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William J. Kerr

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The Pratt Teachers' Agency

William O. Pratt The Pratt Teachers' Agency

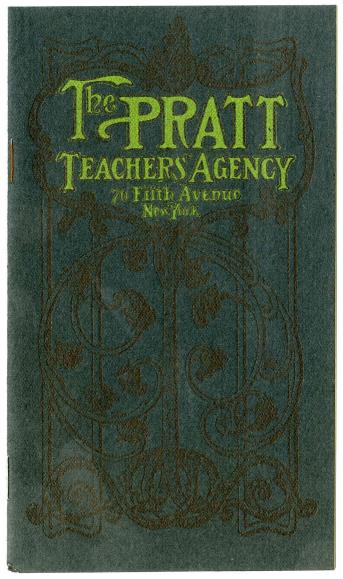
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HE increased and increasing facilities of The Pratt Teachers' Agency make it possible for the manager to speak with greater confidence than ever before of the services which he may reasonably expect to render those wishing positions and

those wishing teachers for positions.

The membership of the Agency comprises teachers who are qualified for all grades of educational work, from the most elementary to the most advanced; while, on the other hand, the calls which come from schools and colleges, are of the same wide range.

An idea of the scope of the Agency's work may be gained from the fact that during the past year it has been asked to recommend teachers for positions of the various kinds mentioned below, and has successfully met these demands:

Grade and kindergarten.

- Departmental work in all subjects commonly taught in high schools, academies, and private schools.
- Principalships of public and private schools.

City and town superintendencies.

- Supervisors and teachers of drawing, manual training, music, elocution, physical training, commercial branches, sewing, and cooking.
- Model, critic, and department positions in normal schools.

Instructorships and professorships in colleges and technical schools.

The above positions which have been filled by the Agency represent no limited territory, but every section of the country.

Grade Teachers

At all times of year there are demands for well-trained grade teachers for public and private schools. Normal graduates or those of equivalent training are especially sought, and such teachers may reasonably hope to secure positions provided their personal qualities meet the approval of school officers. There is also a considerable demand for college women for grade positions.

In view of the constant calls which the Agency receives for primary and grammar grade teachers, the manager feels justified in speaking with no little encouragement to all teachers of this class, knowing what he has been able to accomplish in the past.

Secondary Teachers.

Many calls are received for teachers of those branches comprised in high school and academy courses. The schools represented by these calls vary widely in location and in other respects so that there is always a fair chance for well-qualified teachers of widely varying personality and educational equipment. For secondary teaching, preference is more frequently given to college graduates, yet other qualifications are often accepted, ability to teach and to discipline counting for more than the highest scholarship without this ability.

Private Schools

Private schools in all parts of the country have been pleased to take advantage of the Agency's resources, the calls from this source ranging from kindergarten positions through the grades and secondary positions to those of college rank. The diverse conditions under which private schools are conducted make it possible for the Agency to enroll teachers differing greatly in preparation, experience, and personality, and yet with expectation of securing for them satisfactory positions.

Special Teachers

The tendency toward specializing in education has caused an increasing demand for teachers of special branches for both public and private schools, this demand including teachers of French, German, music, art, commercial branches, manual training, sewing, cooking, elocution, physical training, etc. The requirements of these positions are as diverse as the subjects, but well-equipped instructors are always in demand.

Principals and Superintendents

Numerous opportunities to recommend principals and superintendents, both men and women, also come to the Agency. These include calls from primary, grammar, academic, and high school principals, and vary from small positions, requiring little or no experience, to those of great responsibility; from the principalship of an ungraded school to the superintendency of a large city system.

College and Normal School Positions

Although the number of college and normal schools positions is naturally limited, yet the Agency is frequently asked to recommend men and women for college or university instructorships and professorships, and for the various departments of normal school work. The requirements for such positions are doubtless higher than ever before, but the opportunities for post-graduate and professional study are also greater, so that teachers may prepare themselves to meet all the demands.

Inexperienced Teachers

While there are many positions for which only experienced teachers will be considered, yet there are many others adapted to the qualifications of those who have never taught, school authorities recognizing the fact that the right personal characteristics frequently give assurance of success. The Agency secures many excellent positions every season for those just graduating from college or from training schools.

