

DEWEY, John, 1859- Vermont native. Univ. Vt.: A.B., 1879; LL.D., 1911. Hopkins, Ph.D., 1884. Peking, hon. Ph.D., 1920. LL.D.; Wis., 1904; Mich., 1913; Hopkins, 1915; Ill. ~~and~~ ~~Galaxy~~ Col., 1917; Columbia, 1929; Paris, 1930; Harvard, 1932. Col. and univ. teacher in Mich., Minn., Ill., and N.Y., 1884-1930. Emeritus prof. philos., Columbia Univ., 1930- Eminent authority, worldwide, in education, logic, social psycholog~~y~~, and social philosophy.

Heard and heeded Spencer's call for "more science and less literature in education." Had "no great regard for the cultural aims of leisure class education." Believed "scholastic aims make for snob-bishness." With aid of his wife, his children, and others, including Ella Flagg Young whom he described as "the wisest person about actual schools he ever saw," started his "Experimental and Laboratory School" while in the Univ. Chicago School of Education, prior to 1904. "His idea was that life in school ought to be enough like life outside so that an interest in knowledge will arise in the child's mind as it did in the mind of the race -- spontaneously." He believed "the truth of an idea is in its practical effect;" and at one stage he himself raised eggs and vegetables and sold them to neighbors for money enough "to pay for his keep," in order to preserve his "contact with reality." Accordingly, he held that "the teaching of science should not be book learning, but should come to the pupil through actual participation in useful employment;" and as to education for all, "there is no reason," he held, "why it should stop before death." For the young his doctrine ~~was~~ has been: "In an industrial ~~community~~ society the school should be a miniature workshop in a miniature community; it should teach through practice, through trial and error, the arts and disciplines necessary for economic and social organizations."

John Dewey's University of Paris citation in 1930 declared him to be "..... the most profound and complete expression of American genius." His beneficiaries in education for agricultural careers are legion. These and fuller details in A. K. Getman article, above; and in "Heroes I Have Known" by Max Eastman, 1942, Simon and Schuster, pp. 275-331. -- R. W. Stimson.

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Dewey/John