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## 07/03/1947 Letter from a Lewiston Citizen [W.P.F]

W. P. F.

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Lewiston, Maine.

July 3, 1947.

Mayor Louis P. Gagne.

Lewiston, Maine.

Honorable Mayor:

Since there is a possibility of having to appoint someone to fill the unexpired term of Alton Lessard on the School Board, and you have that privilege, have you ever thought of appointing a woman?

The women in this city, who have children in the public schools know that the parents and children too, have problems, as well as the teachers do. I suggest that you appoint a woman who has children in the public schools, not in parochial schools.

I have in mind a very competent woman, Mrs. Fred J. McCarthy. When her oldest girl was in the lower grades, and I had children in school at that time, she was in favor of, and tried to get, the older backward children (13-14-15 years old) put into an ungraded group, preferably at Jordan School, where they would be with children of their own age, instead of with little tots. Such was the case at that time. Since then, and again at her suggestion they hired a Miss Scott to do the change over job. Her idea was to let this be done by the regular staff. All this needed was an intelligent Principal, and full cooperation from the teachers.

I think your present School Board is making an effort to rid our system of the drones, and hope they will keep up the good work.

Mary McCarthy is long prominent in social, civic, and Catholic organizations and was associated with her husband in business for years at the Quality Shop where they were known to all as Mary and Fred. She is now a licensed real estate salesman. We who know her from childhood have complete confidence in her



judgment. Her sense of duty and honesty is above reproach.

I have been a voter in Ward 2 for many years, and since you were my choice for Mayor, I have watched with pride your many appointments and your sincere effort to work for the good of us all.

You are doing a fine job. May God direct you now and always.

With best wishes to you and yours, I am sincerely,

A fellow citizen,

W.P.F.