

THE EXECUTIVE.

A perfect executive officer, if such a person exist, is described in part as follows:

The mainspring of his life and action is love for his fellow creatures, consideration for whose welfare and both present and future happiness never escapes him.

"Tomorrow" is a word of disaster, "now" is a word of success; but sometimes one must wait with patience and self-sacrifice.

Because of the danger from fire, the loss of time, energy and money, dulling of the best spirit and other considerations, he prohibits the use of tobacco and liquors in his establishment. For similar reasons he prohibits profanity and other foul language.

For all mechanical work he provides drawings and specifications.

He invites suggestions for improvements from every source, even the most humble, and provides means by which they receive full consideration and adoption if worthy.

He holds frequent and regular meetings of the heads of departments or most important assistants, for consultations, to facilitate harmonious and effective co-operation; and for these and all meetings he has well prepared and written programs.

Wherever there is to be joint action, he provides written programs, marking out the specific duties, rights and powers of all persons engaged in the organization, that all overlapping and friction may be avoided.

He helps subordinates to understand the best way to perform their duties. He does this by personal contact, not by written notes alone. They need encouragement.

He does not tolerate gossip, quarreling and bickering among his subordinates, but requires good-natured, friendly and hearty co-operation by every person in the organization. He sees the good in each one and commends it.

If in the School Republic, or any organization, the interest begins to lag, and there is danger of failure, it is because the general manager does not sustain his own enthusiasm; no plan will work itself, and young people almost invariably will let any work lag, without regard to their original enthusiasm, unless the headmaster whatever his title may be, is deeply interested in the work and has the skill and perseverance necessary to hold up their interest.

Sarcasm can have no legitimate place in any executive work. A written order that has in it a touch of sarcasm is the height of folly. The one who lacks so much in wisdom and the spirit of kindness and gentility as to indulge in sarcasm, will thereby inject a deadly poison into his whole organization. No amount of skill and kindness can remove the scar of a sarcastic cut. Those who seem to be his most staunch friends will not stay in his organization if there is any reasonable escape.

If the best physical, moral and civic development is to be obtained for any child or body of children, it must be through wise provisions for the development of all its faculties and cultivation of the heart, head and hand, and all of the 24 hours must be completely provided for. Every day must have its proper amount of rest, recreation and physical and mental work, so that no unprovided for time shall remain for mischief. As far as practicable, children should have a place of their own for their clothes and other property and be enabled to earn, pay for and own the books and other personal property which they have to use, and also to earn the money with which they may pay for their board, washing, clothing and education, toys, tools and materials which they use. In all matters there should be a watchful eye, helping hand, sympathizing heart, helping the child to be happy and to develop his own individuality.

No person is perfect, but it is the duty of every person to patiently endeavor to possess the best character and to set a good example.