

# Intellectual Integrity

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Although I am responsible for the title of the paper I have the honor to read this evening, it is not satisfactory to me. I have only used it because I have failed to find two other words which express equally well my idea. Phrases like intellectual integrity long in use, cease to have any sparkle or prickle to them. They become staid and dignified; they do not prick the mind to action. *However my matter has the quality of title-Platitude* What I really want to call your attention to is the difficulty and the importance of getting at the bottom thought in one's mind. Usually all that we get or give is the top of the mind. Now the top of the mind is filled with the affairs of the day, whipped into more or less of froth by the winds of opinion which blow around us. Its contents must be settled before it is of much value. But all that the most of us ever get from the mind is this top layer. *Artificially inflated by the moral & intellectual left equally.* All that we are familiar with ourselves in our minds is the top layer. We become so accustomed to drawing from this, that we accept it as the real thing. *Even we are* frankly bored if anybody attempts to descend below the surface, nor do we attempt to do so ourselves, and yet I take it that we are all agreed that the most essential thing in human intercourse is giving the real thing that is in the mind, without evasion, coloring or deception, and that if we could do this we would avoid the bulk of our mistakes, not to say crimes. We would increase our mental efficiency and consequently our achievements, and we would wipe out the bulk of suspicions and misconstructions which torment and hamper us.

~~If one is to train his mind to give out what is really in it, that is, if he is to get at the bottom thought,~~









