TEACHING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The Scope of the Work in English in the Second Year of High School.—By Miss E. H. Duke, of the Salt Lake City High School.

So much has already been said as to how English shall be taught, when it shall be taught, and how much of it shall be taught, that it would seem nothing new can be advanced upon this much discussed subject. Yet research shows us that there are defects in our methods of instruction, therefore it becomes necessary that the discussion still continues.

The English department in our public schools knows what it wants, but is not at all certain about the best means of getting what it wants. The professor of English in Harvard College says that department would be satisfied if students came to college with a taste for good reading and the ability to express their thoughts respectably. The business world demands that pupils from our schools be able to express their thoughts in respectable English, both orally and in writing.

They must be accurate in form, as to preparation of any written statements; they must not misspell words and must think readily and unhesitatingly what to say and how to say it. They must be able to use easy, graceful, forcible English rather than that of logical exactness—it may be desirable English.

We as teachers know perhaps better than any one else how far short some of the boys and girls in our classes come in these things, and we sometimes look with anything but a sanguine mind at the carelessly prepared tasks, the clumsily constructed sentences, the "original" spelling of words, the lack of anything "original" in thought, which come from some of the pupils who have been under our careful instruction for months.

It would seem that the results required cannot be reached in any great measure, without systematic co-operation in the English work throughout the entire course from the first grade to graduation.

To prescribe what can be done in any one year is almost next to impossible, without considering previous preparation, ability of classes, etc.

It is perhaps comparatively easy to say what ought to be done in certain years, at certain ages, following certain lines of previous work and so on, but this as usual is theory and it is the practical we want in these days.

The purpose of this paper is to suggest some of the things which may help to make up the scope of the work in second year high school in this line of English.

English, as we use the term now throughout the school course, means word study, composition work, grammar, rhetoric and literature. Aside from the rhetoric, these are supposed to be given in some form during each year of the pupil's school work.

The literature work should be given minutes on such subjects as, The things I like to do out. A thoughtless word. Football. My pet aversion. The most beautiful place I ever saw. Why I need exercise. The most disagreeable person I ever met. Why I would like to be a poet, and similar subjects, will be close to express himself more accurately and forcibly in his composition work.

The use of subjects for talks is often quite interesting and helpful; they are very suggestive and a paper about an interesting scene or some little country incident to the most timid or backward pupil will frequently induce him to express his thought in most clear and forcible language concerning the object or something suggested by it.

Conversation lessons, in which the subject has been previously assigned, the leader of the conversation appointed, and certain divisions of the subject given to pupils for special preparation are quite conducive to original thought and ease of expression. If the subject be one of general interest, such as all can talk upon, as "The Series Around Salt Lake," with many divisions of the subject suggested, as "The mountains, the canyons, City Creek canyon," it is surprising the amount of valuable information and thought and ease of expression that can be brought out of a lesson. Since in most conversation at the beginning of a recitation.

I have been throwing the past week to some subjects based upon the experiences of the recent vacation. Some of the subjects given were, "How I Enjoyed," "An Amusing Incident," "Kind of Reading for Vacation," "The Hardest Work I Did," "An Ideal Vacation," "A Beautiful Sunset," "The Pleasantest Day I Spent."

There is danger, it is true, in permitting pupils to write from material collected from encyclopedias, from history and from their general reading. They seem to think it is easy to paraphrase and so generalize and more or all to copy. Yet there are a great many advantages in this method when rightly conducted. There is the accumulation of many valuable facts, the example of a good style, the new word, the foundation for new ideas which pupils can get in no other way. A selection is being studied or read in class, there are many interesting subjects suggested in most of our best selections which may form a basis for exercises in composition work. In reading Irving's Sketch Book we might select for subjects, "An English Xmas, Rip Van Winkle's return, Irving's Father, from Courtship of Miles Standish, "The Elysium of the Five Senses," "Two Hours Ride that pleased Have read, "The Best Woman in David Copperfield," "Life is Our Dictionary," from the American Scholar.

