

**M. E. Church Services**  
 Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Themes—Morning, "Thy Will Be Done;" evening, "The Fight of a Soul." Junior League at 3 p. m.

Epworth League at 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend these services. Strangers will be made welcome. W. B. Young, Pastor.

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## SCHOOL TOPICS

Edited by E. E. COAD

### SCHOOL VISITATION

Very few patrons ever visit the school rooms in which their children spend the greater part of nine months of the year. A discussion of this question involves more than one would realize at first thought. Is it the result of neglect? Or, should the parents visit school? Why? Since schools are for the children, would it be a benefit or a detriment to the children for the parents and the teacher to get acquainted? Do you suppose children would be inclined to value more highly an institution that received the expressed personal support and encouragement of grown men and women than if it should be ignored by all but the school officials? Would an actual personal knowledge of school conditions be of value to the sensible

thinking citizen? Who creates school sentiment in the community? Do you? Or do you get your ideas first from your children? Do your children ever chafe under home restraint? Are the schools to be conducted along lines that will meet the approval of immature minds that chafe under any restraint? Are you going to take the opinion of another without investigation? Is not the teacher entitled to consideration when a child comes home with a tale of trouble over discipline? The average child means to do right, but I imagine your child does not understand your motive in discipline at times, and it is no wonder the teacher is misunderstood or misrepresented at times, is it? Would it not be well for you to be well enough acquainted with the teacher that your first impulse would be to get the teacher's point of view so that you can help her, if possible, in the trouble should a difference arise? Webster defines visitation thus: "communication of favor or wrath; visiting or being visited." The nervousness of teachers at times, noted by rare visitors, may be due to the sort of "visitations" I do not care to discuss at this time. The punishment of school malefactors often makes enemies for the teacher, just as the punishment of civil offenders often makes enemies for the civil authorities. A dozen persons with a grudge could, by organization, control the average school meeting. Is that right as a condition? Or, are you ready to use your influence and prepare yourself for a personal expression of your wishes when the opportunity offers, so that our schools will tend to produce self-controlled, law abiding citizens—men and women with high ideals of citizenship as a result, in part, of your personal interest in their welfare?

## Real Estate Bulletin

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## APPLE AND STRAWBERRY LAND A SPECIALTY

Correspondence Solicited

It may be true that neglect keeps a great many parents away from the schools, but I am inclined to think that such neglect is due to other causes. Interfering duties prevent many mothers in particular, from coming. Then I am inclined to think that school memories of a generation ago may prevent others. I have talked with many men and women whose school memories were not the brightest. But these should compare the actual schools of today with their memories of the past. Bashfulness and a fear of the hyper-critical eyes of youth deter many others. If visitors were more common the children would think nothing of it, for they have work enough to keep them busy the greater part of the time. The other day I asked a gentleman, who was on his way to my office, to wander around and visit any of the classes he wished. He fairly held up his hands in surprise

at the suggestion. "Why," he said, "I have not been in a school room for twenty years. I would not know how to get into it in the first place, and then, if I succeeded in that, I would not know what to do with myself. A room full of boys and girls would make me so nervous and self-conscious that I would be in perfect misery." Then a fear of intruding keeps many others away. I do not know why it is, but many people feel that the teacher often prefers that visitors stay away. The teacher is nervous no doubt because visitors are so rare, or because she may fear it is a "visitation" of wrath. The only remedy for that condition is more visitors and not so many "visitations."

There is a reason why parents should visit school. The children should feel that the parents have a vital personal interest in the school. The children should feel that the parents and the teachers are working together for the best interests of the children. This cannot be the result if the parents are not acquainted with the teacher. The teacher cannot do her best for any child unless she has the cooperation of the parents, unless she feels that she can depend upon the good will and reasonableness of the parents. Acquaintance puts the teacher and the parents upon an entirely different footing, and it usually makes a great deal of difference to the children also.

So you are invited to visit the school at any time. Friday afternoons are to be made visitors' afternoons particularly, but you are cordially invited to visit any room at any time you can do so. You will find a directory in the hall, which will guide you to the room you wish. Knock at the door and you will be ushered in either by the teacher or a pupil. In case the teacher is busy, a pupil will see that you are properly seated, and answer any question you may wish to ask. In case you wish to talk with the teacher, you should arrange to call on her either before 9 o'clock or after 2:30. The teacher may have time to talk to you during a study period, but do not feel slighted if the teacher is too busy to notice you very much. She has work to do that she is paid to do. You are perfectly welcome to come at any time and visit the room. You will be received courteously and appreciatively, but do not expect very much personal attention. I have asked the teachers to name pupils to act as host or hostess for the room for each week, so the work of the teacher will not be disturbed in any way.



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