

Kindergarten Helps Parents

Articles Issued by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education and the National Education Association

MUSIC IS A NECESSITY

By MRS. HARRIET AYERS SEY.

I know a mother with four children who made up her mind that home should be a very heaven. To her, music was God's special gift to mothers and children, and so she began singing regularly with each of her babies.

There are many lovely songs which a mother can learn, and the best of all are the folk songs of different countries.

Archibald T. Davidson and T. W. Suret have collected some excellent and familiar ones in an inexpensive book called "Fifty Lute Songs," published by the Boston Music Company. These include English and other foreign folk songs.

A gay song for baby as he eats his breakfast and a quiet one as he lies down to go to sleep—these will sink in deep and form a wonderful foundation for the music of his life.

With the older babies have a regular singing time. Five o'clock is a good hour. The children of whom I speak had a "sing-a-long" every day at five, and sometimes the neighbors came in and sang with them. Their mother grew to be such a strong influence in the community that many persons came to her for advice and refreshment.

Singing Instead of Nagging.
Nagging is often simply a lack of something better to do. A friend of this woman in speaking of her home life said, "She has substituted singing for nagging."

"Small Songs for Small Singers" by Neidlinger (G. Schirmer, New York publisher; \$2.50 illustrated; 75 cents without illustration) is a good collection for children from four to six years old. These songs are very simple, simple, and rather full of jokes—"Jockey" as one child said.

Here are the words of a great favorite in this collection:
Mister frog came out of the pond one day,
And found himself in the rain,
Bald he sat, with a little may catch cold,
So he jumped in the pond again.
"Joy is the best tonic there is, and happiness creates health. The children's song-hour will affect the atmosphere of the whole house."

Another good lot of songs is a collection of "Nature Songs for Children" by Knowlton, published by M.H. Bradley Company, Springfield, Mass., for \$1, and there are lovely collections by Eleanor Smith and Jessie Gaynor.

Any mother who has had the regulation nursery lessons can play simple songs and can learn to guide her children into a singing life.

Teach the children to listen to birds and to remember their calls. There is a book of bird-calls by Oids which is very good. Its title is "Twenty-five Bird Songs for Children" and it is published by G. Schirmer, New York, for \$1.25.

Sing, "Come and be washed," instead of saying it. Here is a little tune spontaneously sung by a child of six: "Something ever, ever, sings." The little child was right, but the trouble is, most of us do not listen. Ask your question in song, mother, and your foot will be answered by a cheerful singing reply.

"Baby, where are you?" sung on a simple ascending scale will soon bring a musical reply from a hidden child of "I am hiding here."

Play softly, sing gently and listen. Teach to Follow Tune.

During the day take some familiar tune and swing the rhythm with the arms. Let the children step it, finding out where the strong and weak lines come. Afterward, have them draw lines on the blackboard to show this duration, thus:

Let them find in which direction the tune goes up or down, and make pictures of it either denoting the direction with a sweep of the hands or drawing a sweeping line on the blackboard.

Singing, swinging, stepping and making pictures and music is a child's natural life in music as fish in water or birds in the air.

If there are quarrels and tears, play something pretty and think the word Harmony. See how this calms the atmosphere. "The mother I speak of controlled her children almost entirely through the power of constructive thought and music. They easily yielded to the word Peace sung gently over and over."

Mothers, if they only knew it, have the making of a new world of love in their keeping, and music is a torch to light them on the way.

A Bird in the Hand

(Special Information Service, United States Department of Agriculture.)

HOW CULLING PAYS POULTRY KEEPER.

their superior strength and vigility, qualities so essential to layers if they are to stand up under the severe strain of heavy laying. Under war conditions it is imperative that the poor producers be weeded out, the slacker hen must go. Weeding out the poor hen gives those left more room and a better chance. Where trap nesting is practiced, culling is a comparatively simple process.

Culling should be continuous throughout the year. This continuous culling should consist of weeding out, when discovered, any hen which is sick, which is very thin or emaciated, which shows indications of non-producers, weakness, or poor vitality.

The whole flock should also be given a careful and systematic culling at some one time. The hens should be handled individually and gone over carefully with the object of dividing them into two lots, one the better producers and the other the poorer producers. From the better producers it is also desirable to pick out as many of the best as will be needed for breeding.

