



# The Stork Report

by Ruth L. Anderson

**A**s we prepare for the end of this semester and look forward to summer, it would be very practical to look at some fresh new ideas for our families. Here is a pot-pourri of general practical ideas:

1. Taking care of a family garden in the summer is a great way to promote family togetherness. Teach lessons about responsibility while you save money on fresh fruits and vegetables.
2. Take time to do something special with each of your children separately. While you're alone, do more listening than talking.
3. Plan a weekly date night, for you and your husband or wife, when the two of you go out for dinner, a movie, or just a walk. It doesn't need to be expensive, but you do need to plan for time alone together regularly.
4. Have a family pick-up time, such as a half hour before dinner or bedtime. Make everyone stop what they're doing and pick up everything that's out of place.
5. Don't keep your closet cluttered with clothes you don't wear or don't feel good in. If you haven't worn it in the last year, give it away. If every time you wear it you feel fat or dumpy, give it away.
6. Teach your children about money from an early age. Talk about your buying decisions as you shop together. Give them an allo-

7. At least once a week have a "fancy" dinner with your family with candles, a tablecloth, and a centerpiece. Use the dinner as a special time of family togetherness. Have everyone dress up and observe their best manners.
8. You can "wallpaper" a room with sheets for a fraction of the price of wallpaper and

9. Keep a family calendar on your bulletin board (by the telephone). Be sure everyone jots down their activities and where they can be reached while away from home.
10. Nurture a positive attitude. Your physical,

mental, and spiritual health work together. Work on having a balanced life.

Being open to new ideas, new possibilities, new opportunities is how I plan to handle this sprung spring. Maybe then I can spring into action . . . (in time for final exams).

The credit for many of these ideas come from *201 Of The Very Best Practical Ideas*.

## Those Wonderful Words

**I**f you're suffering from galeanthropy you're under the mistaken belief that you're a cat. Well, you probably don't think you're mistaken but the people who stare while you lick your elbow on the bus don't share your opinion. Maybe you're not as fully feline as you feel. Maybe only part of you is a cat. This is a common belief among the French. The French get cats in their throats. The rest of us of course get frogs, or a little horse. And then there's a gobemoche who has a hang up for swallowing insects and gets a locust in his larynx every now and again.

Homo sapiens has indeed found amusing ways to busy himself in his leisure time. And furthermore he even sacrifices part of that

hard won time coining new words for all those new hobbies which consume the rest of it. Imagine if you will the torment of the first tyrosemiophilist, the anxiety of those sleepless nights as he lay in his bed swelled with pride over the magnificence of his collection of Camembert cheese labels yet feeling torturously hollow as his passion was nameless. Then one glorious morning, bold as the bags under his eyes, the word he had so long sought came to him: TYROSEMIOPHILY. And with that one small dollop of divine inspiration his life was once more complete and he lived happily ever after. Until someone maliciously destroyed the bliss of his ignorance by declaring that the only thing more ridiculous than collecting Camembert

cheese labels was fabricating a word for it.

No self-respecting cat would take up tyrosemiophilia. The Camembert gets all matted up in their fur as they try to carefully peel the labels off in one piece with their little paws. The French are fond of Camembert though, so much so they make us pronounce Camembert to rhyme with "hair" and not "flirt" as it's spelled. But judging from idiom, the French don't much like cats. The French always say they have other cats to whip when they mean fish to fry. And everyone loves a gobemoche, especially on those weekends at the cabin when you can't find those long sticky brown ceiling ornaments.

Sandra Petersson

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