

the things which the child learns. These simple things which he unconsciously makes his own in early childhood, are the things which he finds it hardest to change in later life ; and the parent who uses vulgar forms of speech, whose manners are rude, or who is careless in dress and in movement, is absolutely certain to see the fruits of his own bad habits repeated in his child.

But before the child is many months old he begins to imitate a good many things consciously ; he repeats the actions of others just to see what it feels like to do them, and to get a new experience. There is always a stage in the child's life when he acts out the part of the persons or things that he sees around him—the puffing steam-engine, the runaway horse, the angry parent, the policeman, the preacher, and a multitude of others ; each and all come in for their share. Of course this kind of imitation is valuable, for the child learns to do by doing, and he widens his knowledge of people and things by trying to put himself in their place ; and very little harm is likely to result, provided there is just sufficient oversight of this form of play to prevent him from attempting foolish and dangerous things.

But a little later on, still another form of imitation begins gradually to develop. The child comes to have an idea of means and end, and the object of imitating now is to secure certain results rather than merely to enjoy a new experience. The idea now, it may be, is to have a garden and raise flowers and vegetables like father's, to make a doll's dress like mother's, or to play a game of baseball like the older boys. Whether it is done in exactly the same way, of course does not matter, as long as it turns out all right, and answers the purpose. This is a variety of imitation that is most important in later life, for we are constantly trying to put into practice the new ideas that we learn from others.

But the great danger with children and grown-up people alike is that too often they imitate blindly and slavishly, without catching the spirit, or understanding the meaning, of what they imitate. For the highest development the mere slavish imitation of

outward forms is insufficient. In this, as in all other things, " the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life."

The University Schools, Toronto

The Papoose

As told by the pupils of the Indian School,
Birtle, Man.

By Rev. W. W. McLaren, M.A.

When a little Indian babe or papoose comes to an Indian home, he finds a warm, loose robe, a nicely beaded bonnet and a moss bag, ready. The moss bag is a cosy nest made of strong velvet or plaid, faced along the edges with leather pierced with holes for the leather thongs, with which the child is laced in like a foot in a shoe, only his wee face to be seen. To keep the child comfortable, he is bathed, objecting as much as any white child, dressed in his robe and bonnet, then laid in the opened bag upon some pieces of flannelette long enough to cover his face if asleep, and wide enough to enclose his whole body. This is the babe's cradle for one or two years. The bags are plain and fancy. Usually there is one of each kind for each child, one for the night and one for the day. The fancy one is decorated with silk sewing, beadwork and ribbons.

Often cushions of feathers, or bits of soft warmed dry moss are put about the arms, legs, and chest, so that the tender body touches only what is soft. The coverlets are folded, the bag laced up and the child ready for the day. The bag is fastened to a long wide board, painted red or green, and is then stood up against the wall or fastened to a tree or carried upon the mother's back by means of thongs which pass over the mother's head and around her breast and shoulders.

The child, if awake, can watch all that is going on. If restless, his hands are let free, and he plays with trinkets tied to the top of his board. Or he is taken out and, if able to creep, put upon the ground, after having his feet and legs clothed in moccasins.

Once able to walk, the child, if a boy, is dressed in cap, coat, long trousers and moccasins ; if a girl, with a long, gay-colored dress,