When a single systematic culling is made, the best time to do this is in August or September. At this time it is easier to form a fairly close estimate of the relative value of a hen as an egg producer and to weed out the non-producers. Hens which show indications of laying at this time are those which on the average have been the better producers for the year. It must be remembered, also, that the best producers during the first laying year are those which will be the better producers in subsequent years. Hens showing indications of having been good producers throughout the year should be retained for the next year regardless of their age, but relatively few hens will prove to be profitable producers beyond their second laying year of the heavier breeds, such as the Plymouth Rock, Rhode Island Red, Wyandotte, or Orpington, or beyond their third laying year if of the lighter breeds such as the Leghorn. Additional culling during July is also desirable in order to eliminate those which have started to molt and have stopped laying.

In going over the entire flock for the purpose of culling there are a number of points or characteristics which should be given special attention in selecting the layers from the nonlayers. Where the different characteristics, or several of them in the case of any individual, agree as indicating good production or poor production, selection is comparatively accurate. Where they do not agree, judgment must be used in deciding which should be given the greatest weight. The following are the main points to consider:

Sickness and lack of vigor are usually indicated by listlessness, inactivity, tendency to stay on or under the roost during the day, poor appetite, dull eyes, dark or bluish color of comb, long toe nails, snaky or crooked head, and the tendency to go to roost early in the evening and to be one of the last to leave the roost in the morning.

Healthy, strong, vigorous, alert and active; good enter; not molting or just beginning to molt in September or October; with large, moist, waxy or with large, bright-red combs; thin, pliable pelvic bones well spread apart, wide spread between pelvic bones and rear end of keel, and large soft, pliable abdomen. In breeds with yellow skins and shanks, the hens saved should also show pale or white shanks, and pale or white beaks and vents.

Produce the infertile egg. Infertile eggs are produced by hens that have no male birds with them. Removing the male bird has no influence on the number of eggs laid by the hens.

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CHILDREN'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER

JIMMIE'S AIRPLANE.

"A little boy named Jimmie," said Daddy, "wanted an airplane—a little toy make-believe airplane for a Christmas present."

"I'd like one myself," said Nick. "Do you suppose Santa Claus will give me one? I do want one so much. I know other boys who'd rather have trains or guns or make-believe soldiers, but I would like to have an airplane."

"Well, I don't know any other way of attending to it but the usual good old-fashioned way. You write a letter to Santa Claus and address it: 'Santa Claus, Esq., Care of the Fireplace, Near the North Pole.' Then you put your letter down here by the fireplace."

"Daddy," interrupted Nancy. "Yes?" questioned Daddy. "Do you want an airplane, too?" "No," laughed Nancy, "but I was thinking . . ."

"What were you thinking of?" asked Daddy. "I was thinking, or rather I was wondering, what children would do who hadn't any airplanes in their homes—like many of the city children."

"There is no telling," said Daddy, "but your letters by the fire-escapes, for Santa Claus comes a-visitin' all around to get letters, and they can give them to their daddies to post for them, as daddies are usually told where Santa Claus is going to have all his branch post offices."

"In fact," continued Daddy, "I do believe that where Santa Claus is going to get his mail, will reach him if the address reads simply: 'Santa Claus, Esq., or Mr. Santa Claus.'"

"Do you suppose I will get an airplane?" asked Nick. "You'd better get your letter off, Daddy, will certainly give it to you if he can. He does all that he possibly can, when he can't do any more he never wants to see a child feel badly, for all he asks for is thanks for his wonderful Christmas work."

"Santa Claus doesn't care about boys any more than he does about girls, and he doesn't care about girls any more than he does about boys. He just loves them all—all boys and girls."

"But write your letter, Nick, and tell Santa Claus what you want, and that you'd like it very much if all the airplanes aren't already promised. I heard a report that Santa Claus had been asked for a great many of them this year more than he expected he would be asked for."

"Tell us about Jimmie," asked Nick. And Nancy added: "Yes, when Christmas time comes near we get talking and talking of all the wonderful things to talk about at Christmas time, and we almost forget to hear Daddy's story."

"Well, Jimmie wrote a letter to Santa Claus not long ago, and he wrote the following: 'My name is Jimmie—that is, I am called Jimmie, though my real name is Harold. But don't ever speak of me as Harold, for though I think it's a very nice name and though I don't object to it in the least, still I never called anything but Jimmie. And I like Jimmie for a name, too, don't you, Santa Claus? It's a very nice name—and it's so easy to say. I tell you all this because I'm sure you won't ask for Harold's stocking when you're around on Christmas eve. Please Santa Claus, don't forget to ask for Jimmie's stocking! And for Jimmie's house—Harold's house. There are other Jimmies in the world, but I'm the only Jimmie in my house, so you will know."

