

thing before the world. A loving husband and a devoted father. Your little troubles will be magnified by the world if you tell of them. They may be all true but it is not always wise to tell some things, even if they are true. Society is cruel and given to exaggeration. Keep before you the rough but true freighted saying, that it is only a fool who tells all he knows. If there be a skeleton in your home for your own sake and for the sake of everything that is most dear to you, be a true wife, a noble woman and keep the key of the closet hidden in your heart. Let not the world know more of your family life than is strictly necessary. Let your friends see the pleasant side of your domestic circle and they will be influenced. Let them see the dark side, and you work your own injury. None of us are weighted with one ounce more of trouble than we can bear, although we may often consider ourselves over freighted. Others have just as much as ourselves, only they do not show it. Be wise and emulate their example. Well do we know that there are hundreds of wives who suffer untold tortures from ungrateful or unfaithful husbands, and the cross is a hard one to bear. But believe me, it will not always be so. The roughest man has his tenderest spot, and some day, when you least expect it you will find you have touched the main-spring. Nothing so touches a man who has wronged, as a woman's silent patience. A far more powerful weapon is that than angry words or fretful discussions. The latter anger; but a patient exterior a loving indulgence, a faith in man's better self, has turned the heart of many a man, and the magic has not lost its touch.

A wife whose life cannot have been all sunshine, writes the following advice to other married pairs: "Preserve sacredly the privacy of your house, your married state and your heart. With God's help build your own quiet world, not allowing your dearest earthly friend to be the confidant of aught that concerns your domestic peace. Let moments of alienation, if they occur, be healed at once. Never speak of it outside, but to each other confess, and all will come right. Never let the morrow's sun still find you at variance. Renew or review the vow at all temptations, it will do you both good, and thereby your souls will grow together, cemented in that love which is stronger than death, and you will become truly one."

To bring others into your troubles only aggravates matters and never helps them. Peacemakers in families are only trouble brewers. There can be no arbitration between man and wife. No diplomat ever lived who was so skillful that he could come between man and wife to advantage.

There are thousands of medicines that give temporary relief to pain but only a few that cure. A friend may heal a wound temporarily, but it is never so well done or so lasting as when it is healed by the doctor and patient. Give in to your troubles, and they will manifold. Rise above them and they will diminish. Ingratitude, faithlessness in a husband are hard to bear, but there are scores of other troubles in this world. Each has her portion. Let us all try to solve the great question. How shall we bear our share? Cowper says:—"The kindest and happiest pair will find occasion to forbear, and something every day they live, to pity and forgive."

GENA MACFARLANE.

HOW TO BE POPULAR.

Nothing can be more certain than that the happier, the luckier, the better dressed and the gayer you are, the more people will like you. In romance you can throw yourself into people's arms and tell them all your woes; but in real life you cannot do it.

It is not that society does not wish to have miserable people in its wheel, so much as that sad people are out of place there.

A merry voice, a smiling face, a habit of praising the world rather than blaming it, make one acceptable. People who can set others laughing are popular. On the whole no doleful person need to expect sympathy, it is too troublesome. Woe begone folk are not wanted.

Even strong feeling, deep thought or fervid sentiment, are troublesome in society.

Light talk, agreeable chat, subjects that cannot hurt anybody's feelings are desired.

If you can manage to be amusing without being satirical, interested in everything that is said without being personal, and to dress with good taste, even if you are poor, you will be popular.

We are not sure that it is worth while to win what is neither love nor interest, but it is better than to be unpopular.

And in any event the "doldrums" the exhibition of your empty purse broken heart or poor health will be against you.

When you have to be wretched—as, if you own a heart, you must—go away by yourself and cry. If you are poor take your poverty into a dark corner where nobody will see it, and when you can no longer be well, go away and suffer in silence. As a general thing all that people want of you is to amuse them in some way. And if, in all the world, you have one friend who truly sympathizes with you in joy and sorrow—prize her highly, for you have a rarer thing than the Phoenix.

At all events remember that you cannot bemoan yourself and be popular even among your own next of kin.

GENA MACFARLANE.

AN OBJECT LESSON TO RURAL TEACHERS

By W. F. BURNHAM
In The Advance, Arnaud, Man.

