

EDUCATION AS MEANS TO REDUCE OUR FIRE LOSS

People Do Not Realize What
Carelessness May Lead To.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Should be Appealed to When
it is Considered That Sixty-
Five Per Cent. of Fires
Start in the Home.

By W. A. McSWAIN.
Fire Marshal, S. Carolina, read at To-
ronto Convention by G. H.
Anderson.

With the strenuous efforts of individuals, of fire marshals, of fire departments, of states and municipalities, there has been very little reduction in the fire waste of North America. Why? Is this great waste of life and wealth due to the fact that the citizens of the United States and Canada are not awake to the situation, or is it because our citizens are uninformed as to this great loss of life and property? Most certainly the people are awake to the situation! Most certainly every man, woman and child of this great country is deeply interested in every life that is lost and in every dollar that is destroyed by the fires which are occurring every minute of the day and night. What, then, is the reason for the lack of progress in the elimination of fire waste? Is it not due to the fact that so very few persons ever know of these occurrences, due to a large measure to the enormous area of the continent and the lack of proper interest? What proportion of the business men of this country ever read any part of a newspaper except such as refers to his particular hobby or business? What proportion of the busy housekeepers read about fires that destroy the lives of children and reduce to ashes within a few minutes the hard earnings of a lifetime invested in the home that is burned? It has been accurately ascertained that the largest proportion of the fires occurring in this country are due to what we term carelessness, or, to put it in other words, after a fire has occurred we have determined that it could have been prevented by the exercise of due diligence on the part of the owner or occupant.

One of the most striking examples of what may be accomplished in the elimination of fire waste is found in the experience of the United States Government in the housing problem in connection with the World War. Our Government found it necessary to build many communities entirely of frame construction, to be occupied as dwellings and dormitories. These buildings were occupied largely by men from every section of the country. The occupancy of these frame dwelling cities ranged in population from 60,000 men down, and each such building in these cities was equal in hazard to that of a frame hotel. The frame hotel is regarded by fire underwriters as especially hazardous. In many instances insurance companies decline to accept liability on frame hotels, so that we find the Government in this comparison confronted with what is known in underwriting circles as a special hazard. Yet, without automatic sprinklers, and in many known cases without adequate water supply, the actual loss of property in connection with this class of risk has been practically nothing.

What lesson do we learn from this experience of our Government? It is that if there is one agency more active than another in eliminating fire waste it is that of careful and systematic inspection with prompt removal of any condition found to be unsatisfactory. Of course, the Government, by reason of its military organization, was able to exercise a more rigid system than could probably be made effective in civil life; at the same time, it should convince us that this is the agency that we should encourage and emphasize as the most desirable means for curtailing fire waste.

The value of inspections in the matter of eliminating fire waste is further evidenced by the activity of fire marshals in many states and provinces of this continent in inaugurating campaigns for cleaning up and encouraging good housekeeping, but devoting to this work anywhere from one day to one week in the year. Of course, one day a year devoted to this work is better than none, but two days is much better, and one inspection a month highly desirable, while an inspection of his own property by each individual at least once every day is the most desirable of all, and would accomplish the best results. The value of such work is recognized by state and municipal governments in providing and enforcing laws which have for their main purpose the safeguarding of lives and property against the ravages of fire waste, yet all regulations up to the time seem to be lacking in respect to the great importance of frequency in such inspections.

Due to Carelessness.

In looking over the fires occurring in the United States in 1917, we find that 65 p. c. of them started in the homes in the country. In other words out of a total number of 346,896 fires occurring in 1917, the number of fires originating in dwelling houses was 228,021. Now, since we know that so large a proportion of the fires start in the homes of the country, is not this a splendid opportunity to enlist the mothers and children in this great agency of eliminating the fire waste by careful and frequent inspections with prompt removal of any unsatisfactory condition? Can you imagine a more fertile field? If we can arouse the mothers and children and housekeepers of this country to an active campaign against fire waste, it is clear that we will reach 65 p. c. of the places where fires begin. I believe that next to the fireless, the best avenue through which we may reach the mothers and children, is the public schools of the country.

To sum up, there are many active agencies interested in the elimination of the fire waste. These agencies

have been successful in reducing the fire waste to some extent, yet there is need of a much greater, stronger force. Such a force seems to be the arousing of public sentiment to such an extent as will insure the co-operation of every individual in the matter of careful and systematic inspection for the purpose of eliminating careless fires. Such a public sentiment can only come as a result of a careful and systematic educational campaign conducted by those who have been trained in the matter of preventing fires.

SAYS LABOR POLICY IN NATION SHOULD UPHOLD GOOD FAITH

J. H. Tregoe Would Make
Contracts Between Em-
ployer and Employee Invo-
lute.

New York, Sept. 3.—Advocacy of a national labor policy that would compel good faith and honor to contractual relations between employer and employee in which the personal rights to hire and discharge at will or to leave and strike at will would be subordinated to law, is urged by J. H. Tregoe, secretary-treasurer of the National Association of Credit Men, in a letter to members of the organization yesterday.

Mr. Tregoe wrote in part:—
"The right to hire and discharge at will implies the converse, the right to leave and strike at will. Both of these rights, at least up to the present undelimited to the government, are under the control of natural laws and when misused carry a moral injury."

"When organization of either employer or employee is used for autocratic and arbitrary purposes it becomes offensive, and by all reasonable measures should be controlled or suppressed. The strike, in the final analysis, is too frequently the application of an autocratic power with a brutality that offends community life. It always carries its penalties to the community at large, though the latter holds a superior position in public and private enterprises. It places burdens on the innocent and non-offending."

