

FROEBEL INSTITUTE,

COLET GARDENS,

WEST KENSINGTON, W.

May, 1917.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

The Executive Committee of the Fröbel Educational Institute desire to inform you that they hope before long to introduce gradually certain educational developments into the School.

The Committee are anxious that the School should continue to put into practice those fundamental principles of education for which the Institute was founded twenty-three years ago, and which, since the war began, have become more generally recognised and advocated. The Committee are keen that the School should not only continue to keep abreast of the important developments which are taking place in the educational world at large, but should itself take a part in solving the educational problems which are before the Country at the present time.

The Education Reform Council, which has lately been established to help in the great work of educational reconstruction, states its aim as follows:—

“To widen educational opportunity; to train all for work and leisure; to utilize more effectively national resources, human and material; to fit the growing generation for the service of home, society and the State; to admit all to the quest of goodness, truth and beauty; to make better citizens.”

The Committee are in full accord with the above aim, but they would also desire to add and to emphasize the importance of *spiritual* growth in the development of humanity. Thus the programme of the Institute, like that of the Education Reform Council is confessedly a large one; any attempt to carry it out must necessarily involve considerable research and experiment.

Under the able and devoted direction of Miss YELLAND, the Demonstration School increased and developed most satisfactorily. It cannot continue to increase numerically, unless its accommodation can be extended, but it can still serve an important purpose not only in giving those children who actually attend the School a sound education, but (in close conjunction with the other departments of the Institute) in becoming more and more a centre for educational research and experiment in the educational world as a whole.

Concurrently with this indication of developments in the work of the School, the Committee have also to announce certain changes in the staff. Miss WIGG has resigned

the post of Head Mistress, and the Committee have appointed to that office Miss JANET THOMSON, a certificated student in Honours of Somerville College, Oxford. Miss THOMSON was a student, and is now a Lecturer in History, at the Training College of the Institute. She is keenly interested in educational development and research, and the Committee have every confidence that, under her leadership, the School will continue to prosper and to progress. They are also particularly glad to state that Miss WIGG will remain a member of the Staff, and the children will thus continue to benefit by her admirable teaching and no less admirable influence. Parents as well as Committee have every reason to be deeply grateful to Miss WIGG for her most unselfish devotion to the children and to the School for the last fifteen years, and, perhaps, most of all, during this last year of difficulty and of sadness.

Miss THOMSON will enter upon her new post as Head Mistress at the opening of the next School year in September.

The parents of the youngest children (in the Kindergarten Department) will probably be glad to learn that the Committee have purchased a revolving Garden Shelter, so that the children can spend practically the whole morning in the open air during the warm weather. After the long winter it seems more than ever desirable that the children should have as much fresh air and sunshine as possible. The Shelter will facilitate matters in this direction, while it will enable the various Kindergarten activities to be carried on on the usual lines.

The Committee trust that the parents will approve of the proposed developments, and will continue to assist the School in the future, as they have always done in the past, with their hearty co-operation.

I am,

Dear Sir, or Madam,

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM MATHER, *Chairman.*

C. G. MONTEFOIRE, *Treasurer.*

A. G. SYMONDS, *Secretary.*