

**BILL'S SCHOOL AND
MINE: A COLLECTION OF
ESSAYS ON EDUCATION**

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Bill's School and Mine: A Collection of Essays on Education by William Suddards Franklin

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WILLIAM SUDDARDS FRANKLIN

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BY

WILLIAM SUDDARDS FRANKLIN



SECOND EDITION

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By Wm. S. FRANKLIN

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There is no frigate like a book
To take one—lands away;
Nor any courser like a page
Of prancing poetry!

Such traverse may the humblest make
Without oppress of toll;
How frugal is the chariot
That bears a human soul!

EMILY DICKINSON.

"The time will come when men will think of nothing but education."

Since the first of August, 1914, this prophecy of Nietzsche's has shaped itself in the author's mind in an altered tense and in an altered mood. 'The time HAS come when men MUST think of nothing but education.' And by education the author does not mean inconsequential bookishness—and neither did Nietzsche!

After sending out the first edition of this book the author received from a business friend a long letter in mild expostulation which showed the business man's interpretation of Nietzsche:—'The time will come when all men will be school teachers and attend County Institutes!'

And a recent attempt by the author and some of his associates to get a group of manufacturers to take an active interest in the educational problems of their community revealed what the manufacturers' interpretation of Nietzsche would be:—'The time will come when all men will be members of School Boards and do nothing whatever but wrangle over the appointment of School Janitors!'

If thinking did not begin with things as they are, every philosopher might be a thinker; and if thinking did in fact end in things as they are, our business men and manufacturers would all be philosophers!

PREFACE

Your attention is called especially to the five short essays, *Play as a Training in Application*, *The Energizing of Play*, *The Discipline of Work*, *The Uses of Hardship*, and *The Public School*. These essays are so compact that a reviewer of the first edition of this book was led to call it A Package of Dynamite.

The greater part of the title essay, *Bill's School and Mine*, was written in 1903, but the title and some of the material of the essay were borrowed from my friend William Allen White. The tall talk which is sprinkled throughout this essay is not intended to be actually fatal in its seemingly murderous quality. Many contented city people in reading this essay need to be prompted after the manner of the legendary cowboy who in a spell of seemingly careless gun-play says to his sophisticated friend, "Smile, d—you, Smile!

The essay, *Part of an Education*, is the meager but imaginative story of a Tramp Trip in the Rockies, and it is introduced here to lead up to the short essay on *The Uses of Hardship*.

The essay, *The Study of Science*, is reprinted

from Franklin and MacNutt's *Mechanics and Heat*, The Macmillan Co., 1910.

The essay, *Education after the War*, is made up mostly of material which has been previously published by Franklin and MacNutt, and by Franklin, MacNutt and Charles.

For the illustrations I am under obligations to my cousin, Mr. Daniel Garber of Philadelphia.

WM. S. FRANKLIN.

October 20, 1916.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>127</i> PAGE
BILL'S SCHOOL AND MINE	1
Play as a Training in Application	23
The Energizing of Play	27
The Discipline of Work	31
PART OF AN EDUCATION	35
The Uses of Hardship	61
The Public School	65
THE STUDY OF SCIENCE	73
EDUCATION AFTER THE WAR	91