I believe that pupils in the second year should be able to express accurately, clearly and simply such truths as they see; that they should be set at every opportunity to good literature and should be taught high ideals of life, and with good literature and high ideals in mind they should be kept writing—writing always with a view to accuracy and clearness and not that they are to show literary skill. Ruskin says, "Great art is precisely that which never was, nor will be taught. It is the expression of the spirits of great men, so that the wholesome teaching is that which simply endeavors at fit those characters of nobleness in the pupil's mind of which it seems easily susceptible, without holding out to him as a probable result that he will ever write novels like Thackeray or plays like Shakespeare."

Last, but by no means of minor importance, comes the library work of the second year. We are told, the aim of all teaching of literature should be to interest pupils in the best that has been thought and said in the world. If we fail in this we fail utterly, if we succeed we succeed completely.

Literature is for inspiration and the work of the teacher is that of a guide.

This work may be considered under three heads, current events, reading by individual pupils, and authors studied in class.

As to the teaching of current events, it is not easy to say just how much should be given or what kind of current events should be considered. We as teachers are instructed that it is our business to make honest, intelligent citizens so far as we can. The schools teach you government and the Constitution, but that is not enough; there is need of the study of the questions of our own day. A proper store of current events helps in discussions against the venomous, the sensational and that which demoralizes. The power of gaining and retaining ideas by a single reading is helped by the study.

The work of looking through the daily papers does it not to given entirely to pupils, as there are many otherwise than matters connected with literature. Simply a tabular statement of the happenings, with a comment showing why these events are of importance to the outside world, and the lessons to be learned from them, is of great value.

The writing of reviews of articles from popular magazines is helpful in the English department of the different phases of history discussed.

Perhaps the most difficult of all the work in literature is the selecting of the individual pupil's reading, but one means of determining the degree of nothing with which the literature is taught in the public departments, is the amount and character of the books read by the pupils. The chief end to be gained in the literature is a taste for reading good literature.

It is surprising to note the various answers to questions calling for books read during the previous four months or during the summer vacation. There are several things noticeable in these answers, the rarity of books read by pupils of good homes or by those who have a strong desire to be fond reading, and the number of trashy books. In the records of good literature connected with our schools the part of the literature work is not a mistake.

Twenty pages of book to be read by pupils during the week, work among books of history, biography and travel, some easy poems, two compositions and some books of fiction, during the year.

The class work in literature as a study, in the second year, ought to be of a kind to interest as far as possible the pupil in view, so as to endear English work and read and interpret and discuss the selections read. Such works as Mosher's Poetry, Irving's Sketch Book, Longfellow's Golden Legend, Longfellow's Evangeline, Longfellow's Poems, perhaps the Princess of Tennyson, Snow Bound, Dora, Tennyson, The Ancient Mariner, be the peculiar style of poetry, selections from Wordsworth, from Macaulay, Thackeray, and Burke of this character which will help to form a taste for worth contrasting, describe from the best poetry, and the best examples of critics the art to be considered.

Some of the most valuable work of the year in literature study ought to be the writing of some experiences, but of English work, some of forms of speech for purposes of conversation, the best models taught in class, the study of character, and some exercise of all the knowledge of good grammar, prose, poetry, and parts of books read.

It would seem that the work outlined cannot be placed upon the performance of good schoolgirls. There is a vague unrest with it which can and be overcoming, and natural now that these schools which require the construction of some of her composition literature are some of the most difficult work in English. The subject of Canada reports is to memorize for the substitute in the High school. "The Rule of Brandon," "The Maid in Harness," "King and Wall Street," "Lady Clare," "Lord Ingly Lyle," "The Three Fishers," "A Sailing Boat," Written in a Country Churchyard.

In summing up this, work expected would be the historical study of words, the writing of compositions, the study of some of the best literature and the reading by each pupil of several valuable books. The amount of work, the kind of composition writing, the number of selections studied, ought to be all that the time can render in the time given to the work in English.

OWEN GROWELL, President
G. A. EMINS, Secretary and Treasurer

Salt Lake Cycle Company,

Agents for CROWNEY BICYCLES in Utah, Wyoming, Idaho and Montana.

We want an agent in every town. Write now.

For Catalogue,

NO. 219, 221 MAIN STREET,
Salt Lake City Utah.

P. S.—Our Repair Shop can repair anything. Try us.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

JOSEPH E. TAYLOR,
PIONEER
UNDERTAKER
OF UTAH.

Manufacturer and dealer in all kinds of Metallic, Wood and Cloth Covered Coffins and Caskets.
Full line of Robes, Pall Bearers Kept constantly on hand.
Telephone and telegraph orders promptly filled.
Open Day and Night.
Parlors and Warerooms, No. 29 S. 1st West, 114 Doors east of Theater.

SUPPORT HOME INDUSTRY.

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO SELL HOME MADE GOODS

THEY BUILD UP UTAH and are entitled to the support of the people. By dealing with the merchants who give preference to the sale of Home Made goods, you help the Home Industry cause. You help to give employment to worthy people, you help to keep money at home, which circulates in our midst and we get back a part of that money again in your business or profession. Keep this in mind; every dollar expended for Utah made goods, means more employment for home labor; every dollar expended for goods manufactured elsewhere, means employment for somebody living elsewhere, and whose interests are generally not with us. "Charity begins at home." This is a time for both economy sense and patriotism.

When you wish to buy anything be sure to look over the following list before making your purchase.

JOHN C. CUTLER & BRO.,
AGENTS PROVO WOOLEN MILLS,
36 Main Street, Salt Lake City. We have a full line of all kinds of Woolen Goods, and are making Clothing in both ready made and made to order, and assortment of all kinds.

W. H. DODGE
Successor to the ARBOGAST CONFECTIONERY COMPANY,
109 S. Main Street.
Home Made Confectionery and Boston Ice Cream.
ICE CREAM FOR PARTIES, HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS AT REDUCED RATES. CANDIES AND ICE CREAM FRESH EVERY DAY.
Telephone 516.

SALT LAKE COSTUMING HOUSE.
Masquerade and Theatrical Costumes for Rent.
Send for Catalogue.
Manufacturers and Importers of all kinds of Hair Goods.
Wholesale and Retail Hair Bought.
67 E. FIRST SOUTH.

Deseret Woolen Mills Company,
Home Industry in Every Department.
FRANK JENNINGS, President.

J. C. MURPHY & CO.
Manufacturers of Rubber Stamps, Stencils, Steel Stamps, Key Checks, Badges, Ticket Dealers, Etc. Wood engraving in all its branches, 25 E. Second South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.
We are manufacturers, not agents.

OGDEN BROOM FACTORY.
M. G. SCOVILLE, Prop. Manufacturers and wholesale dealers in all kinds of
BROOMS
All Brooms Warranted First-Class Hand Made.
FACTORY AT 2441 GRANT AVENUE, OGDEN, UTAH.

J. H. KNICKERBOCKER
107 W. 2nd South.

OPTICIAN
Dooly Block.

LITTLE, ROUNDY & CO.,
54 MAIN STREET.
STONE JARS, FLOWER POTS, ETC.
CROCKERY, CHINA AND LAMP GOODS.

WATSON BROS.
Mantles, Grates, Tiles, Monuments, Marble and Stone work of all descriptions.
Manufacturers and dealers in the Celebrated Utah Onyx.

FORSEY VINCENT SHOE CO.
Men's $3 Shoes, the Best on Earth.
Children's School Shoes, all home made. Factory and store 64 Main St. Repairs and custom work a specialty.

CARLSON BROTHERS,
Manufacturers of the LEADER and other brands of
CIGARS
Factory 3rd floor Walker Bros. Bank Building, Salt Lake City.

The BERRY GROCERY CO.,
C. S. BERRY, Mgr. Dealers in Staple and Fancy Groceries
Home Production Store. 207 STATE ST., HOLMES BLOCK, Salt Lake City, Utah.

