

**EDUCATION; A  
SURVEY OF  
TENDENCIES**

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Education; a survey of tendencies by A. M. Williams

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**A. M. WILLIAMS**

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## EDUCATION

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# EDUCATION

A SURVEY OF TENDENCIES

BY

A. M. WILLIAMS, M.A.

UNIV. OF  
CALIFORNIA

GLASGOW  
JAMES MACLEHOSE AND SONS  
PUBLISHERS TO THE UNIVERSITY

1912

## PREFACE

THIS survey of tendencies in educational theory and methods is intended to meet the needs of young students and also offers to the general reader an account of the evolution and nature of a great public service.

The history of education is too apt to be considered as a record of "far-off things" that have little to do with the schools of to-day. It becomes fuller of life and interest when it is viewed as the story of man's attempt to ascertain what is of value and how to relate this to the child mind. So regarded, it is no longer a dusty closet of mouldering and forgotten fads, but a revelation of the pursuit of truth and the desire to preserve it by stamping it on the memory of the young. Hence one purpose of this little book is to bring out the connection between a philosophy of life and a school curriculum.

At the present moment there are conflicting theories—philosophical and educational—and a consequent divergence of opinion and practice in the schools. Some attempt is made to expound and criticise, occasionally to reconcile, the opposing doctrines and their applications; and at the same time to introduce readers to the latest developments of educational thought. One evidence of the ferment in education is the rapid growth



of pedagogical literature, and it is hoped that some guide to this is supplied in the numerous references scattered over the following pages.

It is of supreme importance that ratepayers should form some just conception of what education means, what it can and what it cannot do, and how it can be carried on. Unless they realise that education is "the foundation of every State," they will be indifferent to it and they will grudge to pay for it. This book has been written in order to show the need of education to a true national life and its claims upon the interest and the support of citizens.

GLASGOW,  
*26th August, 1912.*

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