

CHURCH TRAMP ARTICLES

Having To Do With A Real Revival Of Religion In Christian Homes By GENERATION AND REGENERATION

The Birth of Holy Children (1 Cor. 7:14) and Their Nurture By Christian Parents, in Christian Homes Directed and Supported By The Christian Church

(Editor's Note: This is one of a series of articles that appeared in the Detroit News-Tribune from the years 1930-1931. They were written by Henry Wood Beach...

AUGUST 11, 1907.

The Ladies Home Journal Having, During a Number of Months Just Past, Published a Series of Articles Written, Some by the Editor, Some by Doctors of Divinity, Others by Doctors of Medicine, One by a Judge, and Others by Women Having Wide Experience With Hundreds of Children...

A correspondent asks: "Do you think it is wise to raise in the minds of young children, boys and girls, thoughts about sex..."

The next article is found on the editorial page of the April number. It gives first an item of material from Chicago, Feb. 27, and is headed "School Children in Vice, Investigation Reveals Shocking Conditions..."

"Shocking conditions among some of the pupils attending the public schools were revealed, and the parents of fifteen children, hailed into...

court, were warned that they must watch their children more closely. Immediate steps to combat the evil which is declared to be rampant to exist among the pupils in nearly every school in the city will be taken by the board of education."

On this item the editor comments as follows: "Notice carefully the statement: 'The parents of fifteen children, hailed into court, were warned that they must watch their children more closely...'"

"It is always the same question that is put to me in the scores of letters that I have been asked to attend. 'Doctor, why didn't my parents tell me about these things? And then generally follows the hee-haw: "All this might so easily have been spared them and me. I had only a word to say about these things; if they had only told me..."

"The second is a 12-year-old girl of 15, suffering from an attack of acute mania brought on through want of proper attention during her period. But she must have had a very careless or a very ignorant mother indeed."

"The third is another 14-year-old girl—these cases are all of girls 12 to 18, as you will see. The magazine I am alluding to is the one that is referred to as when it refers to 'parents' it usually means mothers—this girl also had something the matter with her, which could all have been prevented, according to Dr. Howard, if the mother had only 'told Mamie about life.'"

"The fourth is about a 12-year-old girl in whom the doctor detected a womanly development in action and figure, also that she 'was by no means innocent. Her activities and her mother regarding the instruction necessary to save her. But the advice was unheeded. "Two years after the mother," he says, 'came to ask me to see what was the matter with her daughter. When he examined the girl, she said: 'No, mamma would never tell me anything; she said I was not old enough, that all would come in time, and I kept telling her and thought that if there were anything wrong or dangerous she would have said so. I went to a doctor. I believed—I believed him, when he told me all little girls learn in this way.'"

"Then, concluding, Dr. Howard says in part: 'It is not a question as to whether times have changed since the present mothers were young girls, but the fact that now there are different opportunities for a child to read and hear of matters that are bound to arouse her curiosity. Especially is this so in the adolescent girl where every sense is open to suggestion, inquiry and instruction from other and reliable sources. She soon begins to side her knowledge and her thoughts from the one who should have been her confidence above all others. Distrusted ideas of all kinds creep into her mind and she is not only not properly read, and her imagination is not properly directed, but the company of older girls and the misguided mother think it is of benefit to her to have her read these slender girls the child learns truths which parental foresight could have set straight.'"

"The articles from which I have quoted the foregoing are doubtless some of the articles to which the correspondent refers. Now strike me thus: 'The whole discussion is vague and..."

enigmatical. One has to guess at the meaning. All readers have some idea which is declared to be rampant to exist among the pupils in nearly every school in the city will be taken by the board of education."

"I represent here the readers of this page, who are parents. I have lived with my children through the years, for now within a few months of 50 years. We began life young and we were given no instruction as to the part of our parents concerning what the Home Journal terms the 'mysteries of life.' I have lived with my wife and I have had a family of five sons and five daughters. Today nine of these are living—men, women, and nearly all have homes and families of their own, so that I have already 15 grandchildren. In conclusion, I just name some of what I believe are the real causes of this recognized evil, as follows: 1. Co-education: Girls older than 7 and boys older than 10 should not be taught in the same room and allowed to play with each other freely. 2. The public school: Here children of the highest and best type are mixed with the lowest and worst, the result being a composite, lacking positive character, and so forth. 3. Lack of moral discipline in homes as well as schools. 4. Men and women living together in sin and dishonoring the Lord's name. 5. Young girls and boys are actually sent to certain schools to be taught the 'mysteries of life' in a room commonly called 'dancing.' 6. Young girls and men of questionable character are allowed to work together in the same place, and are allowed to play together in the same place. 7. Young girls and men of questionable character are allowed to work together in the same place, and are allowed to play together in the same place. 8. Young girls and men of questionable character are allowed to work together in the same place, and are allowed to play together in the same place. 9. Young girls and men of questionable character are allowed to work together in the same place, and are allowed to play together in the same place. 10. Young girls and men of questionable character are allowed to work together in the same place, and are allowed to play together in the same place."

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