

St. Louis Teacher, Grandmother, Urged for National Award

Mrs. Elizabeth Dale Has
Taught School Here
for 55 Years.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE GLOBE-DEMOCRAT.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—A teacher of first primary pupils in the St. Louis schools for the past fifty-five years has been entered by her friends as a contestant for the American teacher award to be made by the Sesqui-centennial International Exposition, which opens at Philadelphia on June 1. She is Mrs. Elizabeth M. Dale of 5701 Julian avenue, St. Louis, a great-great-grandmother, whose sponsors declare that "time has not touched her spirit except to brighten it more and more." This information comes from the publicity department of the exposition.

Awards have been established by the directors of the American Youth and the American Teacher. The boys and girls and teachers chosen for the awards will be the guests of directors, with all expenses paid, from June 28 to July 3 at Philadelphia and Washington, where medals will be conferred upon them by President Coolidge, according to the announcement, but President Coolidge may not be in Washington during that time.

Two Sponsors.

The sponsors for Mrs. Dale are J. C. Edwards, 510 Fairview avenue, Webster Groves, principal of the Clinton School, St. Louis, in which the candidate still is teaching children of the first grade, and Miss Elsie Stradal, 3072 Russell boulevard, St. Louis, a school-teacher. In preparing Mrs. Dale's entry form, they wrote:

"She is a great-great-grandmother. She has taught in the St. Louis schools fifty-five years. Most of this time she has taught in the first primary room in the poorest districts of the city, where she has to be mother as well as teacher. A closet in her room is always stocked with clothing for her charges. Many a time I have peeped into the closet and caught her bedecking some little waif from head to foot.

"Never Grows Weary."

"She weighs less than 100 pounds, but her little body seems never to grow weary. Time has not touched her spirit, except to brighten it more and more. Her motherly smile makes every little eye in her room sparkle. She has a keen mind and possesses rare executive ability. Never, to my knowledge, has she asked for any favor for herself, but she is always delighting her friends with some little remembrance—a box of candy made with her own hands, a dainty piece of needlework which to her was a labor of love. The patter, patter of the thousands of little feet that she has with so much loving care started upon their destiny, will be audible as long as time lasts."

The American Youth award and American Teacher award are being administered in Missouri by a state committee headed by E. M. Carter, active chairman, appointed by Gov. Sam A. Baker, honorary chairman of the committee.