

"Culture can no longer imply a knowledge of everything—not even a little knowledge of everything—it must be content with a general knowledge of some things and a real mastery of some small portion of the human store."

Dr. Eliot then asks this question: "What portion or portions of the infinite human store are most proper to the cultivated man?" and answers it by saying: "Those which enable him, with his individual personal qualities, to deal best and sympathize most with nature and with other human beings. It is here that the passion for service must fuse with the passion for knowledge."

Now does it not seem almost self-evident that the student who has studied the principles and problems of sociology "has a better chance of fusing the passion for knowledge with the passion for doing good"—has a better chance of fusing the passion for culture with the passion for service than the student who has neglected to study sociology?

Good citizens attempt to better society and "he is greatest among his fellows who best serves their truest interests." But how can the citizens of to-morrow work toward their ideals? How can they better society—how can they "improve human relations" *unless* they study to find out what present conditions are? The voters of the future must have social knowledge; they must have knowledge concerning actual conditions; they must study the evils as well as proposed remedies; they must know the problems before they can suggest solutions. The practical use of a course in sociology is by no means small, even if we confine the study to elementary problems and measure the value by the strictest of utilitarian rules.

In a few years our students in school and college become voters and have all the duties of citizenship to discharge, and for this reason they should be required to study sociology which will help prepare them for citizenship. Students in school or college may not make great progress in the study of social problems, but a little knowledge may stimulate them to acquire more, and it will certainly give them a deeper interest in the welfare of their country and the well-being of their fellow-citizens. The study of society, contributing as it does a knowledge of complex activities, interests and forces of modern social life, is a good preparation for citizenship.

Sociology will help make the students socially efficient, for, if taught as it should be, it will give the students a sense of awareness of their civic and moral responsibility and the desire and knowledge so they may cooperate intelligently with their fellows in promoting the common welfare. It should contribute to each student's usefulness as well as to each student's happiness. Discussions of social problems will help

students to get more out of life, not only by contributing to the enjoyment of leisure, but also by creating the desire or willingness to share effectively in making others better and happier. Sociology ought to help any citizen to work better with his fellow-men for "the continuous improvement and happiness of his race, his nation, his state and his own immediate community."

Finally to summarize: the study of sociology has real cultural value and it helps prepare the students for effective citizenship. It promotes culture and has practical worth for life because, as already stated, it has a direct bearing on the conduct and problems of life. There are four important things that the study of sociology will do for the student. It will (1) help him to enjoy life; (2) prepare him for duty; (3) give him a desire to participate intelligently in the world's work, and (4) help him to render genuine social service. And what else can the study of sociology give that can in any way compare with a sincere desire to have even a small share in solving some of the problems of civilization?

In conclusion, the thought should be stressed that emphasis should be placed on preparing for service because "service is the highest criterion of the worth of lives. We are learning that, whether in history or romance, the names that shine with the fairest and brightest light and last longest are those that have done most service. The great moments in great lives are those when the supreme choice is to be made between self and the welfare of others, and the best criterion of supreme manhood and womanhood is when the latter prevails. More and more enlightened public opinion is coming to distinguish between those who live and die for themselves and those who live and die by the gospel of helpfulness."¹

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THE DEEPEST HOLE

IN the October 23 issue of *SCIENCE* a correspondent states that the deepest hole ever drilled is the Miley Oil Company's No. 6 well, located at Athens, Los Angeles County, California. I wish to call your attention to the fact that the Peoples Natural Gas Company's well No. 2 on the Booth-Flynn property at McCance, Ligonier township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, was drilled to a depth of 7,756 feet. This is 165 feet deeper than the Miley Oil Company's well and is, I feel quite sure, the deepest hole ever drilled.

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¹ R. A. Mackie, "Education during Adolescence," p. 18, E. P. Dutton & Co., N. Y., 1920.