T. R. A. Co.
301, 303, 305, WEST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET.
Taylor, Romney, Armstrong Company.
Their Sheds and Yards are always Full of a most Complete Line of Lumber and Building Material.
Telephone 967.

BEANS 5c lb. RAISINS 5c lb.

The C. B. DURST GROCERY COMPANY
Pay Cash for Produce, and Make a Specialty of Home Manufactured Goods Such as
BROOMS, SOAP, BASKETS, HAMS, BACON, LARD AND PICKLES.

1 Quart Mixed Pickles,	45c	1 Pint Melon Mangos,	35c.
1 Quart Gherkins, "	40c.	1 Pint Tomato Soy,	35c.
1 Pint Mixed, "	30c.	1 Pint Tray Tins,	50c.

SEND TRIAL ORDER.

TOMATOES, $2.25 PER CASE
ARCHESS TROPHY CORN, $2.25 PER CASE.

F. PLATT COMPANY.
Established 1855. Manufacturers of Incorporated 1894
HARNESS, SADDLES, COLLARS.
We make a specialty of Stock Saddles. 157-159 State Street, Salt Lake City.

G. F. CULMER & BROS.
Home Made Show Cases, Mirrors, Asphaltum, Varnishes, Roofing and Paving Cements.
19 Commercial Avenue.

THE CRAGER IRON WORKS,
24 Market Street, Salt Lake City.

Manufacturers of all kinds of Iron and Steel Fences, Beds, Office and Counter Railing. This is a home industry that will duplicate any or less made by outside Firms.

TROY STEAM LAUNDRY.
Elegant work. Prompt service. Home labor employed. 124 Main Street.

W. L. PICKARD COMPANY,
Manufacturers and Importers of
Harness, Saddles, Saddlery-Hardware and Leather.
30 West, Second South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

HIGSON, ANDERSON & ROSSITER COMPANY.
PLUMBERS
GAS, STEAM AND HOT WATER FITTERS.
Jobbing promptly attended to. All work guaranteed. 112 E. 1st South St.

American Biscuit & Manufacturing Co.
Successors to Utah Cracker Factory.
Manufacturers of fine Crackers and Cakes.
Cream and Snowflake Sodas in 1, 2 and 5 pound boxes.
422 South, Second West Street. Henry Wallace, Manager.

Telephone 474. RICHARD E. EVANS,
FLORIST AND SEEDSMAN
Orders by mail or telephone promptly attended to. Floral Designs and Immortelles a specialty. Residence and Greenhouse—1473 West, 8th South St., Popular Grove. 20 Main Street, under Cutler Bros' store.

1866. READING SEED AND FLORAL CO., 1894.
Store under Utah National Bank. Office, 214 E., Second South Street, Salt Lake City
SEEDS, PLANTS, BULBS.
P. O. Box 375. Bed Farm, Centerville

THE STAR BAKERY AND LUNCH ROOM.
This is the Place to Have Your Basket Lunches put up.
EVERYTHING FIRST CLASS, AND PRICES REASONABLE.
230 MAIN STREET.

HULBERT BROS.,
TRUNK AND BAG MANUFACTURERS
15 E. First South St., 2nd door East of Deseret Book.
REPAIRING A SPECIALTY. OLD TRUNKS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE.

RUBBERS.
BOOTS. SHOES.
To meet these terrible times we are manufacturing YOUTWEAR CHEAPER THAN EVER. Shoddy or split leather we never use.
SOLOMON BROTHERS
All work warranted on every pair.
WHOLESALE and RETAIL.
Why buy imported goods and starve home industry out.
SLIPPERS.

The VICTOR
Up hill, down hill, or on the dead Level, the Victor Bicycle always gets there in a hurry.

IF YOU ARE GOING TO RIDE Why not ride the best? Every one wants a wheel that lasts, and the Victor is recognized the world over as standard in everything requisite to a bicycle high grade in workmanship, beauty, strength, speed and easy riding. It stands at the head. Call and look into its many fine points.
JENSEN, The Jeweler, 63 East First South St.