

Correspondence

Favors Municipal School Board

Dear Sir:—I was greatly interested in the letter which appeared in your Correspondence Page signed "A Reformer". I could almost think she was aware of the conditions in the district of which I am resident. I myself am what she terms a deficient trustee and while I may be a little better than some trustees, we are ignorant of school life and almost of school laws. I quite agree with the teacher that the schools should be placed under a Municipal School Board. The present system of forming a school district and electing three men as trustees putting it in their power to borrow money, to erect a school and carry on that school is all wrong, and in my opinion should be dealt with by the Provincial Governments at once. Another question she raises is the teacherage. This is the very problem we are faced with to-day. Our district is a newly formed one and through crop shortage for three years running, there is not a home in the district which I think suitable to accommodate any young lady teacher. I am secretary to the district and I do not think it right to ask any young person to put up with accommodation I should object to had I a daughter a school teacher. If we build a school house, there is a cry of increased taxes or what would be the guarantee that we could hire a teacher that would live there by herself. Being lonely she might be scared at the cry of the coyote or she would have to live very circumspect to avoid the cry of scandal. I would also advocate that all land in the municipality be assessed with school tax and as the need arises new schools be erected. This would also do away with the present system of dealing with children living outside the district. I would not only like to have the views of teachers but would invite other trustees more able than I to give us their opinion on the subject.

A Deficient Trustee.

Lonely in New York

Dear Editor:—I would like to receive letters from some of the girl readers. Everyone knows about New York, but even with all its amusements I am not kept busy and most evenings are lonesome. I am a stenographer and typist and an athlete, being interested in all sports. I am also a bookworm but it becomes monotonous reading one book after another. Will readers kindly send some letters to chase away the blues? The editor has my address.

Brooklynite.

The Family Purse

Dear Editor and Readers:—The letter signed "Fair Play" in the December issue struck me as rather one-sided. She seems to think all husbands are either a little stingy or real thoughtless. They might be and as I have not had the experience of being one of those fortunate or unfortunate beings I will not attempt to say, but I do think the home where the wife doesn't get anything, only her board and perhaps a few clothes (as Fair Play puts it) for her work, would be a poor one and not at all the average and a man who could be so stingy or thoughtless is not worthy of any woman's love. Now, Fair Play, I know of homes where the woman is head and handles the money with as tight a fist as any man could, even argues the necessity of hiring a man to help with the harvest. Should men with wives like this leave their own work to earn a little money which they could spend for themselves without asking their wives. What would their home be like in a short time? I venture to say it would not be a home. Just some place to stay. I think, instead of trying to be independent of each other, they should be more confident with each other and talk things over as husband and wife should, and there should always be a little pin money for both without hurting anyone's pride.

I particularly like the helping sentiment expressed in "Out West Girl's" letter. I think more letters like that and less with dancing first, written all over them, would be better. I have no objection to dancing, but it seems so foolish to put it before all other and better amusements, as some girls and boys do. I am a bachelor and farming a half section of Sunny Alberta and would be pleased to hear from readers in other parts of the Province, particularly from "Out West Girl" if she would care to write. Wishing the editor and readers every success, I will sign myself,

Lover of Home.

