

## I Am The School Tax

I DISPEL the tempests of ignorance which threaten calamity to community and nation.

I build temples wherein the wisdom of ages is passed on to citizens of the future.

I am the means of bringing the Light of Learning to all the children of all the people that Democracy may thrive.

I give to boys and girls of poor and rich alike the services of trained teachers who show them the way to self-dependence and self-realization.

I provide laboratories, libraries, and classrooms where the scientist, the statesman, the minister, the teacher of tomorrow find their strength.

I build the bulwarks which stem the tides of crime.

I shape the key of intelligent public opinion which unlocks the doors to economic, political, and social stability.

I yield returns more priceless than gold, more lasting than steel, more potent than sword or pen—the returns of intelligently thinking minds.

I am at once the guardian ruler and the servant of the world's greatest power and hope—education.

I insure the rights of childhood.

I am the school tax.

—*The Nebraska Educational Journal.*