CLUB AND PERSONAL NOTES

From A WOMAN'S ANGLE

By MARJORIE ELAINE PORTER

The "where-are-your-rubbers? Did-you-brush-your-teeth?" type of mother, who lined her children up for military inspection before she marched them off to school, is no more.

At least, she should be no more, if she is to be a Class A mother according to the modern rating.

The children's Bureau in Washington has issued a new set of rules for mothers apropos of the opening of schools.

If you are the type of mother who washed your five-year - old's face and combed his tousled hair, and buttoned him into a freshly ironed suit, and laced his home-shined shoes all ready for kindergarten, you have been wasting energy.

Marjorie Porter

So says the Children's Bureau. "Perfectly absurd!" Bureau "experts" point out, "even a four-year-old can do these things for himself."

Their advice is to place a box in front of the wash basin so even the kindergartners of the family can conveniently perform their own ablutions.

"Let even the smallest children get themselves off to school," Bureau "experts" counsel mothers.

They offer numerous suggestions as to how Little Willie can dress himself and not look as if he might have fallen through the clothes chute to appear in what he collected on the way down.

For instance, if he has difficulty getting into his beeveedee's, his mother should mark the outside of said article with colored stitching so that he won't get it on inside-out or back-side-to.

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The idea being to encourage children to do all they can for themselves, and to make it as easy as possible.

Fine. Applause from the gallery!

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But the point is, Bureau "experts" point out, that while the child is doing what he can easily learn to do, his mother should be performing a more important duty:

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Namely and t'wit, that of devoting "home attention to how Junior will psychologically fit into the school regime."

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Don't worry as to whether Jimmie has covered the entire area of the back of his neck with soap and water.

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What if he hasn't!

According to the Bureau it is more important to worry about the state of his mind.

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Mothers wishing to follow the Bureau's instructions should try to answer these questions.

They might compile questionnaires to send to themselves, inquiring:

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"Is your child bright?"
"Is he quick but careless?"
"Is he slow but careful?"
"Is he quick with his head but slow with his hands?"
"Is he slow with his head but quick with his hands?"
"Is he slow in every way?"

—o—

And while mother is trying to figure out whether Jimmie is a fast-worker, or whether he operates with his hands in high-gear while his head is in low, Jimmie may be painfully laboring to school with his shoes on the wrong feet.

—o—

We are all for encouraging independence even in those whom mechanine isobbers persistently term "the kiddies."

But we are also rather strong for hygienic as well as psychological supervision.

—o—

Breathes there the boy with soul so dead,
Who never to his Maw hath said:
Aw, I DID wash my ears!

—o—

Personally, we know a four-year-old who takes great pride in his ability to wash his hands. He will emerge from the wash-basin with hands that would easily pass the National Board of Review for cleanliness.

But his face! And when he is reminded that he did not wash his face, he exclaims in surprise, "But I can't see my face!"

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If tots could be disciplined to wash themselves thoroughly, to get their clothes on neatly, and to start off on time for school with every hair and button in place, it seems to us, they would not need much psychological supervision.

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It stands to reason that there must be pretty good co-ordination beween the head and hands of five, six, seven or even of eight-year-old children who can get bathed and dressed presentably without assistance in the short time between the ringing of the alarm clock and the school bell.

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To accomplish this feat alone, head and hands would have to be running about neck-and-neck.

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Wouldn't it be a practical solution to let Young Hopeful wash and dress himself while mother looked on with such mild suggestions as:

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"If you could turn your ears inside out, Sonny, would you be ashamed to wear them that way because you'd forgotten to wash them?"

—o—

Or: "If your neck were a merry-go-round, how would the back look when it came to the front?".

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And while she watched the process, mother might be taking mental note of whether her child were fast or slow with head or hands or vice versa, by watching him in action.

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At the same time she could be assured that he had gone out to school hygienically as well as psychologically, a credit to the family reputation.

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Every time a family circle is augmented with the arrival of an additional six or seven pound member, the question of a name naturally arises.

—o—

And the way some parents choose names resembles sheep jumping over a fence.

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If we only had a census to determine how many Hetty Jeans, Perry Jeans, Betty Annes, Joans, Bettys, Annes, Barbaras, Nancys' Bobbies, Juniors, etc. etc., it might be helpful to parents striving for individuality in names.

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Down in New Cumberland, W. Va., the monthly report of the state health department showed that of the 51 babies born, only one was named Mary, two John, two Nicholas and four Betty.

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Some parents in Cumberland striving to doubt for the uncommon, afflicted their offspring with the names Osman, Lonnie and Romeo.

—o—

Of course we don't advocate going this far! But why give baby a name that, like a ready-made dress, will be encountered so often in duplicate?

