

Hat-in-Hand Teacher  
Ousted from Principalship but  
Held in System

For about fifteen years  
the Public School for Colored  
children has been nominally  
under the control of Mrs

[REDACTED] For eight  
years or more considerable  
attention has been focused on  
our institution and the admin-  
istration, which have grown  
worse apparently because of  
the advancement of the times.

The first hitch came and  
ruffled the waters of what  
appeared to our citizens as a  
perpetual reign, when a Meth-  
odist minister by the name of  
W. N. Holt, having two sons  
attending the school, discovered  
that it took ten long years in  
this school for any pupil to  
complete the course, which was  
less when finished than the local  
whites were doing in seven years.  
Two years were required for each  
of the first and second grades  
one year each for the third, fourth,  
fifth and sixth grades and again  
two years for the seventh. Count

and you will find the time to be ten years, a complete loss of three school years of a child's life.

When the attention of the School Board was called to this "special school" or the twentieth century model, the entire board were not it more honorable to be guilty of neglect, than to be held responsible for an intellectual crime, declared that the conditions in question were [REDACTED] as she had chosen them and not theirs; for as the clerk said the entire affairs were left with her. Now absolute faith on part of School Board, in the principal and the total mismanagement in interest of the people on part of principal indicates nothing less than a rotten, hopeless and shiftless school system as it affects our group here.

Many things happened for the good of the community in this skirmish. The same work which had taken ten years was done thereafter in eight; nine months were given for the school year whereas it was only eight; and

which persons would never come  
 tenance otherwise. The imperative  
 need of providing high school  
 training at home, because of  
 the fact that most of our best  
 institutions of learning are not  
 providing any training below the  
 college grades, we would in time  
 have to stay home or seek high  
 school grades at great distance  
 and enormous expense, which should  
 be provided for right at home  
 in a town like ours. Nothing  
 but a bat-in-hand principal  
 dominating the same spirit over  
 her faculty has caused us to be  
 the very last when it comes to  
 educational progress, whereas in  
 every other thing we are in the  
 lead.

Thanks to 121 courageous  
 citizens who petitioned that [redacted]  
 [redacted] must meet her water-  
 lloo, by stepping down to her size  
 and let the stream of intellect  
 flow which has been dammed by  
 her for fifteen years. In her  
 stead we have a new administrator  
 of fine training, and character,  
 specially suited to usher us

the salaries for the Principal and her subordinates were all increased while the same teachers reaped the extra months pay and an increase salary for the nine months. The same teacher kept a dagger in their bosom for those who fought that all the people might benefit. Other benefits too numerous accrued to our good at this time.

Eight or more years have passed and as time demands new changes to let us wheels roll on we have done ourselves apart with an educational dead-lock. In a community where education is the faith of the whites and their acquisition of it offers means for the negroes livelihood, we were face with the problem of dethroning an absolute ruler as principal or only a school with less than seven grades of elementary work forever. The spirit of selfishness would never have dictated a conscience that she should advocated something in the school superior to her capacity, and, so long as [redacted] reigned our doom was at hand.

Fallurtime forces changes

out of dense darkness into the marvelous light. The person in question is Prof. F. L. Allen of the University of Michigan, to whom we are looking for our future salvation.

To our surprise, after having been assured in every way that [REDACTED] service would terminate at the close of last June, the local School Board has seen fit despite the fact we had imposed <sup>in writing</sup> to reappoint her as a subordinate teacher in the system. Of course the good "Old Darky" who has served her masters so well must have some reward, and certainly she has served them. She has made it possible for the whites to enjoy the benefits of hundreds of dollars a self-respecting principal could have had spent for our children which was only due us.

Her return next fall is of much consequence, and with much regret. First, the unpleasant continuation of a fight to protest her as a teacher. Second, because of her disqualifications without doubt to produce the goods. Third, the discord which is certain to take up

where it ended in June.

Fourth, the damaging effect it has on the spirit of the school and its running mechanism.

Prof. Allens last will be no easy mark if out of the entire faculty he will only be able to rely on only one of his teachers as he did last year

Now if there ever was any virtue in honor, pride and dignity ~~might do well~~ after all the humiliation which she chooses to suffer, to send in to the Board an honorable resignation rather cling on to draw a salary against the wishes of any number of citizens other than the 121 written protesters

All the Fires of Hell or the Glories of Heaven shall not deter the major percent of our people from contesting to the last for nothing short of a complete dismissal of ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ for any of the conduct of the Lyellburn Downing School