The Time to Register

Although more positions are filled during the spring and early summer than at any other time, yet there is no season of the year when vacancies are not occurring, nor a time when some of the most desirable positions are not being filled. Consequently the teacher who wishes a position should not wait for any particular season to register. The position for which he is especially fitted may become vacant any day in the school year.

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE AGENCY

Enrolled upon the books of the Agency may be found graduates of many of the best colleges of the country, as well as of foreign universities-graduates who have further prepared themselves for teaching by special work leading to advanced degrees; graduates of scientific and technical institutions; graduates of the normal schools of many different states. and of local training schools; graduates of public and private kindergarten schools, and of special schools of drawing, manual training, music, commercial branches, elocution, physical training, domestic art, and domestic science; foreign-born teachers prepared to teach their own language, and Americans who have fitted themselves to teach modern languages by special study in this country or abroad.

Every effort is made to obtain full information concerning the education, experience, character, and personal qualities of all who register. Confidential testimonials are secured from those whose names are given as references, and all this information is so kept as to be available for those seeking teachers.

Method of recommending Teachers

The Agency endeavors to meet the wishes of its patrons in its methods of work, recom-

mending directly to the authorities, when so requested, or putting teachers into communication with them, if this is preferred.

Every school and every college is working under conditions peculiar to itself, and when the authorities, in asking to have teachers recommended, state these peculiarities, giving information as to subjects to be taught, training required, length of experience expected, church relations, personality, and other essentials, the Agency uses its best endeavors to meet these requirements, keeping in mind the nature of the school and the work to be done, on the one hand, and on the other, the qualities, personal and educational, of the teacher.

Special and Emergency Calls

The opinion prevails, to some extent, that good teachers can be obtained only in the socalled season when a majority of positions are filled. This is a great mistake, for on any day in the year some of the best teachers in the country are available.

This means that the Agency can probably at any time recommend satisfactory teachers, however responsible the position to be filled.

Emergency calls for teachers of unusual qualifications who can begin work on short notice are constantly received and successfully met.

Recommendation of Schools to Parents

Another function of the Agency, in addition to the recommendation of teachers, is the recommending of schools to parents. Catalogues of many schools are kept on file, and if parents inform the Agency as to the location of the school desired, the amount of tuition they wish to pay, and other necessary conditions, the Agency endeavors to put the parents into communication with such schools as best meet these requirements. No charge is made to parents for this service.

School properties are rented and sold by the Agency, and school partnerships formed.

Territory covered by the Agency

Inquiry is often made as to the extent of the territory covered by the Agency. While it is natural that much more should be done in the east and north, yet there is hardly a state from which teachers are not registered, nor one from which calls for teachers are not made. It is therefore possible for the Agency to recommend to schools in any part of the country teachers with whom interviews may be arranged.

The manager of the Agency takes pleasure in giving the following list of names of educators who have allowed him to refer to them:
Dr. D. W. Abererombie, Worcester, Mass. Academy Dr. J. W. Abernethy, Berkeley Institute, Brooklyn Prof. C. F. Adams, High School, Detroit, Mich.
Mr. H. P. Amen, Phillips Academy, Exeter, N. H. Dr. W. G. Anderson, Yale University
Supt. S. V. Arrowsmith, Red Bank, N. J. Public Schools Dr. G. W. Atherton, Prest. Penn. State College
Prest. F. W. Atkinson, Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute Dr. T. J. Backus, Packer Collegiate Inst., Brooklyn Prof. F. Baker, Teachers College, New York
Dr. T. M. Ballict, University of New York
Misses Bangs and Whiton, Cathedral School, Washington Mr. E. S. Barney, Hebrew Technical Inst., New York Supt. F. H. Beede, New Haven, Conn. Public Schools Dr. H. H. Belield, Chicago Manual Training School Mr. C. A. Bennett, Bradley Polytechnic, Peoria, III.
Prof. F. D. Blodgett, Oneonta, N. Y. Normal School Prof. H. S. Bird, William and Mary College
Prof. F. D. Blodgett, Oneonta, N. Y. Normal School Prof. J. E. Brady, Smith College
Dr. Edward Brooks, Supt. of Schools, Philadelphia Mr. C. F. Brusie, Mt. Pleasant Acad., Ossining, N. Y. Mr. S. W. Buck, Lyndon Hall, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Dr. Horace Burnstead, Pres. Atlanta University.
Mr. W. E. Chancellor, Supt. Paterson, N. J. Schools Prin. C. S. Chapin, Providence, R. I. Normal School Mr. F. M. Collester, Prin. High School, Salem, Mass. Mortes Educity, School Comsr., Nassau Co., N. Y. Prof. Z. W. Coombs, Worcester Polytechnic Institute Prin. C. H. Cooper, Mankato, Minn. Normal School Mr. F. M. Collester, Prin. High School, Salem, Mass. Prof. M. B. Grawford, Wesleyan University
Misses Creighton and Farrar, Englewood, N. J. Dr. J. G. Croswell, Arnhierst College
Supt. J. W. Conneb, Worcester Polytechnic Institute Prin. C. H. Zoombe, Worcester Polytechnic Institute Prin. C. H. Cooper, Mankato, Minn. Normal School Mr. F. M. Collester, Prin. High School, in giving the following list of names of educators who have allowed him to refer to them:

