three hundred leaders of education sat in a room at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh and watched four great scientists perform experiments, at the same time explaining just what they were doing and why.

Three of the lecturers were at that moment in England, the fourth was five hundred miles away, in Schenectady. But the audience got a clearer view of the experiments of Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir Ernest Rutherford, Sir William Braag and Dr. Irving Langmuir, than they could have if these men had been physically present in the lecture hall. They did not have to crane their necks or strain their eyes to see what was going on. Apparatus which was too small to be seen clearly at a distance of a few feet was magnified until it was plainly visible across the room. Effects which in an ordinary laboratory can be observed only through a microscope were projected on the screen so that hundreds could follow them clearly at one time. And the lecturers themselves were plainly visible and their voices clear and easily understood.

You have guessed already that this was a demonstration of talking motion pictures as applied to education. And if you stop to think about it you will realize, as these educators in that audience did, that the schools of the future will depend more and more upon the "talkies" and upon the radio for the instruction of their pupils.

Today it is entirely possible for a complete educational course, including all of the essential elementary subjects and all the way up into the higher mathematics, languages, science, history and economics, to be put on by means of the motion picture, and radio programs already being broadcast could be used to supplement such a course, so that it is conceivable that a group of children living in the most remote rural district could be carried through school, from kindergarten to post-graduate university work, without ever leaving their home counties. And with the aid of travel films they would know more about the world they live in than thousands of the university graduates of today ever learn, while the works of the great dramatists, presented by competent actors on the screen, would give them a cultural appreciation such as many university students never acquire.

There is no room for doubt that the school of the future will lean more and more heavily upon the inventions of today and tomorrow to bring into the classroom the very best teaching that is available anywhere in the world. And the result will not only be better schools which will cost so much less than the best schools cost today that no community will have any excuse for giving its children anything less than the best. Already it is, as I have pointed out, possible to cover almost the whole field of education by means of the motion picture and the radio. The only essential part of education which cannot be carried out in this way is the training of the sense of touch.

There are certain things which everyone has to learn for himself if he is to be able to call himself educated. We learn through our fingers as well as through our eyes and our ears. The underlying purpose of normal training classes is not to make artisans out of school boys but to round out their education by teaching them how things feel. To the eye a piece of pine wood and a piece of oak look very much alike. But the man who as a boy learned how to whittle, saw or drive nails into different kinds of wood grows up with a very real knowledge of the difference between them. All of the modern systems of education begin by training the hands of the very little children. The whole kindergarten system and the development of the student's school work with young children of two or three years old, tasks to do with their hands.

There are also sound reasons for believing that the motion picture is a more effective teacher than the school classroom methods of today. Most people have visual perception more highly developed than aural perception. That is, most of us are more readily impressed by seeing things than by hearing them. Ask yourself the question, "Which do I remember most clearly: the thing that I saw or the thing that I heard?" Nine out of ten will recall the thing they saw long after the memory of the exact words they heard has faded. There are available today motion pictures illustrating not only every phase of natural history but scientific research and knowledge of every imaginable kind. The greatest teachers in the world have directed

the making of many of these films, and new those same teachers are having their lectures recorded on the talking films, so that for all time students may see and hear their voices. A hundred years from now a great teacher like Professor Irving Fisher, who has been a national maximum, will be explaining to classes of young folks all over the world the difference between money and wealth, and illustrating his talk with charts and diagrams which he draws on the blackboard before their eyes.

Yale University has sponsored a great number of historical motion pictures, dealing especially with American history, beginning with the voyage of Columbus. Today a few learn history from these films; tomorrow millions may get all of their historical instruction in this manner. The United States Government is one of the largest of all film producers. Government films illustrating every useful agricultural method, showing about every Government activity from the manufacture of money to battle fleets in action, are now available to any Grange, Chamber of Commerce or other local organization which wants to show them, without charge except the cost of transportation. There is hardly an industrial process that has not been filmed; so that it is possible for everybody to see how pins, soap, automobiles, razor blades or anything else are made.

The only obstacle to the universal use of such films and the new ones as they come out is that they are not favored by the managers of motion picture theatres, and so special arrangements have to be made for their projection in any community. But the school of the future will have not only one room equipped with a motion picture projector but almost as many as there are classrooms. They will not only take the place of some teachers, but will bring into every school the very best teachers, whose salaries most schools could never afford to pay.

