

Comment by the Editor

PLUS ULTRA

A tremendously important part of living matter consists of things botanical. But botany may be more than the study of plants. In the hands of a master it may symbolize the whole design of life. Truth and beauty are on display for those who have the eyes to see.

It is the function of science to reveal the truth. He who would discover the secrets of nature must search widely, look closely, and doubt appearances. But science should be more than applied skepticism. To the man of purpose it is a vehicle for augmenting the useful knowledge of mankind.

Yet all the world may be surfeited with information and not be educated. Of what value are facts if only the few can comprehend their meaning? Schools should do more than disseminate knowledge. Teaching is more than instruction.

The true educator is a scholar by nature, a leader of thought, a guide in the difficult quest for refinement. Culture is the evidence of civilization: it is achievement in the fine art of living.

In a civilized community the character of a gentleman is a pearl beyond price. To be con-

siderate of others, to cherish friendship, to be courteous always are the surest tests of proper conduct. "For the lack of good manners," wrote Dr. Macbride, "absolutely nothing can ever atone", for "courtesy is the delight of life, it is the glow of sunlight on fields of ripening grain, and goes on forever, adding to wealth the element of abiding beauty."

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