

**INDUSTRIAL
EDUCATION IN THE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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Industrial Education in the Elementary School by Percival R. Cole

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PERCIVAL R. COLE

**INDUSTRIAL
EDUCATION IN THE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Riverside Educational Monographs

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PROFESSOR OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION
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**INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION
IN THE ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

BY

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P. R. C.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA,
May, 1914.

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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

THE history of the teaching of manual training is one of the most interesting chapters in the evolution of the elementary school. Manual work was introduced into the curriculum at the beginning of the present period of educational unrest; and, because it had no fixed traditions to hamper its progress, responded most fully to modern educational principles.

When manual training was inaugurated in our schools, the public supposed it was to serve a practical industrial purpose; but the laity had not reckoned with the schoolmaster and school tradition. The teacher proceeded to make manual work a mental discipline rather than a practical utility, — a fallacious distinction long held by his craft. The new study was made into a set of formal exercises, rather than a group of interesting problems. The chief emphasis was laid on the practice of technique. The need of the child to express himself in manual activities that fulfill his desires was completely subordinated if not overlooked. What was worse, — the techniques