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ABOUT SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Lessons are to be learned in school, not from books alone. There are principles to be taught which far outweigh the knowledge written in the text books.

And for this reason the profession of teaching is, and should be, an honorable profession. The teacher should be a person who, above every other consideration, tries to set an example in fair dealing and devotion to the time-honored principles of right.

Among those principles none are more deeply imbedded in the hearts of the people than the observance of the obligations of a contract. The people so highly regard the duty of a person to perform the obligations of every contract that there has been written in the fundamental law of every state in the union, as well as in the Federal Constitution, a provision that no law may be passed which impairs the obligations of a contract. Right thinking people everywhere look to the obligations of their promises as pledges which must not be broken.

And this is as it should be, and there is no place, except at home, amongst one's own children, where the duty to observe these obligations should be more consistently and persistently taught than in the school-room by those who profess to teach.

But it is not always so. There has grown up among those persons following the profession in this state, or we should say among some of them, the idea that a contract to teach in a certain school, for a certain term, at a fixed salary, while binding on the Board of Trustees making the contract of employment, is not so binding on the person of the other part, and that he, or she, as the case may be, may under the term "resign" violate the obligations of a contract deliberately entered into, when better pay, more congenial surroundings, or other advantages are offered elsewhere.

It is no excuse for this practice to say that the person looks on the position as an elective office because it does not partake of the qualities of an elective office. It is true that teachers are selected by ballot, but every teacher in the land knows, or should know, that the trustees of a school district represent the district, and that when a position is offered a teacher it is an offer to make a contract of employment, and when the proffered contract is accepted, it becomes binding on both parties, and may be avoided only with the consent of both parties or on such grounds as render other contracts voidable.

And every school teacher in the land knows that teachers are selected to teach in the public schools of the state, and contracts of employment made, early in the season in order that proper talent and experienced teachers may be secured, and that the affairs of the school district must suffer when thirty, sixty, or even ninety days before a school term begins, a teacher "resigns."

There is an evil to be corrected. There is an association of teachers in this state. The number of resignations in the Abbeville schools since the contracts were made several months ago should warn the members of the association that the schools of the state are likely to suffer from other causes than a want of taxes and tuition fees. If the teachers of the state want the profession given that high standing in the community which it should have they will take measures to see that those who profess to teach first learn themselves the obligations of a solemn agreement, and that after accepting a position in one school it is highly dishonorable and unethical to seek employment elsewhere, with the idea of holding on to what you have as long as it is expedient or profitable, but of turning it loose the moment something better is offered.

If the school teachers' association is not in itself able to correct the evil practice above referred to, the State Board of Education, by the adoption of proper rules and regu-

lations, or by seeking legislation on the subject, should make it impossible for a person to have employment as a teacher of the youth of the land who does not regard the obligations of a contract.

A FAITHFUL SERVANT.

The state of South Carolina has not had a more faithful nor a more competent public servant in this generation than Insurance Commissioner McMaster, and the people of the state who wish to see public office administered as if it were in fact a public trust will regret his decision to resign his important office. But the state cannot expect men of the ability of F. H. McMaster to continue forever in public office unless it is willing to pay for the faithful performance of duty.

F. C. ROBINSON, CANDIDATE.

If we are, in fact, to lose the services of Insurance Commissioner McMaster, and if the people of the state want a man of his ability, integrity and high character as his successor, they may secure him in the person of Frank C. Robinson, of McCormick.

Mr. Robinson served for several sessions in the legislature from Abbeville County. Upon the formation of McCormick County he was elected its first senator. He has made a faithful and a painstaking public official, and his colleagues in the two houses of the General Assembly early recognized him as a man of great ability.

Mr. Robinson has had experience as a banker and business man which fits him to manage a business office such as that of Insurance Commissioner. We hope that he may be elected.

OFFICER SURPLUS IN RE-ORGANIZATION

Many Officers Must Be Re-assigned Under the New Organization Plans.

Reorganization of the various units at Camp Sevier has left a surplus of many officers, and divisional headquarters has been busy for several days in the assignments of those left over. Under the new plan, there are to be nearly double the number of men in each company, 125 to infantry, and this will occasion the merging of many pairs of companies into one. The war department made provision for a senior and junior captain in each company, which will satisfactorily dispose of the chief commanders, but there will be an extra amount of lieutenants, majors and colonels. Exactly what disposition is to be made of them is not yet known.

