

Feb. 8th, 1924.

18th Chapter of the Book of Exodus beginning with the 13th verse to the end of the chapter.

Yesterday morning I was talking to you about one of the things that a school can do to help make good citizens. The teacher must have faith in the students. I suspect that most of you have come up at some time in your experience through school when the teacher did not trust you, and if you have you know just how you felt about it. It was war between you and the teacher. It was a game to see which one of the two could beat the other at the game, and I want to tell you that no teacher can beat 30 or 40 children at one game- they will win out every time.

I had an experience at one time in my life that I am going to tell you about this morning. I wanted to cheat on an examination. I was 31 years old, mature man, had been teaching school for three or four years. I was doing post graduate work at the John Hopkins University, and had one study in the under-graduate school. I went in to stand an examination. When I walked into the room, they had little tables about the size of those in Miss Lewis' room, and they had them in a large open hall, and the tables were so far apart you couldn't look over at another and read it to save your life. They placed on that table the examination question, paper and pencils, and when you entered the room you were met by a man who took away from you everything that you had that you could get any help from; then he lead you gently to your place and told you to sit down, here is your examination, Well, that was about enough. After the class had assembled that man walked all during that examination, constantly walking and watching every soul in the room. Now I didn't cheat for two reasons, one is I couldn't but I did want to. I never wanted to before or since in my life, but I wanted to beat that fellow in his game that day and that came up pretty strong within me, but the better part of my nature also came up, and the second reason I didn't cheat is I knew it was wrong, and that eventually I would feel the reaction in my own life as I yielded to the temptation. Now that's an experience I had that I wouldn't give anything in the world for. I am glad I had that experience, because as a teacher I never expected to put any person in the position I was put in that day. Now when people put their trust in us that brings out the best there is in us that makes good citizens. When they refuse to put their trust in us immediately they in us the bad side of our lives. I want you young women to get that thought. As you go out from college here there will be some people that will do wrong when you are trusting them, but there will be fewer if you will have faith in them. Try to get your students to realize that, because that's what I am talking about. There goes also a responsibility to the group who has the freedom. I mean this, that if your teachers trust you here in college, and I wasn't thinking about making a comparison here in college, if your teachers trust you implicitly here then it is the groups' business to see that the group is kept clean. The teacher is not doing it, the teacher is leaving it with the students. Now as you teach try to get your children to realize that when you are trusting them, that then the responsibility also goes on to them, and that it is their part as good citizens to see that the group keeps clean. You mean by that Mr. Wright that the child ought to report cheating on examination or stealing. Yes, I mean that if

that is necessary, but there is something better than reporting. No child can afford to live with a group and be out of touch with that group, and if the group's ideals is so high that the child feels that if I cheat or steal I will not have companionship with those whom I

You let the group turn its back on the student, let it happen here in this college, let it happen in the high school, let it happen in the grades and the child can't stay in school. The high school boy or girl will want to quit and leave school, and the student here would walk in my office pretty soon and ask to be withdrawn from college. We are social beings, and if we cant get some one to associate with we want to move, and that leads back to the next topic on this subject. The teacher wants to keep in touch with the group spirit. In your school you want to be a member of the group. You want the children to feel like you are one of them. Why Mr. Wright I will lose all of my dignity. All right lose it, let it go I don't care. If it is going to stand between you and doing your best work, then lay aside your dignity and it won't be missed. But the children won't have any respect for me. Oh, yes they will. Did you ever go to school to a teacher who went out in the yard, especially out in the country, and played with you. How did you feel toward that teacher? I had that experience several times in my life. I have played ball on the campus with my teacher, and I was closer to the teacher for having played the game with him. The teacher played the game square, and we boys and girls played the game square, and when we went back into the school room, I didn't think any the less but I thought morw of my teacher, and as a teacher I have played with the children, and I have never felt the thing you are talking about when you say they won't have respect for you. Yes they will, they will begin to tfeel like you are really human, and that you are a real human being, and that you are one of them, and then it is that you can do most any thing in the world you want to with them because you are a part of their gang.

Following the idea of the teacher who is out of touch with her children - war between teacher & pupils makes for poor citizenship. It becomes a game between teacher on one hand & pupils on other + even cheating on exam. becomes a part of the game. It comes out later some - times even after the pupil gets into college.