Dr. F. f. Delabarre, Brown University -Mr. R. E. Denfeld, Supt. Duluth, Minn. Schöols
Prof. Edward Dickinson, Oberlin College
Miss Grace H. Dodge, New York
Miss L. A. Doren, Supt. Ocean Grove, N. J. Schools
Dr. S. T. Dutton, Teachers College, New York
Supt. F. W. Eaton, Nangatuck, Conn. Public Schools
Prin. W. A. Edwards, Yonkers, N. Y. High School
Prof. B. K. Emerson, Amherst College
Dr. E. H. Forbes, Torrington, Conn. Public Schools
Supt. H. W. Foster, So. Orange, N. J. Schools
Rev. H. B. Frissell, Prin. Hampton (Ya.) Institute
Mr. J. M. Furman, Irving Institute, Tarrytown, N. Y.
Dr. F. C. Ganage, St. Paul's School, Garden City, N. Y.
Prof. A. E. Gillett, Hartford Theological Seminary
Prof. A. Gunnison, Prest. St. Lawrence University
Dr. A. Gunnison, Prest. St. Lawrence University
Miss Mira H. Hall, Miss Hall's School, Hustitute
Mr. N. P. Heffley, Heffley School, Brooklyn
Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin, Columbia University
Supt. W. L. R. Haven, Morristown, N. J.
Prin, G. K. Hawkins, Plattsburgh, N. Y. Normal School
Mr. N. P. Heffley, Heffley School, Brooklyn
Prof. F. W. Hooper, Director Brooklyn Institute
Mr. J. F. Hopkins, Supervisor Drawing, Boston
Miss Grace A. Hubbard, Smith College
Head-master L. C. Hull, Michigan Military Academy
Col. C. E. Hyatt, Penn. Military College
Dr. M. Krintedge, Westfield, Mass. High School
Prof. C. K. Kendall, Indianapolis, Ind.
Prin. R. Lawton, Chappaqua (N. Y.) Mountain Inst.
Mr. J. K. Lawin, Chappaqua (N. Y.) Mountain Inst.
Mr. J. Mackenzie, The Mackenzie School, Milersville, Pa.
Dr. C. M. Kendall, Indianapolis, Ind.
Prin. H. W. Kittredge, Westfield, Mass. High School
Prof. F. Kemp, Columbia University
Supt. C. N. Kendall, Indianapolis, Ind.
Prin. H. W. K Dr. W. H. Maxwell, Fublic Schools, Greater New York Prof. Leverett Mears, Williams College Dr. John Meigs, Hill School, Pottstown, Pa. Dr. C. E. Meleny, Assoc. Supt. Public Schools, New York Prof. J. L. Morris, Cornell University Prof. A. D. Morse, Amherst College Dr. L. C. Mygatt, Prin. Collegiate School, New York Dr. E. A. Noble, Centenary Inst., Hackettstown, N. J.

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