Under the reorganization there are practically no company memories and traditions left. The units have been linked together at random and will soon be filled in with men of the conscripted army. Familiar names, such as the "Butler Guards," have been swept away and numerical ordinations substituted. Hereafter it will be impracticable to address mail to company names, but each parcel must be sent to the unit of which the one wanted is a member, such as the "120th infantry," etc.

The First South Carolina regiment men are finding it hard to get accustomed to their home in the wilderness after having occupied the peer of the camsites for more than a month. They are finding the tales of chiggers, scorpions, briars, underbrush and hard work which the Tennesseans formerly told, to be absolutely true, and are besides, missing the companionship of many visitors who are unable to find them in their isolated location. However, they are very much pleased over their companions in the 59th infantry brigade, the Third Tennessee men.—The Greenville News.

IT PAYS TO BE COURTEOUS.

The cheapest thing in this world is courtesy, and yet it pays bigger dividends than any other investment you can make. Take the boy or girl, for instance, whom you meet on the street. If they speak pleasantly, you will soon learn to have a good opinion of them and you will go out of your way to do them a favor. Not only that, but you will take occasion when their names are mentioned in your hearing, to say, "Yes, he is a nice boy," or "she is a nice, clever girl."

On the other hand, take a boy or girl, whom you meet on the street, although you have known them all their lives, and they do not speak, would you go out of your way to do either of them a favor? Would you speak pleasantly of them and say that he is a clever boy or that she is a nice girl? You would not, but you would say that such a boy or such a girl is lacking in intelligence, and, instead of helping them, if opportunity afforded, you would ignore them or advise against trust being

placed in them. We know of no better asset for a store than courteous clerks. A man will walk blocks to be waited on by polite and gentle salesmen and sales ladies rather than be waited upon by surly and sour looking clerks who treat you as if you did nothing more than your duty when you came into the store to purchase goods. It is a compliment to a merchant when a customer comes into his store to purchase goods which he could get elsewhere, and the merchant should appreciate the compliment enough to say, "thank you, come again."

We are dealing with this subject in a general way, and have no particular person in mind, but we will give you this advice free gratis, Mr. Merchant, if you have any clerks who are not polite to the trade, whether man or woman, the quicker you get rid of them the better will it be for your business. If you don't believe this, the first time a stranger comes into your store be impolite to him, and then shadow him and see what he will say about you to the first man he meets with whom he discusses the matter.

THE RUSSIAN SOLDIERS.

Impressions of the Soldiers at Close Range.

(By Sergeant P. T. Randolph, Orderly to General Hugh L. Scott, U. S. Chief of Staff.)

I liked the Russian soldiers and I believe they liked me. Everywhere I went I was Amerikanski, the American. Often I found fellows in the army who had been in this country and who could talk and understand a little English. A bunch of soldiers would gather around and we would have a talk. They are big fellows most of them and simple as children.

The first question they asked was usually how much pay I got. I always dodged that. You see my pay translated from dollars into roubles would sound very big to them.

The next question would be about our grub. Well, American army chow is the best in the world, but I did not feel like telling chaps whose main food is black bread and tea that, so I would hedge and tell them our food was about like theirs.

Really the Russian does less grumbling than any soldier I ever saw. But the Russian is not strong on saluting. Russian soldier trembled when he saw an officer. They don't tremble any more. They don't salute either. But I believe they are realizing the value of discipline because at the front they fought in unison.

One of Russia's chief troubles has been the work of German spies. They swarm at the front and in Petrograd. They must be spending millions.

The Russians seemed to have all the troops and arms they needed. I saw many English and French officers at the front teaching the men how to use artillery. I believe we can help best by sending men over to take charge of and run their railroads as well as rebuild them.

The Russians were surprised when I told them we were sending troops to France and our ships were already helping to fight the submarines.

You should have seen them crowd around my general. He would talk to them like a father speaking to a bunch of big boys. He would tell them America was with them and how glad we were they were free and how liberty was worth fighting for. And then all these fellows would throw their hats up in the air and cheer for the good Amerikanski general.

He wanted to see some of the fighting in Galicia beyond Tarnopol. Russian officers said there was danger, but my general said he did not mind that, he wanted to see the troops in action. You should have seen him smile when the Russians went over the top and charged and won and sent back Austrian prisoners.

Many thousand prisoners were taken in that campaign and as they marched past my general they could see he was not a Russian. Prisoner after prisoner as he went by, threw his hand up to salute.

The Russians do not seem to hate the Austrians. I saw Russians slip them "smokes" and black bread. As I went over to talk to the prisoners, one of them saw my uniform and said, "Hello, American." It turned out he had lived in this country. He was 24 and said he was glad he was captured.