"Please, dear Santa Claus, give me a little toy airplane. For when I'm a big man I want to get up in the air in a real one! I'd love to fly and so I'd like a little airplane which would fly around the room as I've seen them do, in the store. The store at the second corner after passing my house has one. It looks like a nice one, too. 'Wishing you a merry Christmas, your loving friend Jimmie. And Santa has reserved the airplane for his little friend Jimmie. I've heard,' concluded Daddy.

"The Preferred Ones." "What are the mermaids' favorite pets?" "I suppose they are ocean grephounds and sea-puppies."

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KIDNEY TROUBLE NOT EASILY RECOGNIZED

Applicants for Insurance Often Rejected

An examining physician for one of the prominent life insurance companies, in an interview of the subject, made the astonishing statement that one reason why so many applicants for insurance are rejected is because kidney trouble is so common to the American people, and the large majority of those whose applications are rejected do not even suspect that they have the disease.

Judging from reports from drug stores who are constantly in direct touch with the public, there is one preparation that has been very successful in averting the onset of kidney trouble. This is the preparation of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, which is soon realized. It stands the highest for its remarkable record of success.

We find that Swamp-Root is strictly an herbal compound and we would advise our readers who feel in need of such a remedy to give it a trial. It is on sale at all drug stores in bottles of two sizes, medium and large.

However, if you wish first to test this great preparation ask ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper—Adv.

ROYAL PALACE—LITTLE USED

Castle of Nuremberg, in Germany. Was, However, Always Kept in Readiness for Occupancy.

Every large city in Germany has a palace or two, some more, Hanover has four, and so on. All these palaces were occupied more or less permanently by members of the reigning family. As an example of one not so occupied, but always kept ready for occupancy, may be mentioned the castle of Nuremberg.

It is of the medieval type; thick stone walls, towers, dungeons and all the things that go to make up the castle of one's imagination. It stands upon a hill which commands a view of the surrounding country—a necessity in the times during which it was built.

Most of the interior is now a museum which is educational in its way, especially the rooms containing the instruments of torture, some of which were in use during the eighteenth century.

Many of our American women were unable to take up the duties of nursing at the front, but they should know how to take care of their own at home, and for this purpose no better book was ever printed than the Medical Adviser—a book containing 1,008 pages, and bound in cloth, with chapters on First Aid, Bandaging and care of Fractures, Taking care of the Sick, Physiology, Hygiene, Sex Problems, Mother and Babe, which can be had at most drug stores, or sent 50 cents to the publishers, 663 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

The women at home, who are worn out, who are nervous or dizzy at times, should take that reliable, temperance, herbal tonic, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

By City, Mich.—"Dr. Pierce's medicine has been used in my family ever thirty years and I think everyone related to me has used them and with success."

"I have taken both Favorite Prescription and Golden Medical Discovery as well whenever I was sick and I have never been cured. Dr. Pierce's medicine has been my 'family remedy' for years. It can remove all ailments both old and young. If directions are followed they can't fail. I have used it for years."

"I am only too glad to have the chance to give you more praise for Dr. Pierce's medicine. 1008 N. Johnson St."

SAVE COAL BY USING PHOENIX MINERAL The Coal Saver

THOUSANDS of people are using this wonderful PHOENIX MINERAL and find it a great coal and money saver. Simple to use, treats coal in a minute; coal then has no soot, less smoke, no bad gases, no cinders, and few ashes. Therefore, 1/4 to 1/2 more heat. It makes no difference what grade of coal or coke you use.

PHOENIX Mineral is guaranteed not to injure your stove, range or furnace. It is safe for use in all kinds of stoves and furnaces. Remember it produces 1/4 to 1/2 more heat. It will treat one ton of either hard or soft coal or coke.

Delf Jack Frost with less coal and more heat and save money. Write for test packages. It will dig through those things that come. SEND OUT FOR THIS COAL SAVING PREPARATION. Continental Chemical Co., Desver, Colo. Write for live agent in your locality. Write for our proposition.

Cuticura Soap Ideal for the Complexion

Colds Crow Better