

# October 1909



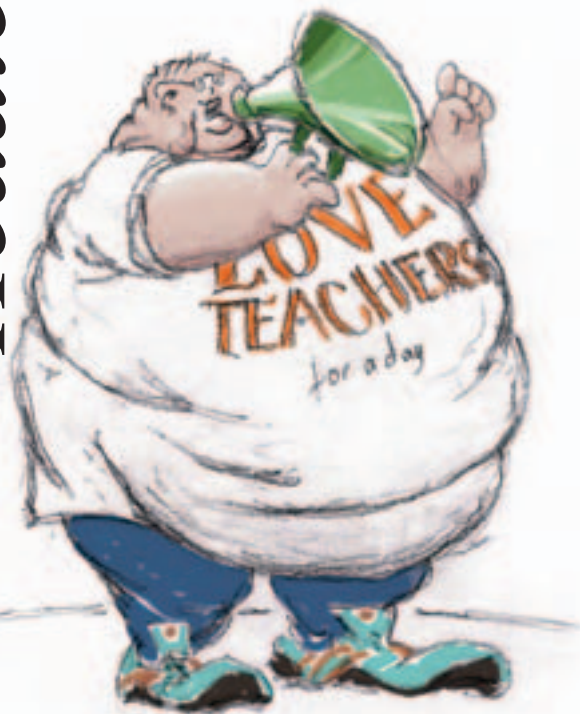
## Headteacher's log

### Monday 11

I am still monitoring Mr Peel's cocaine intake, first identified by an Ofsted drugs check. It apparently started when he attended a diocesan conference for aspiring church school deputy heads entitled 'Be inclusive or we'll break you'. The Bishop of the Diocese, Dr Potsmoker, had given the evening an American flavour with liberal servings of Coca Cola. Peel's doctor has put him on a withdrawal medicament called Dasani, and this morning Peel told me that it was proving effective. He confided that he had an incentive to kick his habit, as Ms Oakenstaff had refused to go out with him unless, like her, he confined his drinking to water.

### Tuesday 12

Ms Oakenstaff, my deputy, worried me by announcing this morning that she was on hunger strike in sympathy with force-fed suffragettes. Ofsted will make no allowance for decline in teaching performance, as it would if she were a Muslim in Ramadan. I am miffed at Ms O's unpro-



Dr Beam could love teachers deeply for a whole hour at a time. Certainly until lunch.

fessional jeopardising of the school's rating by her trivial political gesture.

### Wednesday 13

Seven sites for new primary schools have been designated within a two mile radius of here, bringing to ten the potential number of schools serving a primary school population of 300. A baby-boom looming? No, but both main political parties are promising increased choice of schools for parents, and have agreed to stake out the necessary land prior to the general election. Fortunately, with the current surplus of primary teachers, there will be many new jobs in empty classrooms.

### Thursday 14

I spent the day working on plans to add a full Y4 class of German children to our intake. There is a government grant for this, as it's believed to be in the interests of international peace for German children to spend a year in our open peace-loving country. A corresponding offer from the Kaiser to let English children sample Teutonic Kultur is still being considered in Whitehall. In case anything comes of it, I've ordered intensive practice of Wagner's Ring Cycle for our present Y3 choir and recorder groups. The government announced today a golden hallo and a 50% above-scale salary for teachers of rifle-shooting.

### Friday 15

All my staff will be in Swampbridge Cathedral on Sunday for the first LT FAD (Love Teachers For A Day). The idea is to 'celebrate' (a much used word) the country's teachers with a high-profile, media-grabbing, heart-warming public display of emotion which will show teachers that people care about them. It is to be a one-day event, so as not to bore the public, and will be held on a Sunday, when the heavily Sabbatarian restriction of shopping and public amusements will ensure that there will be no competition except church services. So teachers from all over the county will gather in the cathedral to be loved effusively for an hour at a service led by the new Dean, Dr Beam, who recently became the first openly obese Dean in the Church of England.

■ Leonard Bookman