

Extending Education

PUBLISHED BY NATIONAL CAMP, LIFE CAMPS, INC.

VOLUME III

MAY, 1946

NUMBER 2

THE MODERN MALADY

by WALTER LIPPMANN*

ALL over the world, but most particularly in the countries where civilization is supposed to be most advanced, there are collected in great cities huge masses of people who have lost their roots in the earth beneath them and their knowledge of the fixed stars in the heavens above them. They are the crowds that drift with all the winds that blow, and are caught up at last in the great hurricane.

They are the people who eat but no longer know their food is grown, who work and no longer see what they help to produce, who hear all the latest news and all the latest opinions but have no philosophy by which they can distinguish the true from the false, the credible from the incredible, the good from the bad. Is it so surprising that as civilization has become more streamlined, democracy has become more unworkable?

For these masses without roots, these crowds without convictions, are the spiritual prole-



tariat of the modern age, and the eruption of their volcanic and hysterical energy is the revolution that is shaking the world. They are the chaos in which new Caesars are born.

... This feeling, which pervades the great urban centers, that all things are relative and impermanent and of no real importance, is merely the reflection of their own separation from the elementary experiences of humanity. ...

*Reprinted through the courtesy of the *New York Herald-Tribune*.

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

It is the purpose of *Extending Education* to describe significant new developments in the field of camping and outdoor education. It is hoped that by doing this more and more educators will come to believe in the outdoors as a place where vital educational experiences can be provided. It is hoped too, that as more communities actually conduct education programs in the outdoors, new methods will emerge to meet the practical problems that arise.

In this issue we have attempted to bring together bits of information from various parts of the country about

interesting steps that are being taken to bring American education closer to reality. There is no claim that the treatment here is complete. It is simply a brief summary of events in the passing scene as we have noted them. For a more detailed description of school camping in action see the March, 1946 issue of *Extending Education* which describes the programs near Battle Creek and Kalamazoo, Michigan, sponsored jointly by public education agencies and the Kellogg Foundation. Others are invited to send information about interesting and significant programs that may have escaped our attention up to date. E.D.P.