

# **FUNDAMENTALS OF EDUCATION**

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Fundamentals of education by Boyd H. Bode

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**BOYD H. BODE**

**FUNDAMENTALS  
OF EDUCATION**



**The Modern Teachers' Series**

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BY

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## PREFACE

THE purpose of this volume is to interpret present-day educational problems from the standpoint of pragmatic philosophy. The discussion is centered chiefly on two main topics; viz., the aims or ideals which should be dominant in education, and the nature of the mind or intelligence with which education has to deal. The book is written in the conviction that educational theory and practice have been vitiated by preconceptions which were historically inevitable but which are unjustifiable in the light of modern knowledge. These preconceptions must be eliminated if education is to make its proper contribution towards the enrichment of life and towards making the world safe for democracy. The development during recent years of scientific method in the field of education has brought with it a comparative neglect of the more fundamental issues. For the time being this shift of emphasis towards scientific investigation was probably desirable. Its effect has been to place educational research on a permanent basis. But unless the study of detailed problems is properly correlated with theory, there is serious danger that education will simply become more complicated, and perhaps more mechanical, and not an agency of progress and reform.

In preparing this book I have been under constant and very extensive obligation to the writings of Professor John Dewey. I also owe a great debt to Professor W. C. Bagley, who, through his published works and through personal contact, has been the source of much suggestion and incentive, without which this book would perhaps never have been written.

B. H. B.

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