

enquiries about the family I found that they had sold their farm and moved into town, so that they might give their children a better education.

We found the girls very quiet and shy, and it was hard to get them to feel at home; they would not express themselves at all freely. But it was evident that they were weak in their number work, and it was hard for them to do the work of their classes. Besides this, the younger one came very irregularly for the first week. On the following Monday her teacher got a note saying that the child was very nervous and having been left almost to herself since starting to school she did not want to go to school any more. There was something a little sharp in the note, but the teacher wrote a very wise note in reply. She explained that she had left the little girl very much to herself for the first few days so that she would not feel self-conscious and so that she would join in with the work naturally. She also said that she would give the child all the individual attention possible.

Things went quietly for a week or two, but there came another sharp note complaining of the absurdity of this writing of notes every time a child was late or absent: there was in it as well a few words of thanks for the attention given to her little girl. When I saw this I made a note of it on my visiting list, but my time during the next two weeks was taken up with other visits and I did not call. When the monthly reports were brought back after having been signed there was a note on this little girl's report again complaining of the notes, but more strongly. So I went over that evening after tea.

I went to the back door, for the house was a new one and there was no knob on the front door yet. I was glad, for I always feel more at home when I go in the back.

Soon I was in the sitting room beside the fire chatting away with Mrs. B——. The children were having some fun among themselves in their own quiet way, sometimes stopping to listen to our conversation. There was such a cosy tone in the home that I was at my ease immediately.

As we talked of Minnedosa and their old home in the country we found we had some friends in common and this brought us far more closely in touch. Their teacher out in the country came from Headingly, where I used to teach, and I was quite interested on learning that she was about to be married to the gentleman who was on the B——'s farm. And then we found that Mrs. B—— was related to old friends of ours in Brandon, and that I knew quite a number of the people in North Brandon, where B——'s used to live.

Generally the conversation drifted round to the little girls and the school. I found Mrs. B—— very disappointed in the school here. They had moved into town so as to give the children a better education, and now the children did not like going to school here; they did not like the children here as well as those in the country. Then, too, the style of teaching here was not the same as in the country, and the children were not getting along well and did not like the work; and they did not get as much individual attention from the teacher. I could see that Mrs. B—— was deeply disappointed.

I could appreciate her standpoint, for I had just come from Headingly and had been greatly impressed by marked difference between a two roomed school in the country and a six roomed school in a town. I told her how different I had found it in every way, and especially in connection with notes: that in Headingly I had