

In the development of the aesthetic side of a child's nature Music and Singing play an important part, and must therefore be given a place in the regular work of every school. Singing in unison and in harmony and reading at sight must be thoroughly taught: the ear must be trained and the taste cultivated to some appreciation at least of the highest in the wonderful world of sweet sounds.

Closely allied with Singing is Elocution—by which must be understood the art of speaking, of producing and modulating the voice, an art which should be taught by an expert in every school. To speak English is not (as too many people seem to think) merely to utter it more or less grammatically in a careless, slovenly fashion, but to enunciate it clearly with varying and appropriate tone and expression. No school girl is too young to be trained to do this; on the contrary, the training should be begun at the beginning of her school life (such practises as that of shouting tables, etc., being banished for ever from the Primary Schools), and should be continued until satisfactory results have been achieved. Particular attention must be paid to Reading. Intelligent and well-modulated reading is an eminently desirable and, indeed, essential accomplishment, adding greatly to the beauty and the appreciation of good literature. Instead of being, as it is at present, a very rare accomplishment among our girls, it should be the natural result of their training and education.

As the chief part of the child's institutional inheritance, History must take an important place in any system of liberal education. It should be taught to the very young in the form of interesting stories of heroes of all nations of past and present days, but in some chronological order. Our own times should then be considered more particularly, and the past gradually unfolded with increasing detail. Certain dates must be learnt accurately, if only as footmarks in the halls of time, and it is most important that the child should receive a vivid impression of the social conditions and realities of every period. Lessons should be illustrated from contemporary literature by picture, song and story. In the Secondary Schools a general survey of Ancient History should be possible, though not necessarily with much detail. Translations

of ancient writers and historians should be read in part and referred to, and some knowledge of ancient art and craft should be received from pictures or photographs of relics of antiquity. At the same time English History should be continued with more research into historical by-ways, and with some attention to contemporary European History. Civics should be included and stress laid upon the meaning and the history of manhood and womanhood suffrage and upon the use of the vote. History should certainly be taught by specialists, and thereby become to the youngest girl the fascinating and educative study it should be.

We now pass to the last but by no means least important aspect of Education—the Religious and Moral. Without this element no system can be complete, and if a girl be deprived of it she cannot hope to reach the ideal of womanhood. All that can ennoble and uplift the moral nature of the child and enable her to stand upon a higher plane is hers by inheritance, and no man, politician or otherwise, has the right to deny it to her. Let all sectarian dogma be banished from school teaching and let the illuminating and ennobling influence of the fundamental Bible truths and of the example of the Divine Man vitalise our whole educational system. To hold up as examples to school children other great men of the past, yet to deny them the greatest and noblest of all, the only divine and ideal example, to bid them study Literature, yet withhold the Books of Books, is simply ludicrously illogical and fatally foolish. The religious element must be given its proper place in Education.

In conclusion, I would again urge that the aim and the ideal of the Education of girls should always be the ennoblement of womanhood and the restoration of the home to its proper sphere of influence. Whether a girl is to be a doctor, a teacher, a typist, a factory worker, she must primarily be trained to become a pure and noble woman, possessed of a high sense of honour and justice, and a fine sense of courtesy and reverence, exercising the refining and purifying influence which lies in her power alone.

In short, we must train our girls so that whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things

are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue and any praise, they may think on these things.

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### FACTS.

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Government statistics show that all the industries of the United States of America, taken together, employ 359 wage-earners for every one million dollars of capital invested. These same statistics show that the liquor industry employs only 81 wage-earners for each one million dollars of capital invested.

Loss of hours from work in Moscow, because of drinking, has decreased 31 per cent. under Prohibition.

The last four months in England, with restricted hours for trading, as against the same period in 1915, show a decrease of 1,505,000 barrels, and 4,517,000 gallons of spirits.

South Australian Brewery Company shares, which before the war were quoted at £2 7s, were sold during August last at £1 6s 6d. They've got six o'clock closing there now.

Canada is going dry. The liquor traffic has been wiped out of the whole of the Dominion of Canada with the exception of the Province of Quebec. New Brunswick goes dry next May, and British Columbia will turn off the tap next July. In all other parts Prohibition is in force now. Evidently Canadian statesmen are cleverer than New Zealand ones. They have learnt the lesson from the war, that alcohol is a nation-destroyer.

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### EARLY CLOSING IN SYDNEY.

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A prominent police official states that since the alteration of the hours from 11 to 6, the men under his charge have had their duties made a great deal lighter. There had been an appreciable reduction in the number of cases of drunkenness, and in various other ways much good had been done. The streets were easily cleared, there was less rowdyism, and disorderly scenes which often followed indulgence in strong liquor were less frequent; while there were fewer cases of assault, and indeed an all-round reduction in certain offences to which drink was a contributing factor.—*"Age."*