SOCIAL BRIEFS

Mr. and Mrs. Loudon Wilson of Ferndale and their sons, Craig, Alan, and Gary, were guests Sunday evening for tea at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice E. Carter of Ann street.

—

Mrs. Fred Prentice of Ann street, her daughter, Kathleen, and her son, Norman, returned Sunday from Vaughn Lake where they spent a two weeks' vacation.

—

James McIlroy, son of Mr. and Mrs. William McIlroy of Ann street, was their guest for the past week, and Mr. Herbert McBride, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. McBride of Ann street was a guest the previous week.

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Mrs. Marie Whitney of Townsend street was a recent guest at the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. James Cobb at Square Lake.

—

Mrs. James Gordon of Davis avenue returned Friday from Ishpeming, Mich., where she spent several weeks vacation.

—

Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Smith of Kenilesaw avenue returned Sunday evening from their summer home at Pine Lake where they have spent the past four months. Mr. and Mrs. Prall Smith of Newark, N. J. who were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Smith, left last week.

—

Mrs. Minnie Baker of Landon street, her daughter, Alice, and Mrs. Sarah Campbell of Purdy street, attended the 100th reunion of the school at Newburgh near Plymouth, last week.

—

Theodore Allen, professor at Marion, O., who has spent part of the summer as the guest of his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Gordon of Davis avenue, left this week to return for the opening of school.

—

Mrs. Metta Stryker of Chicago, mother of Dr. Paul J. Stryker of Ferndale avenue, will spend the winter with Mrs. Sarah Campbell of Purdy street.

—

Mrs. Allen McGirr of Madison avenue entertained the Past Noble Grand Club of the Rebecca Lodge Tuesday at a pot luck dinner. The regular monthly meeting took place at this time.

—

Miss Hazel Symons of Brown street recently returned from a two weeks' vacation visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. O. H. Knox of Bay City. Mrs. Knox was formerly Miss Elsie Symons of Birmingham.

—

Mrs. Garner Miller of Seventeen Mile road is spending a week at Clarks Lake as the guest of her sister, Mrs. Fred Silk.

—

Mrs. Walter Nichols of Cranbrook has had as her guests for several days, Mrs. Maud Hopkins and her daughters, Marjorie and Dorothy, of Wixom, Mich.

—

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. O'Brien of Manton, Mich., and their daughter, Fannie, were the guests last week of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Symons of Brown street. Miss Fannie will remain for an indefinite stay, visiting relatives in and around Birmingham.

—

Craig Pote of Ann street returned Friday from Camp Custer Battle Creek, where he has spent the past month at he Citizens Military Training Camp.

—

Mrs. S. F. Trumbull of Ridgedale avenue entertained at luncheon Tuesday for Mrs. James Cobb of Oakland avenue, and Mrs. Marie Whitney of Townsend street.

—

Mr. and Mrs. Micheal Miller of Smith avenue returned Friday from a two weeks' trip through northern Michigan.

FRANKLIN

Mrs. Claude Denison, her daughter, Virginia, and son, John, and Mrs. Josephine West of Chicago visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Wood and Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Facer a few days last week.

—

Mr. and Mrs. Ray McCrumb, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Curin and Miss Evelyn Currin are spending the week at George Bingham's cottage at Hubbard Lake.

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Miss June Scott of Rochester has been visting Miss Ruth Wood for a few days this week.

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Franklin School will open Tuesday, Sept. 8. Last yera's teachers have been re-hired for this year. Mrs. Helen Simmons will teach the upper room and Mrs. Walter Luce the primary grades.

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The following students from Franklin will attend Pontiac and Birmingham High School: Lucile Facer, Evelyn Currin, Dorothy Sherwood, Ruth Brown, Ruth Wood, Richard Dayne,, Pontiac; Lucile Bingham and Wilma Wood, Birmingham.

—

Owen Raynor of Grand Blanc spent a few days last week at the home of his sisters, Mrs. Howard Case.

Miss Dorothy Sherwood is visiting at the home of her cousin, Mrs. Maurice Rhodes in Detroit.

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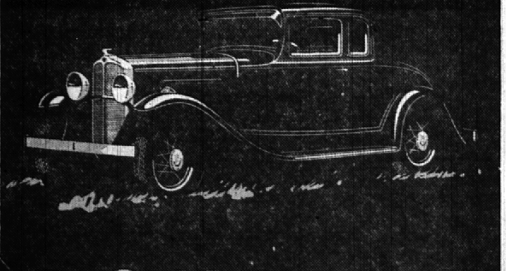

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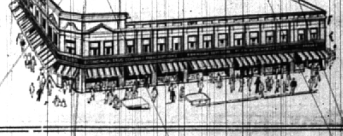

The Theatre Building on Woodward, south of Maple and the Briggs Building, Woodward at Maple