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GOOD TASTE.

When we list the things which go to make up character, we do not always include GOOD TASTE, yet it is most important.

We may have intelligence, honesty, friendliness, efficiency, forcefulness, cooperativeness. but if we lack good taste in the use of all these qualities, they lose their value.

Mandy was a young colored servant much admired by one Rastus. But Mandy did not care for Rastus. A mutual friend, after extolling the virtues of Rastus, asked, "Mandy, why dont you like Rastus?" And Mandy replied, "Cause I jest ain't got no taste fer him." Many young people in school, like Mandy, lack taste for the best things, so we say they lack good taste.

What is good taste? First what is taste? "Taste is style or form with respect to what is appropriate or esthetically pleasing;" again, "Taste is style or form with respect to what is in accordance with the rules of propriety, etiquette. etc."

Take good taste in selecting and wearing one's clothes. A student neatly and appropriately dressed is we say, dressed in good taste.

Catherine E. Beecher, in her "Domestic Economy" tells what good taste is by defining bad taste. She says, "Any mode of dress, not suited to the employment, the season, or the means of the wearer, is in bad taste."

Our hearts are filled with pity for a poor working girl who wears a fur coat entirely beyond her means, or for a woman who wears a velvet evening dress to a Fourth of July picnic.

Here is a good definition-good taste is correct judgement or SENSE in regard to propriety. Good taste then is knowing the correct thing to do. To be taught the correct uses of the various forks and dishes gives a young person poise of manner in entertaining or being entertained.

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But our chief concern is, of course, teaching good taste to the young people in our schools. There are a number of ways to accomplish this.

First and foremost, let the teacher be an example of good taste in her personal appearance, in her manner of dealing with students, in her speech always and always, remembering that to speak coarsely, or in a way to hurt another is never in good taste.

Second, let there be frequent mention of good taste by teachers, officers of our board, and other interested persons, explaining it and comparing it with poor taste, giving examples.

Third, in all school activities, let good taste be brought out in every possible way. For example, in athletics, let the parents and teachers mention that good sportsmanship is merely good taste.

Fourth, let us ask for good peppy speakers from outside to give talks on good taste.

Fifth, let us teach lessons about good taste along with other lessons in the class room. We could bring in good taste in dress, manners, speech, ~~and~~ entertaining, in decorating our homes. In this last we should be benefitted by courses in home decoration, but we can learn also from good magazines, and from pictures...always remembering that while some people are born with good taste, others must acquire it.

Sixth, in any class or recitation, if there be an example of good taste or it's opposite. call the students attention to it.

In our homes the ways of teaching good taste are legion.

Seventh, let us as parents and teachers remember that all elements of noble character are from WITHIN. they cannot be tacked on from the outside. let us cultivate our inner lives. In order to inculcate the beautiful characteristic of good taste in the lives of our young people let us

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LOOK INSIDE.

" Some folks in looks take so much pride,
They don't think much of what's inside.
Well, as for me, I know my face
Can ne'er be made a thing of grace.
And so I rather think I'll see
How I can fix the INSIDE o' me
So folks'll say, "He loks like sin
But ain't he BEAUTIFUL WITHIN ! "