Radio is already supplementing the motion picture. Every really progressive school today has one or more radio receiving sets. In many schools special hours are set aside for listening to the radio. The musical courses under the direction of Walter D. Rosen, broadcast by the National Broadcasting Company on certain days every week, are doing more toward teaching children what good music is and how to appreciate it than any local music teacher could possibly do. And the lectures and information broadcast from Washington under the auspices of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and other Federal bureaus, have already demonstrated the educational advantages of disseminating information and instruction.

The school of tomorrow will be quite a different institution from the school of today. By "tomorrow" I mean, say fifty years, when modern methods will have been introduced everywhere. Talking pictures and radio will occupy two-thirds of the students' time. There will be books, but they will be supplementary to the usual and oral courses brought in from all the world, books to aid the memory, to explain fundamentals, and not as original sources of information for the most part. And there will be training of the sense of touch, not only through the process of "making things," but through some such method as that which the schools of Japan use.

In Japanese schools the children have more than 100,000 different objects which they are required to handle and to take apart. They are made for school use, to teach children what is inside of the things they come across in daily life. Thus a school egg, for example, made of some composition, looks like an ordinary egg, but the child can take it apart, remove the shell, lift out the white, and so get down to the yolk in the middle. All kinds of fruits, flowers, insects, little animals and plants, as well as manufactured articles, are thus reproduced for use in schools. The Japanese child grows up with a better knowledge of the inside of things and how they grow than most American children ever get.

### LIVE-AT-HOME PLAN WAS WIDELY BROADCAST

Incomplete reports from the home and farm agents of the agricultural extension service at State College indicate that these workers alone reached approximately 190,000 persons during the "live-at-home" week of February 10.

Reports received from the farm agents by C. A. Sheffield, assistant director of extension, show that about 50,000 persons attended the various meetings held and addressed by these men and while there are fewer home agents, they did much of their work in the schools and at meetings of women's organizations where it is believed that another 50,000 persons were acquainted with the principles of the "live-at-home" movement. All of this is in addition to other work done by the school teachers and State and county organizations which took an active part in the program.

Early last week, Mr. Sheffield had received reports from 39 counties showing that the farm agents had held 169 meetings at which there were 39,420 persons. When it is considered that there are 84 farm agents and two assistant agents at work in North Carolina, it is believed that the estimate of 50,000 persons reached is rather low or at least conservative. Not half of the agents had reported when these figures were secured.

Some of the men and women report that they had never been thru such a strenuous period. In some counties there were as many as four different meetings held on the same evening. The home agents say their curb markets were better patronized than usual and that folks are beginning to understand that home-grown foods can be made into excellent menus for the home table or banquet supper.

Green—What is a sense of humor?  
Brown—A sense of humor is that which makes you laugh at something that happens to somebody else which would make you sorry if it happened to you.

### NEWS ITEMS FROM NEWLAND

The Star route mail carrier from Pratts, N. C., said last Wednesday: "It's a pretty day, ain't it? People ought ter be fartin', but they'd rather be cussin' the President." When asked how he liked the low necks and high cuts in the cities, he remarked: "It puts no change on me. I grab thorns half the day, and carry the mail the rest of the time. Well I've got to go; if it weren't for these old cat-he-logs I would not mind bit."

Mr. M. L. Turlyfill has purchased two fine Jersey heifers, the additions giving him a total of eight animals in his dairy herd. Mr. Turlyfill is a real farmer.

The home of George Dean, who lives in the Hughes section, was destroyed by fire last week. Included in his loss was a quantity of meat, corn and other provisions. He had no insurance.

Mrs. Yirdie Daniels Ray, who has been spending twelve or fifteen days in Grace Hospital, returned home on last Wednesday, bringing with her a bouillon-ton-poulet boy.

Hon. Harrison Byrd, who has been suffering with lumbago, is somewhat improved at this time.

Dr. R. D. Jennings, who for years has maintained an office at Banner Elk, has moved his office to Newland. We are hoping that he will move his family here and make his future home.

Mr. R. B. Dula, who has been very

sick for some time, is still lingering.

