gram sentences. The class would produce a vast quantity of themes. The class would read Shakespeare. And the class would take a state-wide examination to determine how well the lessons had been learned.

She was, in many ways, the Miss Dove of my experience except she lacked the outer sternness.

I must confess that I joined the general attitude that she was living in the past. Only when I reached college did I understand her contribution. As freshman themes piled on freshman themes, and I watched the other students worry with basic grammar, I began to know her worth. Her grammar lessons remained with me. It has been said that none of her students who went to college failed their English requirements. She is still teaching and she is still considered a bit "old fashioned." I hope she wears the description proudly.

The other two teachers who offered me a measure of teaching greatness are still associated with the University of Oklahoma. They impressed me for entirely different reasons. One taught me the value of human understanding in a Spanish class. The other caused a closed mind to open. I am not sure which was the greater accomplishment.

What is the point in relating such personal experiences? How does the testimony of the editor concern the reader?

What we think of our teachers is a concern for everyone. At the present time the teacher supply is not great enough to meet the teacher need. One of the principal causes for such a shortage is the lack of public esteem for our teachers. As much a contributing factor as money to the decline of the American school teacher is the general apathy patrons indicate toward those who teach their children.

By offering the teachers of yesterday the thanks they deserve, we can say to a new group of Americans who are selecting careers, "Why not teach?"

And perhaps this personal recital will stir others to write a letter or offer an expression of gratitude to those who offered them an extra measure of educational opportunity. Gratitude may not fatten the pay envelope, but it will go a long way with teachers who have dedicated themselves to an often thankless task.