

Failure on a Streetcar

William McKinley, the 25th U.S. President, once had to choose between two equally qualified men for a key job. He puzzled over the choice until he remembered a long-ago incident.

On a rainy night, McKinley had boarded a crowded streetcar. One of the men he was now considering had also been aboard, although he did not see McKinley.

Then an old woman carrying a basket of laundry struggled into the car, looking in vain for a seat. The job candidate pretended not to see her and stayed put. McKinley, however, gave up his seat to help her.

Remembering the episode, which he called “this little omission of kindness,” McKinley decided against the man on the streetcar.

Our decisions – even the small, fleeting ones – tell a lot about us.

As leaders in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, we are always in the spotlight. Watching what we do, and matching that up with what we say, are residents, family members, associates and, yes, even citizens from the community at large.

We are in the people business, and acting with kindness and compassion is always appreciated.

And noted if we don't.

--Beecher Hunter