

PRINCIPAL'S RESIGNATION IN NEW TORRANCE SCHOOLS



being His

as principal. His work was-entirely satisfactory with me and with the teaching staff. I was asked by the superin-tendent of schools to dismiss other personnel without suf-ficient cause, in my judgment, and I refused to do so. "Much criticism was given me by the superintendent for h a ving a faculty organized upon the democratic plan of setting building policies by giving every teacher a volce and a vole in the process. If teachers are not allowed to practice democracy and learn how it works in a publice school faculty organization, how can they be expected to teach children the practices and techniques of democracy? "My reason for quitting the school system is that 1 do not wish to work for an ad-ministration that 1 feel is based upon the use of au-thority and fear to gain per-sonal logality. I would rather, work in a system where dem-oerning dismissal of the purposes of enabling children to have rich educational experiences. "(Signed) A. R. Beardisley." Referring to statements con-cerning dismissal of crawford, Assistant Superintendent E. W. Ingrum told members of the dismissal of a school custodin made during the earlier discus-sion were correct in so far as the man had been dismissed, but the actual reason for the dismissal of a school custodin-man had been dismissed, but the actual members when-ever such dismissals occur. The decation member's when-ever such dismissals occur. The decation present, in addition to Mrs. Plank and Beight were Mrs. Beight, Mrs. Dorothy Epperheimer, Mrs. Mar-tha K Evel Jnr. Schooley, John Melville, Mrs. Otto B. Wi-lett, Mrs. Don Hyde and Mrs. Ethel Derouin. "The decation present, in addition to Mrs. Plank and Beight were Mrs. Beight, Mrs. Dorothy Epperheimer, Mrs. Mar-the dismissal of a school and Mrs. Findelocation and stated that the prosent member's when-ever such dismissals occur. In the decation present, in addition to Mrs. Plank and Beight were Mrs. Beight, Mrs. Dorothy Eugerton member's when-ever such dismissals occur.

Ethel Derouin, The delegation members asked why Beardsley finds it neces-sary to resign, stating that he is doing a fine job at the Tor-rance Elementary School. Board members stated that Beardsley had not been able-to adjust himself to a situa-tion which exists in the Tor-rance City School district for this first year where it is mecesary for not only the Torance Elementary School, but for all the schools, to get along without some of the things which principals and teachers would like 'to have and should have, and which the Administration would like to be able to provide. The delegation was reminded that all five of the principals who were employed were fully and completely informed of the conditions and the situation as it was known would exist the first year, and had ac-cepted their respective posi-tions with full knowledge of the tracts... Mrs. Beight and Mrs. Plank contended that Beardsley had been subjected to so much 'pressure' by the Administra-tion, and more particularly by the superintendent, that he had no alternative other than to re-sign. The president of the Board pointed out that this is an erronous interpretation of the matter, as Beardsley had not been subjected to any more so-called "pressure" than any of the other principals and that, as a matter of fact, Hull had made every effort to give heprincipals an opportunity to work out their own methods in the various schools and has been extremely relucant to in-terfere with any of their pro-termans.

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grams. At the conclusion of this statement a chorus of volces from the audience stated that the other, principals are "straid of their jobs" and that because Beardsley had the courage to volce his own opinions, this action had re-sulted. This was elaborated



GREENE'S Torrance

Time Shop 1223 El Prado, Torran upon hy Mrs. Beight and Mrs. Plank by their statements that all the employees are afraid to voice opinions for fear of losing their jobs. Mr.. Thatcher replied that his per-sonal investigation did not re-veal this to be true. Dr. Beeman stated that he had heard so many rumors, that he had decided to attend this perturn as possible about this particular case. Mrs. Riggle suggested that the matter be tabled for the present time, whereupon Dr. Wood again pointed out that beardsley had specifically asked that his resignation be accepted immediately.

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Interfere brought out the fact that, in employing some seventy-for seventy-five persons to staff the Torrance City schools, it is not too remarkable that there may be one person who does not exactly fit into the pleture, and that this is no reason to quest ion the Board's judgement al-together. He stated that Beards, ley had been well-liked by the Board members and those who knew him, but that he had simply not been able to adjust himself to the situation and had, therefore, of his own you tion, tendered his resignation. In reply to persistent guess In reply to persistent qu tions of why the Board

Education is accepting Beards | IOWA FARMING ley's resignation, and after the question had again been asked by Mrs. Schooley, Dr. Wood stated that "there has

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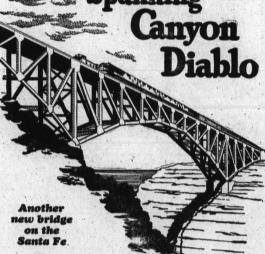
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