

## THINGS WISE AND OTHERWISE

By J. C. AKERS, Newberg, Oregon

### BE FAIR

Be fair and just to the teacher of your children. Remember that the teacher in the public schools is a great and important factor in the development of your child into a true and useful manhood or womanhood of your child.

The child is the raw material out of which is to be made a man or woman. It will require all of your care as well as that of the teacher. It is a most important work involving great responsibilities, much tact and clear judgement. If your child complains of the teacher, remember that it is the complaint of a child who does not know what is best. Youth is impatient of restraint and often complains without just cause.

We are not claiming perfection for school teachers, and condemning all children, but we do know that the teacher is nearly always right, and that they have only the best interest of the pupil at heart.

Be fair to the teacher and you will be kind to your child.

### A HOOSIER EDITOR'S DREAM

Away back in the seventies, E. F. Tenant, familiarly known as "Flint," was running a newspaper in a little town in the western part of Indiana, about fifty miles from Indianapolis. Flint was a quill-pusher of no mean ability and got out a spicy paper replete with news of the day dished up in an original and attractive manner, that would have reflected credit on a more pretentious journal, but while he succeeded in keeping the wolf from the door, he did not accumulate simoleans with the ease and celerity which he had anticipated before establishing the Herald, and not at all commensurate with the effort he put forth to win a smile from the fickle dame, Fortune.

The fact was that his field was too limited, and like many other rural communities to be found in the east in that day, the editor was expected to trade out all his advertising with the local merchants, and to take a goodly portion of his pay from rural subscribers, in storewood, eggs, butter, apples, turnips, chickens, and other miscellaneous products of the farm, and quite often it was the case that subscribers who had promised to bring in some product of the farm to pay for the paper, would neglect to do as they had promised and then Flint would say things which are never said in Sunday school, and in the next issue of the Herald would be an earnest appeal for delinquents to make good on the promises given six months previous.

The writer, who was the devil in the Herald office, remembers well, when Flint came into the office early one morning and said: "I had a most remarkable dream last night, and while it is fresh in my memory I will write it down, and I mean to publish it because I believe it will help collec-

tions," and sure enough it did that very thing. Inside of ten days after the publication of his dream he had collected \$150 in cash, 17 loads of storewood, 2 dz. chickens, 22 dz. eggs, a lot of potatoes, apples, butter, 2 sides of bacon and various other commodities which he could use to advantage.

The writer has lost the printed copy of the dream, which he once had but will relate it in substance.

Flint dreamed that he had died and an angel appeared, stating that he had been sent by St. Peter to escort Flint to heaven. They journeyed for a time and at length came to a high mountain. Here they paused and the angel conducted Flint to the edge of a precipice and bid him to look down and see what was taking place in the infernal regions, plainly visible below. Flint said that he hadn't looked more than a second until he saw four or five demons plunging redhot pitchforks into a man who vainly tried to escape his tormentors. Presently, the victim turned his face upward and Flint recognized him as one of his delinquent subscribers who owed him for 3 years subscription. A little farther on a group of goblins were drenching a man with melted brimstone, and Flint recognized him as another delinquent subscriber. About this time Flint found the show interesting and looking about with care he soon discovered more than 40 of his unfaithful subscribers undergoing punishment. After he had enjoyed the remarkable scene for what seemed to Flint, to be an hour, the angel suggested that they better resume their journey heavenward. "No, no," said Flint, "This is heaven enough for me," and when the angel took him by the hand to lead him away, Flint awoke.

### LENGTH OF THE WORKING DAY

One reads daily of the great numbers of people refraining from work entirely, because they desire and demand to work a very limited number of hours per day. And reading those items it makes us wonder what our Pilgrim fathers would have to say regarding the short days workmen are clamoring for. The world has traveled far since the Pilgrims landed, but would not those same Pilgrims advise the citizens of our country to thoughtfully and earnestly consider their advantages educationally, their opportunity in having a voice in our government, their privilege to worship as they wish, and the possibility for men of humble birth to occupy the highest office in this country? Then would they not remind us, also, that all these opportunities were the direct results of the work of men who did not hesitate at the length of day? And too, I think they would quote the old saying, "Satan finds mischief for idle hands to do."

We all know that the busy man is more contented than the idler.

The man who works is patriotic, not only helping his country, but at the same time helping himself. If those first pioneers had limited themselves to a very short day, we would still be in the wilderness, sawing and cutting down trees, using the tallow candle and traveling in the stage coach. History shows that the nation given to idleness and extravagance decays. We don't want history to repeat this decay in our country. The way to avoid this repetition is for every citizen to be willing to carry his share of the load, thus using and availing ourselves of one of our great heritages—work. And at the same time we would show appreciation of the great blessings we of today enjoy as the result of the industry of our Pilgrim fathers.

### POLITENESS

True politeness is not learned from books, neither is it taught by the dancing master, and often times not in the home or school.

To be polite is to be kind—to have a heart. True politeness does not consist merely in lifting your hat when you meet a lady, or in giving the easy chair to an older person. It is our idea that true politeness extends further than the rules of etiquette laid down in books. If you answer the smile of the baby across the aisle on the street car—that's having a heart. If you guide the blind man or aid the cripple in crossing the street—that's having a heart. You will live—and prosper probably—if you do none of these things, or similar acts of kindness, but you won't be living a free and natural life, a life that stamps you as a gentleman, a polite man or boy.

The world today is too crowded with the other kind of men—those who return the smile of the baby with a blank stare or scorn. Those who look the other way when they see a blind man in need of assistance; those who hurry by a crying child.

Learn to give aid, learn to do the little acts of kindness along life's pathway and you will have learned to be polite. You do not need rules and suggestions, be kind, be considerate, for that is true politeness.

"Pa, what a funny word 'whole-some' is."

"What's funny about it?"

"Why, take away the whole of it and you have some left."

I'd rather be a booster  
Than a knocker any day;  
I'd rather tinge with hope than doubt  
The words I have to say;  
I'd rather miss my guess  
Of another man's success  
Than to view his bitter struggle  
And prophesy his fall.  
I would rather say "He's coming"  
Than "He's going" when I'm sum-  
ming up the labors of my brothers.  
I would rather boost them all.

Naturally,  
"I suppose accidents vary much on  
this icy hill, do they not?"  
"Yes, there is no fixed number.  
They are on a sliding scale."

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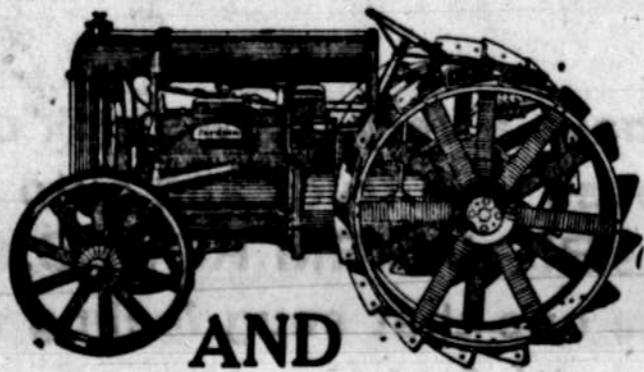
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