

[NOV. 5, 1910]
draft of transcript

... 2d talk.

Passers by.

As you wander along the path of life you will find many curios - many a thing out of joint. Many an act on the part of your neighbors that you do not understand. And yet could you be placed in the same environment with the same past experiences you would in all probability do these same peculiar things. In each school district many many incomprehensible things will happen. Many people will do many things that will seem to you to be entirely wrong.

What is to be your attitude toward these matters?

To help your community you must be interested in all community matters.

But everything done by every citizen in a neighborhood is not of necessity a neighborhood community matter. The successful teacher must know how to distinguish between what is private business and public concern. You should stand out as living examples of people who mind their own business and let their neighbors business alone.

If there is any one thing we as a people should learn it is to let the private affairs of other people alone. Unless John and Mary are your students it is none of your business whether John is going to see Mary or not. How often do we hear people making remarks about such things. Suppose John does pay Court to Mary it is absolutely none of your business unless

you all the ³ Mary. Let me assure you it is trying enough on John without the interference of the outside world. Mr. and Mrs. So-and-So treat their children in this way or that way - they are too strict or give too much liberty etc etc. That is none of your business. The children belong to Mr. and Mrs. So-and-So not to you and what is done with their children in the home is their business not yours. Your duty concerns the children and the home only as the school is effected.

But you may say the way the family is treated by parents is wrong. Who made you a judge of my private affairs they may justly say. "You attend to your own business and let my family home life alone." And when they say this to you they treat you with justice.

There is one time when you can deal with private matters and only one time — when you are consulted by the party concerned.

If there is one thing on earth that is disgusting to right minded people it is this constant dabbling into private affairs. I see this perhaps more vividly than most men for all of my married life has been spent as a semi-public man. A man about whom others talk. Until I came here I have never had a home that people did not stop and look into the front door or peep thru the back windows whenever the shades were up. They have never gotten very much

but what they did for they
stood.

Up in Guilford County
there lived an old man
named Lawry who always said
to the inquisitive or gossiping
neighbor "I can make
\$35.00 per month tending to
my own business" and this
is a good idea for you to take
into your life.

I wanted to give you this
talk for I know the nature
of your future work necessi-
tates a clear idea and a definite
distinction - ~~an~~ absolutely
clear strong line of demarcation
between private business
- this is none of your concern
- and community activities
- this is your sole sphere of
activity. Draw the line
and stay on your side - Work all
the time at your business and
success will crown your efforts.

In many of the countries of the world there is to-day only meager educational opportunities provided for women. In the United States, France, Russia, and Switzerland," women may get, under State auspices, a continuous education from the elementary school through the university. In most of the others, however, there is a hiatus between the secondary school and the university which must be supplied by private institutions." Perry, School Administration p. 161, (Edition of 1912).

Women will never fulfill their mission until the world over, they are given the kind of education that will best fit them for their places in human society as human society is variously organized in this world.

What is woman's mission? Now, do not get alarmed. I shall not touch upon either of the questions so much discussed in current literature. She may be any or all of the many ettes or ices and still fill her place in human society as we find human society organized to-day. It may be that things should not be as they are, but they are as they are and we must take them as they are.

To-day, the world over, woman is the standard bearer of advancing civilization. The purity of the race, the purity of the union and the purity of the home depends upon the purity of the women. Give us an impure womanhood and we will soon have a debauched nation, a polluted home and a deteriorating civilization.

Caesar may be never so corrupt but the wife of Caesar must be above suspicion. Woman is the fountain head of our civilization. Let the Source become polluted and all the waters that gush forth from the fountain will be polluted. Keep the source pure and every sparkling drop will be pure.

Yours is indeed a noble mission for the inspirations that have