Mrs. T. A. Love is the owner of a new Ford.  
Rev. S. M. Pittman and family, who moved to Newdale, N. C., some months ago, spent last Saturday in Newland visiting old friends.

Dallas Hopkins, of Crossnore, spent some time with home folks in Newland last Saturday.

Mrs. Sam W. Blalock made a trip last Saturday to Johnson City to visit her daughter, Mrs. G. C. Miller, who is very sick.

We were indeed glad to have W. H. Grage and Albert Smith, two of Boone's live-wire citizens, with us for a while last Tuesday.

Mrs. John Carpenter, who has been making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Sherman Calloway, of Pineola, is a very sick lady, and very little hope is entertained for her recovery. We are hoping that the good woman will be restored and spend many years with her friends.

Of interest to friends in Watauga County is the announcement that Rev. Kelley Carroll, who was reared on Hegg Elk (Watauga), and came to this section some twenty years ago, has just closed a meeting at Vale near here with a large number of conversions.

Mr. A. W. Ray had the misfortune of losing a fine Jersey cow last Wednesday, the only one he owned.

Mrs. C. L. Jesse is suffering from a sprained ankle, but is reported to be improving at this time.

S. C. Braswell and family, of Nebo, N. C., were in town last week visiting old friends and relatives. Always glad to see them.

### PROGRESS BEING MADE IN TESTING POULTRY

North Carolina poultry growers will have at least 100 flocks which have been freed from the Pullorum disease or bacillary white diarrhea by the end of this season as the result of testing and culling work done by the department of poultry at State College, co-operating with the State veterinarian.

On February 10th there were 27,548 pullets, 12,611 hens, 2,049 cock-crows and 703 cocks under test. This indicates, says C. F. Parrish, extension poultryman, that too many pullets are being used as breeders and this condition should be remedied next season. Mr. Parrish urges those owners having their flocks tested, not to sell the pullets which have passed two negative tests, but to carry them over into next year for breeders.

He also asks that these accredited pullets be supplemented only with birds from other disease-free flocks.

If the intensive testing work which has been done this season is followed up next year, rapid accrediting should be done and the State will have better chicks and a more profitable poultry industry in the future.

The poultry flocks at State College say that the statement that a flock is accredited does not mean the

### Only 104 Years Old



Leprelet Logee, who lives at the Masonic Home at Charlton, Mass., can remember twenty Presidents of the United States and expects to live to 110.

same thing in all states. In North Carolina it means that the flock has passed the tests and that all disease-carrying birds have been removed. Therefore accreditation in this State means disease-free birds. It may not mean this in the case of other states. Therefore the prospective buyer is urged to investigate before obtaining chicks from outside of the State.

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**BIG SALE starts SATURDAY**



**USED CARS**

**—WITH AN OK THAT COUNTS**

Here is a bargain event without parallel in the history of this community! This great spring clearance sale brings to bargain seekers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to secure famous used cars "with an OK that counts" at savings that will be long remembered.

Due to the tremendous popularity of the New Chevrolet Six, we have an unusually large stock of fine used cars. To clear our stock quickly, we offer these splendid cars at low sale prices that are nothing less than sensational.

Buy a car during this sale at many dollars below its normal price! Look to the red "OK that counts" tag as proof of its quality and dependability. This tag signifies that the car has been thoroughly checked and reconditioned. Be sure to attend this sale early!

### Wide choice of four and six cylinder cars

**1925 Model Ford Coupe**

Comes equipped with good tires

**\$50**

**CHEVROLET COACH—1927 model**  
Good tires and runs good for quick sale. **\$250**

**OAKLAND COUPE—1928 Model,**  
Good condition, battery and paint good and O. K. all over. Now offered at **\$375**

**FORD ROADSTER—in good shape,**  
good tires and battery and finish good **\$125**

**CHEVROLET COACH—1927 model**  
good running order. Tires and battery good **\$225**

**CHEVROLET COUPE—1927 model**  
in good condition, tires are O. K. **\$225**

**CHEVROLET TRUCK—1927 model**  
good condition. A sacrifice at **\$125**

**1928 Model Chevrolet Touring**

Fair tires, and paint is fairly good

**\$100**



IT'S FUNNY HOW PATIENT A MAN CAN BE WITH A PRETTY GIRL IF HE ISN'T MARRIED TO HER

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