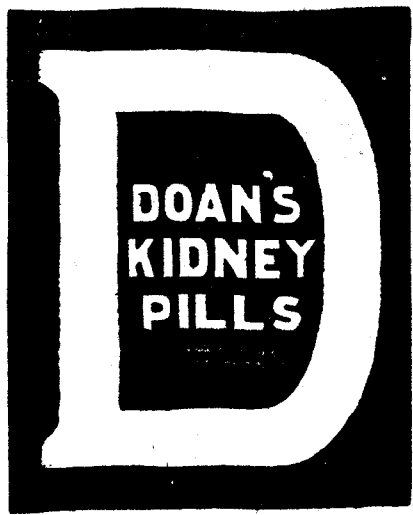
The recent controversy between employer and stenographer, which appeared in the press of Winnipeg, should be a warning to teachers of rural schools, especially in the Province of Manitoba.

You will ask, "Why rural teachers more than their brothers in the towns and cities?" You will read my answer in this article. At present 25 per cent of the scholars attending rural schools have not the remotest idea of Grammar and Composition. It seems to be the hobby of teachers in these schools to grade as high as possible, with utter disregard to qualification.

My experience while teaching in this Province, has been that IV. and V. grades would be more in their element in the II. and III. If a child can read in the III. he can most certainly make a very good attempt at the V., but it does not follow he should be promoted to that grade. In school work a routine of studies should be followed, commencing with standard three, and strictly adhered to, routine to be as follows: viz, Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Dictation, Composition, Grammar, History (especially Canadian history), Geography, a certain amount of Physiology, and last, but not least, letter writing.

When a child has mastered these studies fairly, say Arithmetic as far as vulgar fractions, taking up all practical work from commencement, Grammar as far as the commencement of inflection, and the other studies in proportion; he should be advanced to the IV., and his studies advanced also.

At present the greater majority of children attending these schools can read, write, spell and figure poorly (especially spell). Yet you will find their names on the register as IV. and V. grade pupils. Why is this? Simply because the majority of teachers do not care for junior grade work and have the idea if a child is promoted into a senior grade the parent will say, "oh! my what a good teacher we have." And its only too true. The parents do think just this, and say how well Willie, Jack or Tom is getting on. Why he is in the IV., knows all about decimals, interest and big two story things—(I don't just remember what he calls 'em), and in all probability the poor



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child could not master a practical problem of the II. grade. You will say what has this to do with your subject? This—a very large per cent of the stenographers and clerks in our Province come from the country, and special attention should be given to the studies of Grammar and Composition. The tautological powers of the present scholar in the IV. and V. grades of a rural school are brought most vividly to the front in an attempt at either Composition or letter writing, and it is a disgrace. Where is he to derive his idea of this most important subject if not at school? Nine times out of ten the parents are illiterate, or too careless to take an interest in their children's studies, and no help can be looked for from that source. Then there is the lamentable fact that the majority of children are removed from school at about 16 years of age. They go out to fight life's battle unprepared, but with high flown ideas of their great mental capacities caused by false ideas instilled into their minds by improper educational methods, and they awake to find they know nothing. This should make the rural teacher strive with great effort to overcome this blight on the features of rural education. Commence with the III. grade and instil a good solid business foundation into the child, by perfecting him in all these branches, especially those pertaining to business. Leave drawing, foreign languages, Botany and other rot aside. When this is done there will be no danger of tautology or improper orthography. And the children of our glorious Province (the fairest among the fair), the future mothers and fathers of our western empire, will have no cause to blush, or run the risk of ridicule, from some cantankerous employer, who although a poor dictator may have a thorough knowledge of how work should be done. Teach as you would like to be taught. Do not try the impossible or idiotic process of teaching to read by sound.

You were taught the alphabet and so should the child of to-day.

If your senior grade is the II., better a competent II. than an incompetent III., IV., or V. Bear in mind that you are not teaching for salary alone—it should be of secondary importance, but of course necessary.

There is no time for private correspondence and magazine reading between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. You are not only answerable to the earthly parent, but also to the Divine Father. The child's character is budding day by day and as you mould so will it develop either for the better or the worse.

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