I noticed lots of the prisoners were boys 16 and 17. He told me Austria sent her best troops to resist the Italians, counting on the Russians remaining quiet. So they sent these boys down to the Galician front.

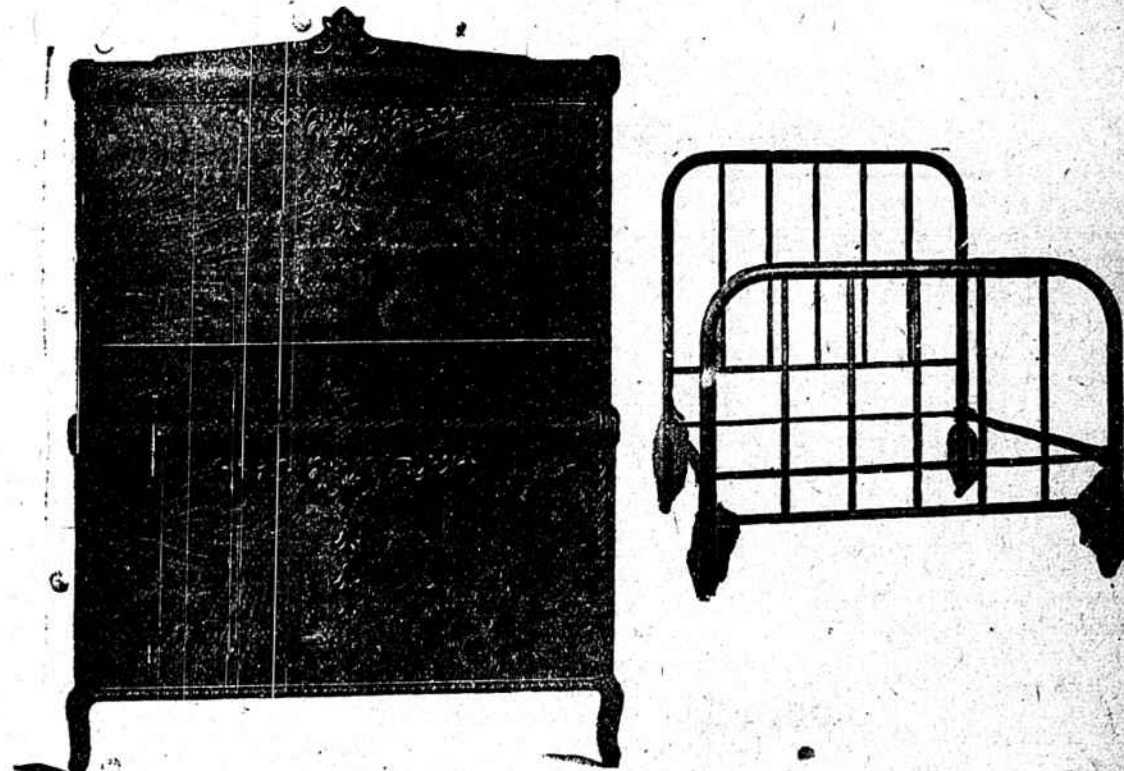
I had a fine time in Russia. We were treated splendidly. One of the trains my general rode on was in part made up of cars the czar's family used to have. The road on the trip was rather monotonous, but they gave us the best they had—cheese, boiled eggs, black bread and tea.

BUY NOW

PAY LATER

THE BED

THE BED is the center and boundary of human life; around it cluster the sentiments of birth, death, of home, and rest, and love; it is the sovereign throne of the night, the greeting place of the dawn, the rich reward of a well-spent day; it soothes pain, calms care, and levels all distinctions in the mystery of sleep; in all time and place a thing of beauty and honor among the creature comforts of mankind.



1-3 OF YOUR LIFE IS SPENT IN BED—THEN WHY NOT HAVE A GOOD ONE. TALK TO US ABOUT IT. LET US HELP YOU HAVE A GOOD ONE. YOURS FOR BEDS,

The Kerr Furniture Co.
 STOVES AND RANGES HOME OUTFITTERS

Cash or Credit

A Little Now--a Little Then

THE MITTENS.

She knits for the soldiers, does Annabel Gray,
 And carries a cute little bag,
 All suffled with rose colored ribbon,
 so gay,
 And adorned with an appliqued flag,
 With a riot of yarn it is always
 stuffed full,
 And every eligible man
 Must help untangle and wind up the
 wool,
 Which is part of fair Annabel's
 plan.
 She knits for the soldiers—a picture,
 behold!
 That would turn any masculine
 head,
 And Cupid discarding his arrows of
 gold
 Has taken to needles instead,
 But Annabel's mittens will always be
 mitts;
 For 'lo! while her beauty be-
 witches,
 The truth must be told that as fast
 as she knits
 She has to unravel the stitches.
 —Minna Irving.

