

About the House

INTEREST YOUR CHILDREN IN BOOKS.

A few days ago I drifted into one of the large book stores in a big city. My attention was immediately drawn to the number of people crowding around a certain department. Instinct told me there must be a bargain, and a woman's inclination toward bargains led me directly to that part of the store.

This large book store was promoting a sale of children's books. The eagerness and thoughtfulness with which these mothers, and I grant also grandmothers and aunts, were selecting books to develop along constructive channels the minds of the children in which they were interested, were entertaining.

I paused at one of the counters with more than ordinary interest in the situation. One prospective customer, drawing upon the opinion of a kindly saleslady, said, "I want a book that is easy for a ten-year-old girl to read."

This mother undoubtedly did not make this specification because she was afraid of giving the child something hard to do; but rather to instill in her youthful mind that reading is a pleasure.

It is essential also, that the books we select for children be interesting to them, as well as easy to read. Stories within the child's sphere of experience in life are most appreciated and leave their impression. Stories of imaginative happenings and unusual incidents are always entertaining and have their part in developing the imaginative nature of the child.

Mother and father may do much to lead the little folks to love the right kind of books. One mother recently told me of her experience in developing the reading habit in her young son. "His father and I often read the books he reads," she said, "so we can discuss it with him afterward. In some stories we try to see who can find the most hidden lessons. If we have other books that will help him to understand more thoroughly the one he is reading, we leave them lying on the library table where they will be sure to catch his eye. When he finds something himself, that connects up with what he has previously read in a story, it is much more interesting to him than as if we called his attention to it."

In working with children I have found that dramatizing certain scenes or a part of the story impresses the lesson upon the young mind almost indelibly. Months afterward the child will give voluntary reference to the story.

The child's mind is easily molded, and molding in the early days has a lasting effect upon the mature life of the child. If the child can be led to develop the reading habit as a pleasure, concentration in his later school work comes easily. Wise is the parent who sees to it that their children read the right kind of books, and plenty of them. The right reading habit developed in a child will cling to him when his school days are memories.

MONEY IS NOT THE ONLY THING TO BE SAVED.

Health education, proper associations and surroundings for growing children; time saved from drudgery to be invested in something more worth while (such as care of the minds of one's children as well as their bodies)—all these things must be considered in regard to saving money.

The woman who sells her birthright of sound nerves, good temper and a gracious home atmosphere for fancifully decorated or contrived foods and elaborate furnishings that need much care is not being thrifty. Nor is she being truly economical if she fails to invest money in wholesome foods that mean a life of vigor to growing children; or in household tools and appliances that, once bought, mean hours of time and strength saved.

You must first have a proper sense of value; know what is most important to fundamental happiness, and go after it. Buy the cloth of life before you spend money for its fringes!

Being thrifty isn't stingy. It doesn't mean endless going without. It means getting the most for your money. Try budgeting, which means only wise and deliberate expenditure; sailing up the financial stream with your hand on the helm instead of just drifting down it.—A. L. P.

TWO RECIPES.

For a good sub-made crackers can be put into a bowl one teaspoonful of salt and a pound of butter. When together, add the flour in just

moistened. Work and knead until the dough is a smooth, elastic paste; then pound with a wooden mallet for at least ten minutes, until the dough is full of bubbles. Roll out, cut in squares, prick with a fork, place on slightly greased pans and bake. If the dough is run through a food-chopper eight or ten times it will be quite as light as if it had been beaten.

Maple Tarts provide a timely dessert. They require one cupful of maple syrup, one tablespoonful of corn-starch dissolved in one-quarter cupful of cold water, one egg, two tablespoonfuls of butter, one-half teaspoonful of vanilla.

Heat the syrup. Add the corn-starch (dissolved in cold water) and the beaten egg; cook until clear. Add the butter and vanilla and beat well. Line individual baking tins with plain pastry and bake until straw color. Fill with maple mixture, cover with maple meringue and brown in a slow oven. Maple meringue is made thus: Beat the white of an egg until dry and stiff. Add three tablespoonfuls of maple syrup. Beat well and use at once.

A POPULAR PLAY SUIT.



4656. Pongee, linen, wool rep, jersey and gingham would be good for this model. The sleeve may be finished short, or in wrist length. The closing is comfortable and convenient.

This pattern is cut in 4 Sizes: 3, 4, 5, and 6 years. A 4-year size requires 3 1/2 yards of 27-inch material.

Pattern mailed to any address on receipt of 15c in silver, by the Wilson Publishing Co., 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Allow two weeks for receipt of pattern.

A PRAYER FOR THE KITCHEN WALL.

