
MORTE D' ARTHUR

— 1 —

If Arthur had lived to grace fair England's throne
Henry would have only clutched his chicken bone;
And justice'd have been without the miscarriage
Of stealing monks' lands to enrich the peerage.

— 2 —

If Catherine's husband hadn't died
She'd never have been his brother's bride,
And Henry might have lived a happier life
With the added advantage of one less wife.

— 3 —

If Catherine's child had been a boy
Would Henry's lust have been o'erruled by joy?
Would there have been an Edward—so falsely led?
And would there have been a Bess to slice off Mary's head?

THE TEACHING PROFESSION

Teaching is the most worthy of the professions because it creates and molds the lives and characters of future citizens. There is no other profession in which men and women engage which more directly and fundamentally serves society and the State. Here is a life characterized by self-sacrifice and patience with immortal souls the material to be fashioned. The career is vital to our country since as the country is educated, so it will live.

In these days of standardization the fashion is to judge things from the angle of quantity, or from the material angle. The most important question seems to be—"How can I make the most money?" Everybody who has listened to the eternal complaints about the inadequate salaries so many teachers receive knows that those who are engaged in the teaching profession are not there for the money they make. The human measure of a life is its income; the Divine measure of a life is its outgo, its overflow, or its contribution to the welfare of all.

But there is a higher appeal which attracts intelligent people to follow the teaching profession and that is the nobility of the calling. The teacher is called upon to pass on to the young the torch of civilization. The teacher has the

most admirable of all opportunities for the development of high character. The eloquent words of Daniel Webster mean more than the orator ever dreamed: "If we work upon marble, it will perish; upon brass, time will efface it; but if we work upon immortal souls, if we imbue them with principles, with the just fear of God and love of our fellowmen, we engrave on those tablets something which will brighten to all Eternity." What does a teacher hope to achieve? Nothing tremendous or sensational. A teacher merely wants to give, to serve, to contribute a little service to humanity, and above all, of course, to attain that everlasting goal all of us strive for — Heaven.

A philosophy of life is important everywhere. In the teaching profession its importance can hardly be exaggerated. A person's philosophy is often called his viewpoint. It is a wonderful thing to be a teacher! If a natural scientist like Thoreau is delighted with his studies of bugs and beetles, or a Burbank is enraptured with his work of transforming desert cactus into an edible fruit; if these and other workers whose names are legion, revel in the love of their work—then what is the teacher's joy who works not with mere fossils, nor with bugs, nor flowers, but with the child, who is at once the most complex, the most plastic, and the most wonderful of all God's creation!

The teaching profession should make us more like Christ, the Divine Teacher. What did He come on earth to do? Doubtless, to suffer and to die, but that was the end of His mission, the completion of His work. First of all, as St. Paul tells us (Titus 11 and 12): "For the grace of God our Saviour hath appeared to all men; instructing us, etc". He came to educate children who were most ignorant, sometime most perverse, and often most ungrateful. To succeed in the arduous profession the teacher must possess certain qualities, and these qualities are best exemplified in the life of Christ. Perhaps the principal qualifications of the teacher are: authority, love, prudence, and unselfishness. At this point, I am reminded of something I read about good teachers. The clipping stated that a good teacher needs:

The education of a college president,
The executive ability of a financier,
The humility of a deacon,
The adaptation of a chameleon,
The hope of an optimist,
The courage of a hero,
The wisdom of a serpent,
The gentleness of a dove,

The patience of Job,
The grace of God, and
The persistence of the devil.

No other profession includes such a wide range of positions and interests. Teaching extends from kindergarten to university, embraces every variety of effort, whether academic, artistic, industrial, commercial, agricultural or professional. I mean by that, that to belong to the teaching profession one is not confined to teaching primary grades or high school grades. Every line of work requires teachers to prepare others for that work. Thus, all other professions depend on the teaching profession.

There is a social instinct in human beings which impels us to share our knowledge with our fellowmen. Wasn't it Cicero that reported the Pythagorean, Archytas, as saying that if a man were to ascend to Heaven and there see the nature of the world and the stars, he would still enjoy naught of his happiness if he had none to whom he could relate the wonders he had beheld? And there is a medieval proverb which says that if you hide your knowledge it will decrease, but it will grow if you spread it abroad.

It is a great stewardship to be entrusted with the training of God's royal family of children during those years on which their after-life almost entirely depends. The reward will be great, both here and hereafter. The Great Teacher Himself has promised that "Whosoever shall give to drink to one of these little ones a cup of cold water, he shall not lose his reward." What then, may they expect who have given not merely a cup of cold water, but have opened to others the streams of knowledge, both human and Divine? We have the answer too. "They that instruct many unto justice shall shine as stars for all Eternity."

SISTER MARGARET MARIE, C.S.M., '58.

AUTOMATION

The subject of automation is one which is being discussed by an ever increasing number of people who are concerned either with the methods used to reduce the high cost of labor, or with the detrimental effects of automation on our industrial society. Because the cost of labor is an important factor in determining the cost of goods to the consumer, and because we are affected in many ways by changes in industry, the subject of automation is not one to