

"Unquote" will be quite useless to them. Quite! The answers to their problems are not to be found in the old writings, the records of a past which endlessly repeated itself. They face conditions undreamed of in that past. The old thinking is increasing our social deficit every day. They will find it necessary to create their own adaptations to a changed, and still continuously changing world.

Whenever civilizations of the past, qualified only by the thinking of their past, reached such a critical point as this, to discover that they must think their way daringly, novelly, into a changed intellectual, economic, or spiritual order, they failed in the face of that challenge, and swiftly sank into decline. The thinking of the past will not save us now. Somehow we must find fresh inspiration, to face the new day which is upon us. Education confronts again the challenge to which it has never in the past successfully responded.

You who bear the proud title of Educators - I congratulate you on your privilege in days like these - the privilege of writing a new page in the history of inspiring the minds of youth, to develop their own original genius, and originally think their own way through their own problems. It is the privilege of responding painfully and laboriously perhaps to a challenge which will search your very souls, to their deepest foundations! But if you meet that challenge you can say at the end, "I lived through the Great Days in Education!"