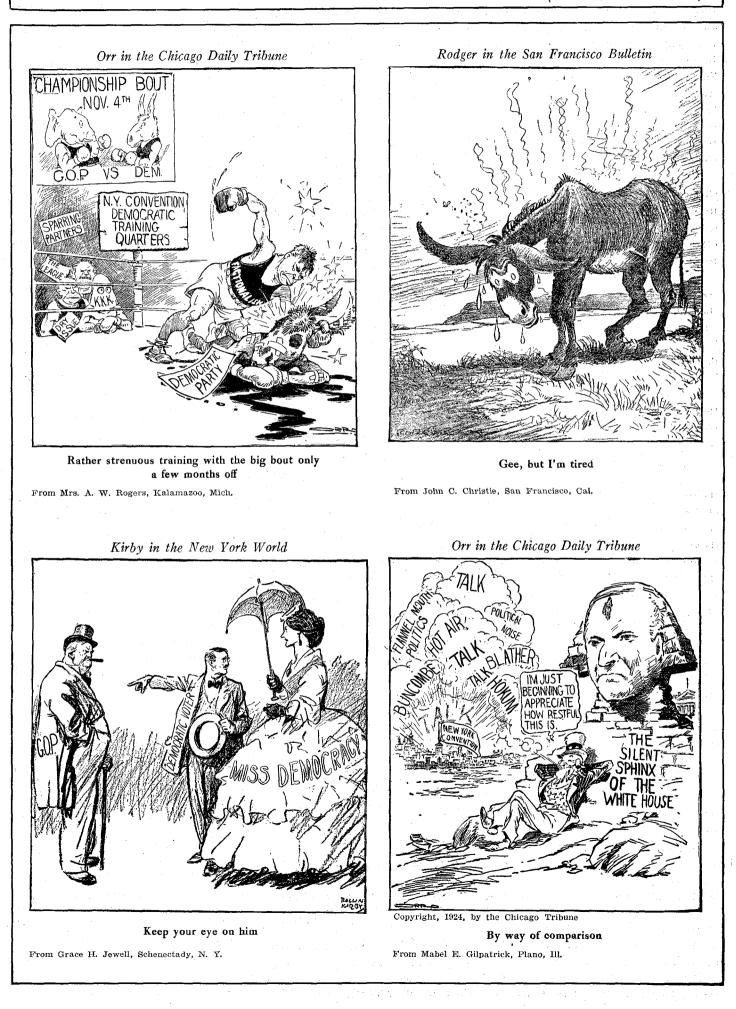
The rest untold: Sir, lead the way

(Pericles, Act V, Scene 3)



PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED spondent, Mr. McAlister Coleman, and an editorial on its nominee.

Alvey Augustus Adee

A MERICA, perhaps the world, lost its greatest master of diplomatic technique when Alvey A. Adee died. He had been for fifty-four years continuously in the diplomatic service of the United States. For a few years he was in diplomatic posts abroad. For more than forty-five years he had been in the State Department in Washington, occupying the position of Assistant Secretary during the greater part of the time, and was the Department's recognized authority on diplomatic communication. In many a crisis, Secretaries of State and Presidents turned to Mr. Adee for the word or phrase that would express the exact shade of meaning necessary to be conveyed. His mastery of the courteous phraseology of international note writing may not have prevented wars, but certainly it many times prevented embarrassing situations and salved irritations.

Mr. Adee belonged to that old school of public servants who loved their work and did more of it than the regulations required. He was eighty-two years old when he died, twelve years past the age for retirement, but he continued in his position, invariably arriving at his office ahead of the official hour.

Mr. Adee held a belief that men grow old because of the sameness of their work. At least he advanced that theory in justification of having two professions of his own. He was an enthusiastic naturalist in certain lines and, out of office hours, made exhaustive scientific investigations. If he had not been indispensable to the Government, he would have made his mark as a biologist.

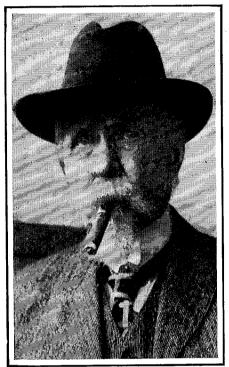
The First Object of Education

O^N July 4 the annual Convention of the National Education Association came to an end, after six days of stimulating discussion. This great meeting of almost ten thousand teachers brought to Washington much less notoriety than New York has been receiving from its disheartening Convention. On the other hand, the potentialities and determinations of the educational Convention are likely to mean as much to the future welfare of America as anything likely to take place in Madison Square Garden, not to speak of the Public Hall at Cleveland.

It is notable that these chosen repre-

sentatives of our vast army of teachers did not waste their time over the whims and sentimental experiments that too many enthusiasts mistake for educational systems. It can be said to the credit of our American teachers that, while very open to suggestions that mean real and solid advancement, and while keenly aware of the serious defects and needs of our schools, they are properly wary of fundamentally unsound policies, however attractively these may sometimes be garbed.

This particular Convention occupied itself with several important measures,



Keystone

Alvey A. Adee, for years the wheel-horse of the State Department

but the most sustained interest was focused upon the idea that the school should be primarily a place for charactertraining, in the broad sense of that term.

On June 29, the opening night, Dr. Edwin Starbuck, of the Iowa State University, placed this subject first among the aims of the public school. He meant, not that children should be put through classroom lessons in "morals," but that they should be taught how to meet everyday responsibilities and make decisions in matters of conduct with the aid of practical examples taken from actual happenings.

On July 4, at the close of the Convention, President Coolidge, leaving the bedside of his dying boy, brought out the same point. "A trained intelligence," said he, "can do much, but there is no substitute for morality, character, and religious convictions. . . . All of our learning, our science, our culture and our arts will be of little avail unless they are supported by high character."

We realize all this is true enough—one of those necessary and invaluable platitudes that deserve and need frequent repetition. But the President touched the fundamental point when he added that "the main factor of every school is the teacher."

The reason for this is familiar to all who have had experience in teaching any form of art, from cooking and golf to sculpture or painting or some form of musical performance. The pupil at the cook-stove or on the golf links or at the easel or with chisel and hammer or at the piano learns most surely by imitation. No number of words can take the place of watching an expert swing his club at the tee. No number of hours spent in learning the physiology of the throat can take the place of following the example of a singer who can produce a pure and expressive tone or a pianist who is master of the keyboard. Like any other art, the art of living can best be learned by imitation. Character is fundamentally the habit of making right decisions and putting them into effect. That is why no teaching in the classroom can be substituted for the teacher's own character and personality. That, too, is why the future of America rests largely upon the humble grade teacher.

Getting Around the World

W^{HILE} the alarums and excursions of Conventions are dulling our ears, the American aviators are slowly but steadily making their way around the world. At this writing they have just reached Charbar, in Persia, after making repairs in Karachi, British India, where their machines were gone over and given new engines. One wonders how much' of the original planes will come back to the United States. Certainly they have left a trail of used-up engines behind them.

Meanwhile A. Stuart MacLaren, the British aviator, has reached Kasumigaura, Japan, and in several days will continue his trip. As the Americans expect to leave Hull, England, for the United States on August 1, the Englishman has still time to make a close race of it, weather and the fates permitting.

Interesting as it is to make such a world circuit, it is certain that no globecircling records will be broken. Magel-