My labor makes me glad!
May I have eyes to see
Beauty in this plain room
Where I am called to be:
The scent of clear blue smoke,
The old pans polished bright,
The kettle's chuckling joke,
The red flame's lovely light.
May I have wit to take
The joy that round me lies.
Whether I brew or bake,
My labor make me wise!

My labor leave me sweet!
When twilight folds the earth,
May I have grace to smile
And count the day's good worth.
An old song in my soul
And quiet in my breast,
To welcome tranquilly
The night's old gift of rest,
And gather strength to face
To-morrow's busy strife.
Here in this humble place,
My labor bless my life!
—Nancy Byrd Turner.

A DOORSTOP GIFT.

A unique all-year-round gift, easily made, always appropriate and appreciated because of its usefulness, is a sand-filled doorstop. This may be made at practically no expense from bits of velvet, gay pieces of cretonne or other firm material that may be languishing in your sewing basket or odds-and-ends box. Cut two pieces of material, ten inches square, and stitch together, right sides out, leaving one edge open. Four inches from the stitched edges and parallel with these, place a firm row of machine stitching. Fill the outer openings thus made with clean sand. Stitch up this edge and bind all around with a braid of contrasting color. When using this attractive doorstop, insert the flat portion under the open door, which will then remain open at the desired angle, slamproof against sudden gusts of wind.

PAINLESS IRONING.

I detest ironing sheets, but I have found a way to iron them painlessly. I put a partly folded sheet over the ironing board, then iron the small pieces—towels, handkerchiefs and napkins—on the sheet. By moving the sheet occasionally so that I iron on a

new place, the sheet is soon ready to fold and put away.—E. M.

The Sugar-Maker.

Peasant in form and face old Philippe stood

Upon broad snowshoes in the softening snow

That spread its whiteness through the sugar-wood.

Above him cawed the first returning crow;

A blue haze danced upon the hilltop's rim.

Where early April wrought her magic spells;

And from tin buckets filling fast to brim,

The dropping sap rang out like sanctus bells.

And as old Philippe heard the echoes pealing

Among the maple trees and silver birch

That rose above him like the vaulted ceiling

And painted pillars of the village church,

He looked up toward the blue mysterious sky—

Then bowed as though the Host were passing by.

—Prof. Oliver Cahill, Bishop's College, Lennoxville.

HOME TREATMENT SAFE AND EFFICIENT

Ailing People Made Strong by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills do one thing, and do it well. They build up the blood, increasing the number of red corpuscles. As this is done the blood becomes a richer red and is able to carry more oxygen, the great supporter of human life. As the blood improves in quality the tissues of the body are better nourished and the functions of the body are better performed. This is the reason Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have been so successful in the treatment of diseases due to poor, thin blood, and it is also the reason why they are so successful in building up strength after fevers and acute diseases. Among those who have used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills with great advantage is Mrs. Helena B. Taylor, Hanover, Ont., who says: "Not long ago I was critically ill. The trouble started with anaemia and a run-down system, and ended with pleurisy. I was confined to my bed for three months and three doctors were in attendance at different times. My life was despaired of, and I was practically living on doctors' medicine, because I could not eat. My friends did not expect me to recover. During my girlhood Dr. Williams' Pink Pills had brought me through a severe attack of anaemia, and my mother urged that I should try them again. The doctor could not understand why we wanted to try these pills, but we decided to do so. After taking six boxes a decided change was taking place. I was actually getting hungry and anxious to live. After using twelve boxes a miracle was worked. I could walk and felt my strength coming back, and people on all sides were asking what was helping me, and we were not slow in telling them it was Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. With my health fully restored through the use of these pills I am a striking example of what this wonderful medicine can do, and now I never see a pale or sickly-looking girl or woman that I do not feel like going up to her and asking why she does not take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

You can get these pills through any dealer in medicine, or by mail at 50 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

A Liner's Safety Chain.
The terrible effects which might result from carelessness in a blacksmith's work are well illustrated by the great importance of every link in the chain of a ship's anchor.

The anchor chains of the Lusitania were 339 fathoms long—nearly 2,000ft.—with a weight of 125 tons! Every link has to be carefully welded at the proper temperature. Such work requires infinite care, for in no case is the saying truer that the chain is only as strong as the weakest link. On every single link in such a chain the safety of a giant vessel and the lives of perhaps 2,000 people may depend.

The earliest blacksmith's forges known were holes in the sides of hills, called boomeries. The Romans invented the first bellows about the year 350, using a bladder of goat skin.

Nowadays enormous ingots of steel are heated in furnaces, and the hydraulic forging press is taking the place of the blacksmith's hammer and anvil. The hammer welded by the strong arm of the village smithy becomes, instead, a hammer equal in weight to one of thousands of tons!

