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SCHOOL BOARD FOUND GUILTY OF MAKING SUFFRAGETTES

QUESTION OF LADY TEACHERS' SALARIES DISCUSSED—UNFAIRNESS OF LOWER STANDARD THAN MEN URGED—SHOULD BE PAID ACCORDING TO ABILITY

Editor The Daily News.

Dear Sir: In the Saturday papers I notice a report of a meeting of the school board at which a salary schedule was adopted which appears to me to be manifestly unfair in its discrimination between male and female teachers. According to the report, in every case a lady teacher receives \$25 less per month than a man teacher of the same grade.

Why? I have heard the matter argued in the past, but I have never heard a logical reason for such discrimination.

It seems that the one test should be efficiency. If it be the case that men are recognized to be always more efficient than women, it seems rather foolish to make sex rather than ability the standard. If the man is higher paid because he is more able, one reason would answer as well as the other, and the efficiency standard rather than the sex standard would be the better sounding reason.

However, all this is granting that men are invariably better teachers than women, which does not appear to me to be true.

There is just ground for argument as to the respective values of men and women as teachers in the upper grades, and particularly in the High school. My own belief is that the ideal plan is separate session rooms for boys and girls in charge of teachers of their own sex with recitations in mixed classes before teachers of both sexes. This is because neither sex appears to me to possess any superiority over the other merely because of sex, but each has some qualities, lacking in the other which are needed to make a perfect school influence. But, after all, the influence of a school on character is the most important part of its work.

In the lower grades it seems to me there is no ground whatever for argument. Even here I grant there are some men who are more successful than some women, but they are the exceptions who prove the rule. As a class, women can manage the younger children with less friction than men are able to do. Even the instruction of the lower grades is better given by women. It seems to me quite on a par

with saying that fathers are better fitted to raise a family of little children alone than mothers to say that men are better fitted to teach classes of little children than women. Both are true in isolated cases, but they are very rare.

My conclusion as to the relative efficiency of men and women as teachers are based on rather close observation for many years and in many places, as well as on mere theory.

The reason for paying male teachers more than female is sometimes given as being that men take up teaching as a profession by which they must support themselves and later their families for a lifetime, while for women it is only a graduation and marriage. The difficulty of a general application of this theory is immediately apparent, but, were it true, I doubt if men would care to see it generally applied. It would mean that salaries, not only teachers', but all salaries, must be graded according to the need of the recipient rather than his ability. Not only should a man receive more than a woman, but a married man more than a single one, and a man with four children more than one with two, and so on indefinitely. It reduces the whole system to a sort of charity. Besides this, we cannot insult the men by charging that they fear that the ladies' careless interval of teaching would stand the efficiency test

better than their serious practice of a profession.

In my own school life I can look back on a splendid body of women teachers in the grades who, beside what they taught us from books, nobly supplemented the efforts of our mothers in laying the foundation for strong characters. Later, in the Normal school, I learned to know what a wonderful thing a perfect gentleman can be and what a power for good is a woman whose "life" (not just an "interval") is devoted to helping others. There were others, both men and women, who were excellent, and others, both men and women, who were quite otherwise. Neither sex had a monopoly on success or failure. All those who succeeded so well we needed in our school. If there was no difference in their service there should have been no difference in their pay, and I am glad to say I believe there was none.

Again I come back to the same "why?" Only one possible explanation occurs to me. It must be that our school board are secretly in sympathy with the suffragettes and want to convert us. No reasoning would have the same force as this act of theirs and they must realize it. It seems rather an unfair advantage to take. I am not a suffragette and do not want to be one. No doubt others feel the same. Even in the face of all this some of us will resist the temptation to militancy, but if the members

of our school board find women chained to their door steps shrieking "Votes for women!" they will have to realize that it is a logical outcome of their act. Very truly yours,

INTERESTED MOTHER.
 Prince Rupert, May 25, 1914.

You will soon be able to purchase local shingles, made in Port Edward. 102tf

Loft Big Estate
 London, May 27.—The estate of Lord Stratheona, both real and personal, has been probated at \$27,000,000. The succession duties amount to over \$4,000,000.

Have you heard the latest about Port Edward? 102tf

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 Lot 33, Blk. 34, Sec. 1... 14,000
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Skeena Land District—District of Coast, Range Five.

TAKE NOTICE that I, William McK. Logan, of Prince Rupert, B. C., occupation prospector, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 160 chains east and 40 chains south of the northeast corner of Pre-emption Record 1838; thence south 40 north 40 chains, thence west 80 chains to chains, thence west 80 chains along the shore line to point of commencement; containing 320 acres, more or less.

WM. MCK. LOGAN.
 March 7, 1914.

Skeena Land District—District of Coast, Range Five.

TAKE NOTICE that I, David Cook Strang, of Prince Rupert, B. C., occupation prospector, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted about 160 chains east and 60 chains north of the northeast corner of Pre-emption Record 1838 at a point on the northerly shore line of an island, thence south 60 chains to the southerly shore line, thence easterly, northerly and westerly following the sinuosities of the shore line to point of commencement; containing 480 acres, more or less.

DAVID COOK STRANG.
 WILLIAM MCK. LOGAN, Agent.
 March 7, 1914.

Skeena Land District—District of Coast, Range Five.

TAKE NOTICE that I, Andrew MacLean, of Prince Rupert, B. C., occupation prospector, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted about 160 chains east and 60 chains north of the northeast corner of Pre-emption Record 1838 at a point on the northerly shore line of an island, thence south 60 chains to the southerly shore line, thence westerly, northerly and easterly, following the sinuosities of the shore line to point of commencement; containing 480 acres, more or less.

ANDREW MACLEAN.
 WILLIAM MCK. LOGAN, Agent.
 March 7, 1914.

NOTICE

IN THE MATTER of an application for the issue of fresh certificates of title for Lot 11, Block 44, Section 5, and Lots 18 and 19, Block 11, Section 7, City of Prince Rupert, Map 922.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that it is my intention to issue after the expiration of one month from the first publication hereof fresh certificates of title in the name of William B. Snodgrass for the above mentioned lots, which certificates are dated 15th January, 1914, and 30th July, 1913, and are numbered 3491 and 4143 respectively.

H. F. MACLEOD,
 District Registrar.

tion clerk, intend to apply for permission

Land Registry Office, Prince Rupert, B. C., March 5th, 1914.

Skeena Land District—District of Cassiar.

TAKE NOTICE that I, Arthur Holmes Pigott, of Victoria, B. C., occupation manager, intend to apply for permission to lease the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at high water mark at the southwest corner of Lot 467, Portland Canal District, marked "A. H. P. N. E. Cor." thence following the high water mark in a southerly direction approximately 60 chains to a post marked "A. H. P. S. E. Cor." thence due west to low water mark, thence following the low water mark in a northerly direction approximately 60 chains, to a point at low water mark due west from point of commencement; thence due east to point of commencement, containing 80 acres more or less.

ARTHUR HOLMES PIGOTT.

J. W. Stewart, Agent.
 April 20, 1914.
 Published May 14 to July 20.

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