Against Municipal School Board

Dear Sir:—Being one of that despicable class, "A Country School Trustee", I was much amused by "Reformer's" letter in your January Number and your correspondent in advocating "Municipal School Boards" as a panacea for the ills we now endure. If Reformer will only think for a minute, a municipal School Board will from the fact that they, maybe none of them, being from a particular School District have as a consequence no interest whatever in that district. Moreover, a municipal board is no new thing. It has been tried in Ontario many years ago and found wanting, even now, so then the present system. That, judged by its results, the present system does not give results, one has only to read the letter of Reformer. I have had a long experience in the Rural School field and looking back in the past note that the trustees and teachers are about on a par as regards an intelligent outlook on life. Of all the number of teachers I have hired or helped to hire, I can at the present moment only recall two who took a real earnest and intelligent outlook on their vocation. The rest, I am not blaming them, in any way, looked upon it as a job, a certain amount of time to be spent in the school a certain amount of progress made by the pupils, for a certain number of dollars. The pupils were taught to read, write and do certain sums and memorize certain facts. They were not taught, but rather stimulated into thinking for themselves. This fact is the cause of much of the present unrest, I might say the cause of the great war. The Hohenzollerns proclaimed themselves as rulers of Germany by Divine Right and without thought, the people of Germany accepted it as a fact. Was it a fact? There can be no persons more interested in the education of their children than the parents of those children. I cheerfully admit that many parents do not take the interest they should, but it stands to reason that they are at least as interested as the casual outsider, and when one sees the effect of the high priced education or rather non-education of some of our Rich Class, it does not seem that education is merely a question of more money spent, of higher educated teachers of consolidated schools, or teachers' residences, but a question of how and where to get teachers who look upon their work as one of the highest importance to the nation and who are qualified by nature and art to fulfil their part. The niggardly uneducated school boards, can at least say with pride perhaps, that their work is at least, as well done as that of our parliaments or Halls of Congress. I am not saying there are no inefficient school boards, but that there are school boards and school boards. In conclusion I hope that the matter is discussed thoroughly by your readers and that it may lead to a little thinking, a state that appears at present not either popular or efficient.

Trustee.

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Solve this Puzzle!



FOR Johnny's birthday his mother presented him with a dandy rifle, and Johnny took the four targets that came with the rifle and went out to the back yard to try his skill. Shortly after, his mother came out to satisfy herself that Johnny knew how to use his gun. Upon examining the targets showing all the holes made by the bullets, and being a quick-thinking woman, she exclaimed: "Why, Johnny, what a good shot you are—and do you know that you have made every target spell a word? Can you tell me what each target spells?"

Can YOU Puzzle It Out? Johnny couldn't, so his mother told him HOW TO DO IT. Each target spells a word. Each circle of eight target shows a number of bullet holes, as you can see by the targets, and each circle represents a letter. The number of holes indicates the position of that letter in the alphabet. For instance: "A" would be represented by one hole, "B" by two holes, "C" by three holes, and so on. After you have worked out all the letters that are represented by the middle circle of first target is "A," because "A" is the first letter of the alphabet. This is not an easy puzzle, but with perseverance you can work it out—and the prizes are worth trying for. Copy your answer upon a plain white sheet of paper as neatly as you can, because neatness, spelling, handwriting and punctuation count if more than one answer is correct. Put your name and address in the top right-hand corner of the paper. If you have to write a letter, or show anything else, put it upon a separate sheet of paper. We will write as soon as your answer is received and tell you if your solution is correct, and also send you a complete illustrated list of the grand prizes that you can win.

THE PRIZES:

First Prize - Genuine Culver Chummy Racer, value.....	\$250.00
Second Prize - Magnificent Gold Watch and Chain, or Girl's Wrist Watch, value.....	25.00
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Fourth Prize - Solid Gold Ring for Boy or Girl, value.....	15.00
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Sixth to Tenth Prize - Self-Filler Fountain Pens, value, each....	2.50

And 2,000 Extra Special Prizes Valued at \$3,000.00.

What Others Have Done, YOU Can Do!

Here are the names of only a few of the boys and girls to whom we have already awarded big prizes:

- Sheridan Pony and Cart—Helen Smith, Edmonton.
- Sheridan Pony—Beatrice Hughes, Hazenmore, Sask.
- \$100.00 Cash—Lyle Benson, Hamilton, Ont.
- \$50.00 Cash—Helen Bensch, Junkins, Alta.
- \$25.00 Cash—Florence Nesbitt, Armpror, Ont.
- \$100.00 Cash—Bryden Foster, Leamington, Ont.
- \$25.00 Eastman Kodak—Frankie Kirby, Three Hills, Alta.
- \$15.00 Bracelet Watch—Mary Procter, Vancouver, B.C.
- \$10.00 Doll and Carriage—Eva Gasson, North Bay, Ont.

We will send you the names of many others too. Only boys and girls under 17 years of age may send answers, and each boy and girl will be required to perform a small service for us.

The contest will close on June 30, 1920, at 5.30 p.m. Send your answers this very evening.

Address: THE PRIZEMAN, Dept. 33
253-259 Spadina Ave. Toronto, Ont.