

It retains still too many of those abominations - tests and examinations. My whole department's in-service training institute this year was taken over by Northwestern University. Our workers can get University credit for broadening the base of their professional competence, while working on the job as employees of the Park system. Sixty-eight percent of them already have degrees on the college level, but many of the staff of over 300 are working towards Masters or Doctors degrees. All are attending one course which attempts to combine into a working unity, as a practical scientific approach, with special reference to application to our community problems, the three social sciences - Psychology, Sociology, and Education. At the end of our specially adapted Psychology unit this winter, we were subject to a true or false examination. The results convinced me that that form of testing in other than purely factual studies closes the door upon possibility of cultivating any original thinking whatsoever. Those who are our most creative thinkers were conspicuously low in their grades. Our wax plates, on the other hand, set the needle, turned on the phonograph, and gave back just what the lecturer had said, and became thereby the honor students! Here was a premium placed on stupid memorizing - a penalty attached to the forming of independent judgments. Doesn't education today face a challenge to be more concerned than that in cultivating the ability to think for one's self?

As a layman, it seems to me that education ought to do more than it is doing currently in my daughter's case, in an Eastern college. In her senior year there, majoring in Philosophy, she wanted this year to write her honor thesis on the subject of the Philosophy of our current youth movements. Before finishing high school, she went on a Youth Hostel tour of Europe. Before entering College she took another hostelling trip to Japan. She was vastly interested in the attitude toward life of the youth she contacted abroad. Through her college years, she has attended the Youth Congresses, except for the recent one in Washington. She