"We cannot permit in this nation of ours, with its ideals and traditions, the domination of personal rights over public welfare and happiness, and therefore we must have a labor policy—a policy not only recognizing but compelling good faith and honor in the contractual relations of employer and employee in which the personal right to hire and discharge at will and to leave and to strike at will are subordinated to law, to the provisions of a medium that with fearlessness and unprejudice will require the observance of contracts and the granting of conditions that spell fair play to all alike and give to them all opportunities for advancement, for comfort, for the culture toward which our best aspirations should tend."

"Let us quit strong-arm methods, autocratic procedure, destruction of property, the breaking of contracts, the violation of good faith, with ignoring of public interests, and get down to the basis where men can and must live right in their social and industrial relations with one another."

Mr. Tregoe's letter touched also upon the question of high prices for commodities, against which the association has declared itself.

DOG DAY.

It was "dog day" in the police court. Nearly two hundred persons were reported for keeping unlicensed dogs. Forty or fifty settled by paying the tax. Many of those who failed to pay appeared in court yesterday. Those who could not give a satisfactory explanation of their failure to conform to the terms of the city by-law paid \$2.50 and settled their cases.

EX-EMPRESS' SCORN

Indignant Speech to a Deputation.

(Daily Express' Correspondent.)
The newspaper "La Suisse" learns from Vienna that the ex-emperor Karl just before leaving for his exile in Switzerland, received a numerous deputation representing the old Austrian regime and the Hungarian magnates, who wished the ex-emperor, who was still hesitating, to remain in Austria.

The conference had lasted for several hours when the ex-empress Zita rose and indignantly said, "Gentlemen, enough. The Hofburg has been a hell to us. You cannot flatter yourselves that you can make us accept the appearance and responsibilities of power of the ancient regime."

"Personally I have been treated with hatred and disdain by persons paid by your clique. Your emissaries insulted me at Salzburg when I was speaking to my children in Italian, my native tongue. I was always a foreigner for you."

Enough! Let the matter remain there. My husband and myself have done our duty, and we have suffered enough."

The ex-empress's spirited speech acted like a bombshell, and the deputation hurriedly departed.

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Reliable stock made to
our order, purchased in
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Big Girls' Kid Laced
Boots, high cut—

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Boots, high cut—

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Misses' Laced and But-
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\$2.50 up.

Boys' Box Calf Laced
Boots, all genuine leather.

Sizes 1 to 5—\$4.00, \$4.25,

\$4.50 up. Sizes 11 to 13,

\$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50.

Boys' Box Kid Laced
Boots, all genuine leather.

Sizes 1 to 5—\$3.25, \$3.85,

\$3.90, \$4.00, \$4.50. Sizes

11 to 2, \$2.25, \$2.75, \$3.25

\$3.35.

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will soon return. It is
the same Shredded
Wheat you have always
eaten - pure, wholesome
and nutritious. The most
food for the least money.
Delicious with sliced
bananas, or other fruit.



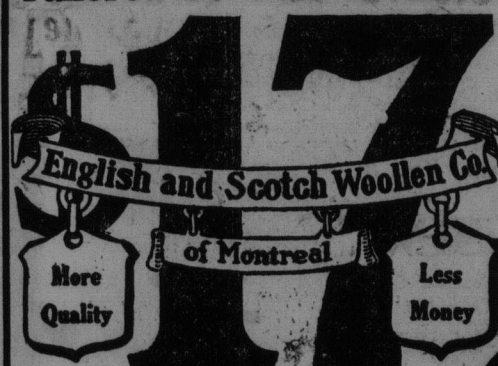
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Select Your Clothes With Greater Care This Fall Have Us Tailor Them To-Your-Measure

EVERY day widens the gap between our custom-tailored, body-graving, individually Made-to-Measure Clothes, and the other kind. This is true not only of style and of tailoring-quality but of the range of selection in colors and patterns. There is a tendency to restrict stocks of woollens, to show fewer patterns than in other years. But the ENGLISH & SCOTCH WOOLLEN CO. follow the opposite course.

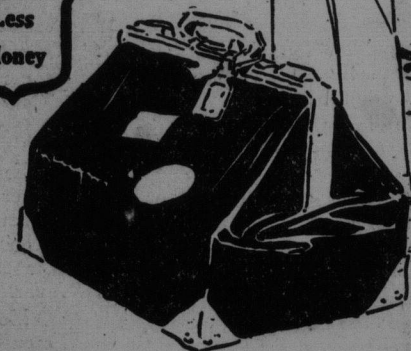
In plain English we are prepared for the men who want individual clothes—the men who want the new shades, the new stripes and mixtures. We believe these men are not going to buy the first patterns they see, but are going to look around until they get what they want. But even here there is a big advantage in placing your order early.

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THERE is no going wrong in our properly Tailored-to-Measure Clothes. Distinctiveness, individuality, personality—these are what count nowadays—we give them to you, not at a prohibitive price, but at standard prices every man can afford to pay. Takes a little longer to complete the garment, but the final result will more than compensate you for these slight sacrifices—you will feel better and look inestimably better in Tailored-to-Measure Clothes. We never slight in Service, we suggest that you leave your order today in one of our 26 Quality Tailor Shops.



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PROBATE COURT.

H. O. McInerney, Judge of Probates, presiding.
In the estate of Mrs. Elizabeth M.

vanwart, wife of Theodore J. W. Vanwart, late of the city of St. John, who died at New York, Jan. 12, 1917, letters of administration were granted to her husband. The estate was pro-

bated at \$2,600 personal. C. H. Ferguson proctor.
In the estate of Miss Catherine Graham, deceased, letters of administration were granted to her brother Peter Graham. T. P. Regan, proctor.

Letters of guardianship of the estates of infants Arthur Puddington and Muriel Puddington to Blanche V. Rathburn, their nearest friend. J. King Kelley, K. C., proctor.