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Through
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Looking
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Because New Bern has had its full share of noble school teachers, we know you will share our appreciation of lines written by Dan Valentine on the subject.

He never knew Mollie Heath, Ruth Berry, Louise Bell Eleanor Marshall, and others who meant so much to so many in early childhood, but surely Valentine had their kind in mind when he reached into his own heart and came up with a beautiful tribute you'll want to include in your scrapbook.

Life being what it is, most of us forget or have only dim recollection of countless adults we knew in our youth, but there's no forgetting a teacher you truly loved. The memory of her is as vivid as the colors in an August rainbow.

Certainly no one will contend that a teacher shouldn't be well trained, but training isn't enough. We never knew a good teacher who didn't honestly and sincerely love children. The capacity for affection, and a personality that attracts affection in return, is a classroom necessity.

There have been teachers, unfortunately, who found unpredictable boys and girls a source of irritation. It is a sad fact that in such instances the teacher experienced continuing exasperation and her pupils were victims of a largely wasted year.

Here are the thoughts of Dan Valentine:

What Is A Teacher? A teacher is many things...She's knowledge with a smile on her face... Democracy with a book in her hand...Wisdom with a flick of white chalk dust on her left eyelid.

She comes in all sizes and temperament... Short, tall, skinny, plump...Laughing, happy and sad.

She's the future of the nation in a sack dress...Love with a college education.

In her everyday work week, she's expected to be: Diplomat, philosopher, politician, fight referee, pediatrician, policewoman, practical nurse... and quiz program conductor.

She has little children in her eyes...And all her dreams are young dreams.

She's a psychiatrist without a couch...Politician without a promise...Babysitter without the right to raid the icebox.

She makes more money than a dishwasher...Or a ditchdigger...or garbage collector...

She makes less money than a woman wrestler...Burlesque strip-tease dancer...Or the women blackjack dealers in Nevada.

Her days are filled with school bells...Young chatter... Chalk dust...Waving hands... Questions...and worried parents.

A Teacher Is Equally Adept At: Blowing small noses, teaching fractions, putting on galoshers, finding lost mittens in dark cloak rooms--and making parents feel good at parent-teacher meetings.

She spends four years in college, studying hard, in order to learn how to: Make orange paper pumpkins at Halloween, umpire baseball games at recess time, tell young boys to throw bubblegum in the waste

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TURNED OFF — Three year old Kathy, adorable daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Hudgins of Route 1, Merritt, knows exactly how to avoid what she doesn't want to hear, and demonstrates that fact. However, females of every age are much too curious to keep their ears out of commission, and Kathy is no exception. During her short life she has discovered that the world is full of interesting sounds and choice conversation, and very little of what goes on in her

vicinity escapes her attention. Fortunately, she is too young to have serious concern for the ills confronting our nation, and that, in times like these, is not the least of childhood's many blessings. Kathy's world is much nicer than ours, peopled with Santa Claus, fairies, Mother Goose, and the Sand Man, to name just a few. Wouldn't you like to share it for a change?

—Photo by Eunice Wray.