MEASURE PROVIDES DRAFTING OF ALIENS

Washington, Sept. 14.—Drafting of all aliens in the United States, except Germans and others exempt by treaty and those of countries allied with Germany, who have resided in this country one year, is proposed in a joint resolution passed by the senate and sent to the house. It is estimated that more than one million aliens would be affected.

Under the resolution by Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, chairman of the senate military affairs committee subjects of the allies or neutrals claiming treaty exemption, would be allowed to leave the country, within 90 days.

RIOT OF STRIKERS AT KANSAS CITY

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 14.—A riot in which police estimated more than 2,000 packing house employees and their sympathizers participated and in which many shots were fired, took place Wednesday night at Armour & Co.'s plant in Kansas City, Kansas, with the result that one man was fatally injured. Two others were sent to hospitals suffering from injuries,

the extent of which has not been determined.

The chief of police of Kansas City Kansas, announced he would ask the mayor to request that troops be sent to preserve order.

The trouble was the first of a serious nature to break out in connection with the packing house strike, which has been in progress almost a week, resulting in the idleness of several thousand men and the virtual tying up of operators at several of the largest packing establishments in the city.

The disorders occurred when a crowd of strikers assembled before the Armour plant and began "milling" as 600 or more employees who had not joined the strike came out of the gates. Some one threw a brick which struck Ora Wood, a switchman, fracturing his skull. Bricks then were thrown freely, and the shooting began. The six hundred non-strikers sought shelter in the packing house yards, where they remained for more than an hour.

BANDITS LOCK UP THE POLICE FORCE AND ROB BANK AND POSTOFFICE

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 14.—After cutting all wires leading from Sullivan, Mo., 55 miles southeast of here, four automobile bandits early today locked the two town marshals and a telegraph operator in a box car, rode through the town firing guns to make the citizens stay indoors, blew the safe of the People's bank, robbed the postoffice and escaped. News of the raid was telephoned to the St. Louis police, from towns near Sullivan. How much booty was obtained has not been learned.

ONLY 700 AMERICANS ARE NOW IN GERMANY

Berlin, (Via London, Sept. 12.)—Since the breaking off of relations between the United States and Germany, 470 Americans have departed from Germany for home or neutral countries. The census recently compiled by the American Association of Commerce and Trade of Berlin indicated that there were approximately 1,200 Americans in Germany on March 1. The present number will therefore not greatly exceed 700, half of whom are living in Berlin.

Americans continue to be unlofted and are subjected to the same

police rules and travel restrictions as neutrals. Requests for permits to cross the frontiers are granted in the order filed. The routine, however, frequently necessitates a wait of three or four weeks.

SPECIAL SERVICES.

Special services were held in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church last Sabbath. Dr. Moffatt preached in the morning in the interest of the Endowment Fund for Erskine College. He gave an interesting and instructive history of the college and of its services to the church and to the people.

At the night services Dr. Moffatt devoted his talk entirely to the great war, setting forth the causes and the why and wherefore of America entering the war and emphasizing the good that America will derive as a nation and the great good that we will do in the war. The sermon was such, as to stir the patriotism of all those present.

The singing was especially good both at the morning and evening service. In the morning Miss Margie Bradley sang a solo which was greatly enjoyed. At the night service Mrs. Sign and Miss Lillie Clark sang a duet and Mrs. Plaxco a solo. All these have talent and their singing adds much to the services.

A PLEASANT MEETING.

Mrs. Fannie Thomson entertained the Missionary Society of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church at the home of Mrs. J. C. Klugh last Thursday afternoon. The meeting was devoted to the interests of the missions and a special program was enjoyed. Among the especially enjoyable features was a solo by Miss Margie Bradley and a duet by Miss Lillie Clark and Mrs. Gertrude Sign and a reading by Mrs. Plaxco.

An interesting announcement made by the treasurer was that a gift had been made to the society by Mrs. Simpson, the mother of Dr. Simpson, to be given to the Mountain Mission, which is just now engaged in improving its property. Mrs. Simpson is interested in the Seceder church and her gift is much appreciated.

The meeting was pleasant in every way and the society is indebted to Mrs. Thomson for a most helpful afternoon.