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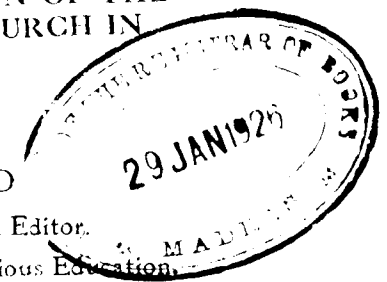
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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Christian Education

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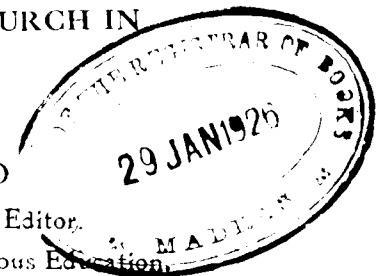
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The Shoemaker

Why wear shoes ?

Do they have to be made of leather ?

(No; wooden ones protect from germs.)

How are leather ones made? By whom ?

From where does he get the leather ?

How is it prepared ? By whom ? Where ?

How long does it take in preparation ?

What tools are necessary ?

Of what are they made ?

About how much does it cost to make a leather shoe ?

How does the cost price compare with the selling price ?

Will you wear wooden shoes, or leather shoes, or go without shoes ?

What other things are made from leather ?



IRRIGATION

Christian Education

Bringing the Village into the School

F. G. WILLIAMS, ASANSOL.

I WONDER what a boy's mental reactions are when he is taken away from his village home, away from his father and mother, away from all familiar surroundings, and placed in a big brick building in common housing with many other boys. He finds himself pushed into a routine, rushed along with the crowd into study where strange things are placed before him, and then into four hours of class work where masters talk of things which have no relation to the life he is accustomed to. The house he lives in would be a palace if placed along side his own father's home. After spending ten months in this environment, he returns for two months' vacation to his father's home. With each year he is weaned away more and more from the village life into which he will return to be an asset or a liability to the community. Boarding schools are a necessary evil—we must have them because we have not the funds, nor would it be possible or practicable to place institutions of higher educational grade within walking distance of the homes of our Christian communities. But there should be some way to keep the boy in close practical touch with village life while he is in school so that when he returns and establishes his own home, he will be able to take a leading place in the affairs of the community. Along with lessons of arithmetic, language, history, and geography he should have experience in lessons of sanitation, home making, vegetable and flower gardening, handling of money, including saving and buying, practice in the intricacies of the Postal system, etc., etc. These lessons cannot be taught him from books—they must be made a part of his natural life. If they are thus unconsciously impressed upon him until they become habits of attitude and conduct, they will remain with him throughout life.

Irrigation

Have you ever seen a canal?

What work does it do?

How does man use its help?

If you were to start a little wooden boat to floating down a canal, and it were never to sink, where might you find it some day?

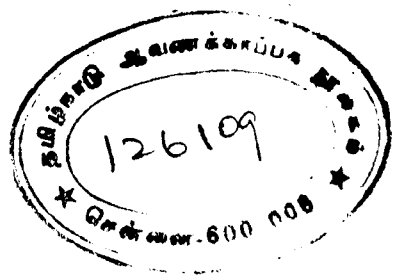
(In the smallest, poorest field farthest away from the canal.)

How would it have reached there?

When there is no canal nearby, from where do the farmers obtain water for their fields?

How is it carried to them?

Of what great service to India is this system of irrigation?



THE SHOEMAKER

rotation. Each house has a picture plan of the garden as it is to be planted each of the three seasons of the year—just how many lines of each vegetable, how far the lines should be apart, and so forth. A prize of five rupees is given to the home which at the end of the season has sold into the Boarding Department of the school the most vegetables, and also has kept its garden the cleanest throughout the season. The boys raise their own seeds in so far as possible, and return at the end of the season the amount of seed which they were given.

We have found that the most effective means of keeping the boys up to the mark in cleanliness and general neatness in their homes and about their compounds, is a well-organised daily inspection. This inspection takes place early every morning as a result of which the house gets a red or a black mark on its inspection card as the boys of that house have fulfilled all or failed to fulfil one or more of the following conditions :—

1. Floor swept (no dirt under boxes).
2. Bedding folded piece by piece and hung over pole.
3. Clothes folded neatly over pole or in box.
4. Plates and books on shelf.
5. All windows open unless it is raining.
6. Brooms hung on wall.
7. Beds against wall or out doors at side of house.
8. Lantern clean. Pictures straight.
9. Yard, garden and street clean from grass and weeds.
10. General neatness.

The home must get ALL red marks for the week before it is able to count that week toward a prize. The prizes given are things needed about the house and compound. Following are a few of the prizes which are given and the number of red marks required for each :—

- 1 week of red marks : Pictures for walls, grass sickle, garden fork.
- 2 weeks of red marks : Mora, garden rake.
- 3 weeks of red marks : Kodali, badminton racquet, bucket.
- 4 weeks of red marks : A rope bed.

Most of the houses have earned one or more of each of these prizes. Their walls are adorned with good pictures cut from magazines and mounted on stiff cardboard, and the boys have learned how and where to hang them to the best advantage.

