

THE VIRGINIA TEACHER

Published monthly, except June, July, and August, by the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Entered as second-class matter March 13, 1920, at the postoffice at Harrisonburg, Virginia, under the act of March 3, 1879.



CONRAD T. LOGAN, *Editor*
HENRY A. CONVERSE, *Business Manager*
CLYDE P. SHORTS, *Circulation Manager*

ADVISORY BOARD
KATHERINE M. ANTHONY
OTTO F. FREDERIKSON
BESSIE J. LANIER
AMOS M. SHOWALTER

Manuscripts offered for publication from those interested in our state educational problems should be addressed to the editor of THE VIRGINIA TEACHER, State Teachers College, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

EDUCATIONAL COMMENT

THOUGHT FOR THE LUCID INTERVAL

In our public schools we should teach our children what are the real reasons for war, and not exhibit to them only the glamorous and romantic false-face of war, glossing over its hideous selfishness and greed with heroic garnishments.

Such books as Walter Millis's *Road to War* should be made textbooks in all our high schools. When the war fever actually seizes a people the truth cannot be told. Real patriots who always desire peace, are howled down by the mad mob with curses and execrations. Before a people will tolerate being led to the slaughter by their politicians, they must first be made mad. Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad.—THOMAS LOMAX HUNTER, in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

A PROMISING DIGEST FOR TEACHERS

Education Digest, a new publication containing condensations of noteworthy articles taken from the leading professional

and lay publications, has just been issued. Dr. Sidney B. Hall, Superintendent of Public Instruction in Virginia, is one of the fifteen leading educators who are serving as an editorial advisory board.

Similar in format and purpose to the *Reader's Digest*, the new magazine promises the same satisfaction to its professional readers that the latter offers to the general reader. The type-page is attractively designed; its convenient small size which fits into the coat pocket will add to its popularity.

Lawrence W. Prakken is managing editor of the new venture; the editorial offices of the *Education Digest* are in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

WHAT IS A UNIVERSITY?

“ . . . Freedom of inquiry, freedom of discussion, and freedom of teaching—without these a university can not exist. Without these a university becomes a political party or an agency of propaganda. It ceases to be a university. The university exists only to find and to communicate the truth. If it can not do that, it is no longer a university

“I have never been able to find a Red professor. I have met many that were conservative, and some who would admit they were reactionary. I have met some who were not wholly satisfied with present conditions in this country. I have never met one who hoped to improve them through the overthrow of the government by force. The political and economic views of university faculties are those of a fair cross-section of the community. The views of those who are studying social problems are worth listening to, for these men are studying those problems in as unbiased and impartial a fashion as any human being can hope to study them. . . .

“In universities which permit students to study and talk as they please I see no evi-

dence of increasing Redness. The way to make students Red is to suppress them. This policy has never yet failed to have this effect. The vigorous and intelligent student resents the suggestion that he is not capable of considering anything more important than fraternities and football. Most of the college Reds I have heard about have been produced by the frightened and hysterical regulations of the colleges. They are not Reds at all; they are in revolt against being treated like children. . . ."—PRESIDENT ROBERT M. HUTCHINS, University of Chicago.

I AM AMUSED

. . . . I am always amused when people say that we simply cannot afford a \$3,000 salary for a teacher when we can afford a \$10,000 or a \$100,000 salary for a sales manager; cannot afford an elegant school when we can afford a magnificent country club. Of course, we pay for the school directly out of taxes, but we pay for the country club, etc., none the less surely when we buy our food or tractors or gasoline—and also when we sell our wheat or our services. A society, an economic system, which can afford to support steam yachts and superdreadnoughts and bankers and generals and admirals can afford school-houses and school teachers. It is simply a matter of getting the money in the right way, of putting the pressure for funds on the right sources, and of paying for what we want.—HORACE B. ENGLISH, in *Educational Method*.

TWELFTH ANNUAL SOAP SCULPTURE COMPETITION

The annual soap sculpture competitions which have been held under the auspices of the National Soap Sculpture Committee for the past eleven years have attracted thousands of entries each year from artists, art students, and men, women and children of

all ages. During the eleven-year period the quality of the workmanship displayed in the entries is said to have shown consistent improvement and the contests have done much to sponsor interest in soap carving as a national hobby and as an inexpensive medium of artistic expression.

Following the close of the current contest next May, a part or all of the sculptures submitted will be loaned for exhibition in museums, art organizations, schools and other places throughout the United States.

No entry fee is required for the competition, and entries will be classified in four groups according to the age and amateur or professional status of the competitors. Entry blanks and other information concerning the terms of the competition, as well as instruction in soap carving, are obtainable through the National Soap Sculpture Committee, 80 East 11th Street, New York, N. Y.

In addition to prizes offered those in professional and advanced amateur classifications, the competition includes the following prizes applicable to the schools:

Senior (for those 15 years of age and under 21)—First Prize, \$150; Second Prize, \$75; Third Prize, \$50; and Twenty-five Honorable Mentions of \$10 each.

Junior (for those under 15 years of age).—First Prize, \$100; Second Prize, \$50; Third Prize, \$25; and Fifty Honorable Mentions of \$10 each.

If we are to improve our national conduct in respect to lawlessness, we must stop permitting our state and Federal legislatures to pass so many laws, particularly those dealing with small and insignificant acts and happenings, often elevating time-old and really trivial misdemeanors into the more serious rank of felonies. It was Buckle who said that the greatest triumphs in the history of legislation consist in the repeal of previous legislation.—NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER.