To The Fathers and Mothers of the Boys and Girls of Carroll County.

For the Advocate

Election has passed and no one can say that political propaganda is being spread if I, a teacher, appeal to the mothers and fathers of the boys and girls of this county to resent the attacks which have been made upon our schools. If we were working for any firm or corporation and we knew that untruthful statements were being made about it, would we not resent it? And you men and women of Carroll county, why do you allow it? Would you permit anyone to speak broadcast against your home? Is it not true that the school is next kin to the home and that upon these two is built up our great republic Then why do you allow anyone to use the schools as a stepping stone to some petty political job?

At every State Teachers Institute some one expounds about new methods and in order to show the value of them he compares them to methods which were in use 25 or 30 years ago. Just four years ago these ridiculed systems and books were still in use in Carroll county which means that educationally it was 25 years behind the times. But just then a man came from a great metropolis where everything was No. 1 so far as education was concerned; where he was receiving a salary much higher than he receives here; where they are eager to have him return and repeatedly offer him high salaried positions. Why did he come? Why does he stay? Why do persons go to Africa or China? Why do they stay on through all their hardships and trials? Have you ever had a conviction? Can you explain why men left salaries of from $25,000 to $45,000 a year and enlisted as tankers in the Army at a salary of $30 per month? He started to change these old systems and methods Has he been successful? Why don't you ask someone who knows? Why not send a delegation from each district to confer with the body of teachers sometime and hear the truth about the situation.

"Ah, yes," you say, "but it is from some of the teachers that we hear complaints." Complaints about what? Is he not doing everything to improve conditions for the teacher and pupil? Has he not been abused because he has these high principles and makes a stand for them? Perhaps they complain because they must attend summer school; about not having a certain grade of certificate. They will insinuate that the County Superintendent compels them to go to summer school, or the County Superintendent does not raise their grade of certificate. I believe that some persons, even among my own profession can say when they meet their God, "Lord, had I been in the world when the Bible was written my name and not Ananias' would appear in it for truly I am a greater liar than he". Every teacher knows that it is the State Department alone that issues and terminates certificates. It is this body of men who fix the school law and say when a teacher shall make further preparation. Why shouldn't it? How many of you would care to use the same methods on your farm used twenty-five years ago? Then why would you wish such methods used in cultivating your children. Are they of less importance than your land?

I, for one, am heartily tired of hearing lies spread abroad about our schools. Why should we make Carroll county the "laughing stock" of every educational center round about us? The school is my business and it is my duty to protest against anything tending to injure my business. We all know the equipment is poor, the buildings inadequate and that repairs are needed everywhere, but that is a matter for others.

I surely hope that some of you men and women of honor will come forward and do something to prevent any further action such as we all know has been going on in the past against our schools.

A TEACHER.

Lyceum Course.

The Southern Musical Company, the first number of the High School Lyceum Course, presented a pleasing program at the Armory Tuesday evening.

Mr. Stallings, the violinist of the company, played with remarkable taste and technique a number of well chosen selections, among which was an original transcription of "The Rosary" by Ethelbert Nevin. Miss Brooks, as pianist and reader, is exceptionally talented, and notwithstanding the fact that on the evening of the concert she was suffering from a severe cold, she delighted the audience with her artistic playing and her clever impersonations.

That Miss McIntyre is a cellist of unusual ability was shown in both her solo and ensemble work. The entire program was of a high order, and all of the numbers were well presented, such favorites as the "Sextet from Lucia" being especially worthy of mention.

Since more than four hundred adults and pupils have purchased season tickets, and the total attendance Tuesday evening was approximately five hundred, the financial success of the Lyceum Course is assured. Nevertheless we shall continue to sell season tickets for the five remaining numbers.

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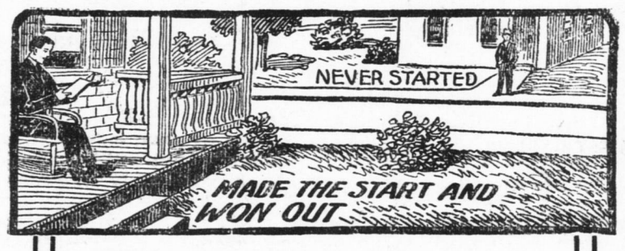

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