

**LITERATURE IN THE  
SCHOOL: AIMS, METHODS  
AND INTERPRETATIONS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649637058

Literature in the School: Aims, Methods and Interpretations by John S. Welch

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JOHN S. WELCH**

**LITERATURE IN THE  
SCHOOL: AIMS, METHODS  
AND INTERPRETATIONS**



# LITERATURE IN THE SCHOOL

AIMS, METHODS AND INTERPRETATIONS

BY

JOHN S. WELCH

*Formerly Supervisor of Grammar Grades,  
Salt Lake City Public Schools*



SILVER, BURDETT AND COMPANY  
NEW YORK      BOSTON      CHICAGO

✓  
Educ 2240.210



*Verindruiting Haar*

COPYRIGHT, 1910, BY  
SILVER, BURDETT AND COMPANY

**T**O the children of the East and the West who  
have been an inspiration in many a recitation  
this volume is affectionately dedicated.

## PREFACE

THIS book aims to suggest the purpose of literature in the elementary school and to aid the teacher in its presentation. It aims to recognize the problems of the classroom in the teaching of literature, and to give concrete illustrations of the method of teaching particular selections as type studies. It aims, too, to suggest a method of study which may be suggestive of the teaching process in simpler selections for grade work.

The author recognizes fully that all subjects rightly taught, whether cultural or industrial, tend to produce an adaptable, a reliable, an efficient worker; yet in every study one of these aims is more dominant than the others. While literature makes for adaptability and efficiency by setting up ideals of thought and action, and by its demands for concentrated thought and action, its emphasis is primarily upon reliability through its influence on character. Literature of itself will not develop character, but it will set up as ideals the fundamentals upon which character is based.

The pedagogy of the day has for its aim the setting up of great general principles and ideals which must govern and control the work of the teacher. Its defect is that it leaves the teacher who is seeking



aid in solving the specific problems of the classroom in a helpless or confused state of mind. After perusing the available books on pedagogy, the particular problems of literature, geography, history, grammar or arithmetic still remain unsolved. If this volume in any essential way tends to remedy this defect in the realm of literature-teaching, if it suggests a mode of treatment to abler teachers, the author will feel fully compensated, even though his every step be subjected to adverse criticism.

Acknowledgment is herewith made of indebtedness to the many friends of the profession who have encouraged the work; and especially to Col. Francis W. Parker, Orville T. Bright, Mrs. Ella Flagg Young and Dr. Arnold Tompkins for direction, encouragement and inspiration, when, working under their leadership, the possibilities of literature in the elementary school first dawned upon the writer.

For their many helpful suggestions in regard to this book, thanks are due to D. H. Christensen, Superintendent, Salt Lake City Schools; A. C. Nelson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Utah; Professor F. W. Reynolds of the University of Utah; Dr. Henry Suzzallo of Columbia University; and Dr. T. M. Balliet of the University of New York.

The author takes this opportunity to express his indebtedness to Thomas Y. Crowell & Company for permission to quote from "Robin Hood," by T. Walter McSpadden; and to Houghton Mifflin Company for permission to use "The Day is Done,"

"The Challenge of Thor," and "King Robert of Sicily," by Henry W. Longfellow; "The Great Stone Face," by Nathaniel Hawthorne; "Little Red Hen," by Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney; and "The Sandpiper," by Celia Thaxter.

