

and I use the term literally. If I were the betting kind, I would wager that all those who "had" Miss Foley could recite them verbatim without consulting the next line or so. "A rolling stone gathers no moss" and "Waste not -- Want not!" She could not and would not tolerate laziness, and she was thrifty beyond description. She, herself, was never idle! I can't recall ever seeing her "just sitting". In fact, she seldom ever sat down. She was always up and at it. Here gain, that quick, decisive, every-minute-counts quality stands out.

In my days at Miner, inter-room communication consisted of bulletins written by Miss Foley in large left-handed, sprawly, tho quite legible script, and taken from room to room by a "chosen one" usually from the upper grades. Sometimes there were several of these in one day and many times I have seen her write these while standing at her desk. I repeat -- she seldom sat down. I have tried so hard this evening to "conjure up a vision" of Miss Foley in a relaxed state, and I find that I can't do it. There seems to be perpetual motion or activity of some sort wherever she is in my memories.

And now for a word about her thriftiness; the writer was most amazed to learn that she did not practice what she preached! I still can't get over it. In my original draft I said she so obviously did just that. However when my copy was screened for any inaccuracies it was emphatically pointed out that relative to her own personal income and possessions she was not in the least economical. To me this is indeed most ironic! For in school she was extremely thrifty. I am certain those who were in school at the same time, will verify that she saved every thing. Her office was filled with varied and numerous items. Reserve school supplies were stored in the built-in cases but to get them was something of a chore. I mean by that, you had to account for the need of them. Even so, many times I have seen her count out the exact number of pieces of paper or other materials according to the number of children in the room -- and no extras were included. She doled out these supplies almost begrudgingly, it seemed. Of course things often seen different from what they actually are; and now, as I look back, am sure that is true in this case. She simply didn't want to see anything wasted! I'll venture to say she probably saved the school board more money on requisitioned supplies than any other school principal -- former or present.

She tried also to save patrons money when it came to purchasing school materials. I wish I could tell you by actual count how many times Miss Foley came into the classrooms, picked up the waste paper basket, placed it on a front desk and then proceeded to take from it the crumpled, discarded work sheets, spelling and arithmetic papers, etc. If there were six or eight unused lines at the bottom of the page, she would carefully and painstakingly straighten it out and return it to the person whose name was on it. If only one side of the paper was used, then you really were in for a lecture. It was on such "checking-up" expeditions as these that I have seen teachers