The unflinching mark of strength is patience.

The woman who knows how to manage a man—never lets him know it.

WESTERN PIONEER TELLS INTERESTING EXPERIENCE

Frank Rikert, Who Left Illinois for California in Covered Wagon in 1864, Wouldn't Take \$100 for Bottle of Tanlac.

Frank Rikert, well-known resident of North Sacramento, Cal., who came from Illinois in a covered wagon in 1864, along with other hardy pioneers, recently exhibited a bottle of Tanlac, which he had just purchased, to a friend at his home and remarked: "If I thought this was the last bottle of Tanlac I would ever be able to buy, I wouldn't take one hundred dollars for it," thus proving the high valuation he places on the famous treatment.

"I believe Tanlac really saved my life when I took it after the flu about a year ago," continued Mr. Rikert, "for the attack left me 20 pounds off in weight, and unable to turn over in my bed without assistance. I tell you, I thought my time had surely come."

"But, thanks to my wife's insistence, I kept on taking Tanlac till I was able to do all my work again, had back all my lost weight, and I've been feeling years younger ever since. I'm always telling my friends about Tanlac, and can't say too much for it."

Tanlac is for sale by all good druggists. Accept no substitute. Over 40 million bottles sold.

Take Tanlac Vegetable Pills.

Romance of Makers of British Highways

So many great arterial roads are being planned in this country that Britain will soon have regained her proud position of having the best road-system in the world, says a London magazine. Yet if it had not been for two remarkable men—Thomas Telford and John McAdam—our roads might still have been, in more senses than one, insufferable.

The Romans were the most famous of all road-makers. They constructed a number of great main arteries during their occupation of Britain, some of which still exist as monuments to their thoroughness and ingenuity. When they departed, our roads were allowed to lapse into a more or less neglected condition, until in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the art of making durable, well-constructed highways was revived. To-day it may well be said that our roads are paved with gold, for on an average it costs £282 to maintain each mile of highway.

Shepherd's Cottage to Westminster Abbey.

What we owe to Telford's genius at a time when most of Britain's roads were in as sorry a state as they were in pre-Roman times will never be fully estimated. Telford contributed almost as much to the comfort and convenience of modern road travel as any highway authority of our own day.

The son of a Scottish shepherd, Telford was forced at an early age to tend sheep and to do odd jobs for a living. When he was fifteen he was apprenticed to a builder, a trade which he learned so thoroughly that at twenty-three he was a master mason, in which capacity he came to London.

His work on the construction of Somerset House brought him an order to build a house for the Resident Commissioner of the Portsmouth Dockyards, and from this he went on to undertake a number of more important tasks, including the building of the bridges over the Severn.

One of his greatest achievements was the laying-out of the London to Holyhead road, which covers a distance of 260 miles. He also undertook the reorganization of the road in the Highlands, involving the construction of 920 miles of highway and 1,117 bridges, the task occupying nearly twenty years. He left his mark on many other roads in the United Kingdom, and when he died he was given

an Abbey burial as a token of the nation's respect.

Telford's name, in the minds of engineers and highway experts, is linked with that of John Loudon McAdam, who invented what is now well-known as the macadamized system of road-making. He was born the year before Telford—in 1756.

While at school, McAdam modelled a section of roadway in clay, and his interest in the subject of road-making was kindled at an early age. His first efforts to improve the roads were carried out at his own expense, and he spent large sums in perfecting his method. As a result he was given the post of Surveyor-General of British Roads, and in this position he soon found opportunities for putting his theories into practice.

Briefly, a macadamized road is made by levelling and draining the ground over which it is to run, and spreading on the surface a quantity of broken flints. The action of vehicular traffic causes the angles of the stones to unite, and, finally, to be welded in a solid mass. A tarred "top dressing" is then applied, and afterwards rolled in.

Wood-paving, which is becoming increasingly popular in towns, was introduced into this country ninety years ago, the first wood-paved road being laid down in Russia. Formerly the blocks were laid in the manner of bricks, on a surface of gravel. Later a system of sand bedding was adopted.

How many motorists, or, for that matter, pedestrians, as they progress in comfort along our roads, give a moment's thought to the two men who literally paved the way for them?

The Dizzy Whirl.

We commend to the natural philosophers this original view of a common phenomenon. It was found in the examination paper of a youthful scholar who was ambitious of being admitted to the upper class in high school:

"The earth revolves on its own axis three hundred and sixty-five times in twenty-four hours. This rapid motion through space causes its sides to perispire; this moisture is called dew."

The enemies of life are pettiness, narrowness and selfishness.

There are 3,114 dairy factories in Canada. The value of the products is placed at \$111,924,017.

—AND THE WORST IS YET TO COME

