Utilitarianism demands that our children be spared the useless discipline of the three R's, but instead be given Projects; the theory being that creative work will suggest itself to children left in a room with modeling clay, paints, colored paper, and paste, and told to do whatever they feel like doing. The theory breaks down only when the children feel like throwing the clay at each other or spreading the paste on the Progressive Teacher’s chair. On the whole it is a very wasteful system, because thus we do not bother with culture but learn only Useful Things such as Trades, so that we can earn money. The only error in the picture is that the money thus earned would be more Useful if we had the culture to use that money as a means for a richer and deeper life, instead of the completing of the vicious circle described by the man who digs ditches, so that he can make money, so that he can buy food, so that he can be strong, so that he can dig ditches.

I do not mean to complain. I realize that we live in an enlightened era, in which the common sense of business men is vastly preferred to the uncommon sense of the medieval scholars. But it strikes me that our universities should teach us not how to earn a living, but how to live.

Cicero’s essay on De Senectute may not teach us how to provide for old age, if the work "provide" is taken in its modern financial sense; but in the classically Latin sense of the word, the study of that essay teaches us to look forward to old age as a quiet harbour where the pleasures of friendship and wisdom and recollection have their deepest glow. The beautiful Attic Greek of Plato’s Apology may not teach a man how to make ends meet, but it may teach a man how to meet his end.

Culture, I take it, should add to the size of a man; should give him a deeper understanding and a closer bond with his fellows than he has ever known before. It should give him a place among men, not away from them. It does not mean the accumulation of academic degrees for the purpose of scaring off visitors.

More than ever before, poets and scholars belong with the people, and with the problems of the people. No human problem, however small, is adequately solved unless it is solved with a view to the ultimate problem of human beings, which is the salvation of their souls. Culture belongs, therefore, in the marketplace and in the forum.

For culture should not be a substitute for living intensely; it should be rather a strengthening of faith and a deepening of joy so that a man may live life in its full strength and flavor; so that his days may be full of the exuberance of living in a world in which God made all things and saw that they were good.

Laughter and books and wine are holy things; and living is good; and death is a breathlessness with the whole adventure of finding everywhere the traces of one great beauty and in all men’s eyes the nostalgia for a house not made with hands.

(—By Henry Rago in The Depaulia.)

Kindness; by St. Francis de Sales.

You can catch more flies with a spoonful of honey than with a hundred barrels of vinegar.

Everything in life can be done by gentleness; nothing by force. Rudeness spoils all, closes the heart, envenoms hate and obstinacy.

When you hear anyone spoken ill of, make the accusation doubtful, if you can do so justly; if you cannot, excuse the intention of the party accused; if that cannot be done, express compassion for him or change the topic of conversation; recall the detractor to himself with meekness, and declare some good action of the person in question, if you know any.

Faster Duty Again.

Some there are on the campus and off-campus who have not yet made their Faster Duty. If you know anyone of them help him out with a word of encouragement.