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Letter to Editor of the Star

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Editor the Star,

Mephisto. She is not the first,
Faust. Not the first! Woe! Woe!

By no human soul is it conceivable that more
than one human creature has ever suffered thus.

The pity of the case mentioned by a recent correspondent
in the Star under "Fair Pay for Teachers who Hire Substitutes"
is not only that "There are others" but that the article
allowed in the Star of December 11 is, so far as I know,
the first ^{attack} attempt on the part of the Public Press to correct
by publicity or propaganda a hoary injustice & deeply
entrenched wrong against a class of sufferers, too
proud to beg & too highly appreciated by the community
to be listed as "opportunities" by Associated Charities.

It ought to go without saying that a teacher excluded
thro no fault of her own ^{or desire of her own} on account of disability incurred
in the line of duty should not be required to fill the
vacancy at her own expense. On the other hand, ^{willful} absence
from duty on the part of any employe from the highest
to the lowest should be taxed according to the income
of that employe. A perfectly simple proposition that makes
the average mind wonder at the complicated con-
glomerate into which we have to adjust ourselves.
A few highly paid substitutes, not enough by a tenth
to do all ^{or the most necessary} ~~the~~ substituting on demand & yet severely taxing
the ingenuity of administrative officers to find something
for them to do when the machinery is running normally.

& then the double & treble accounting for the old line or outside substitutes ^{who are still necessary as heretofore} (according as the pay must come from the teachers pocket after she has her check or be taken from the check before it is made out at the District Building.

A perfect substitute is a moral impossibility; a good substitute is difficult & requires not only broad preparation but constant refurbishing & refurnishing. None should be expected to work for less than \$4.00 but there should be a flat rate for all, ^{because} one link of a chain is as important as another. At the same time the larger appropriation is necessary for just such cases as was mentioned by your correspondent Dec. 11 & it should be added the surplus from taxation of all unnecessary absence graduated, as all taxes are, by ability to pay.