

mental processes: stealing is all right if you can get away with it!

Why is a punishment, then? Is it, as the mother above quoted suggested, in concession to our irritated nerves or temper, or is it simply because we realize that children are human beings, 'even as you and I' doing wrong because of ignorance, because they forget, because they are weak, because the wrong often, and the experience always, are attractive?

Then the appeal has got to be made to something that is more than human, that is strong enough to control the human—to the soul! The part of him that is not animal must gain control over that part of him which is. Control! There is the foundation. Punishment should be but development of self-control—supremacy of mind over body. Can you think of any wrong-doing or crime that is not due directly to lack of self-control—control of greed, of temper, of morbid malice, of animal spirits? The child who, at five, can resist a lump of sugar, at ten, twenty, thirty, can resist more dangerous things!

Speaking of control brings us to another point. Children are primarily imitative. Can one expect to teach control when one has none? A child realizes thoroughly which punishments come to him because someone was "in a huff" or "mad as a wet hen."

In this connection it is interesting to think of the origin, use, and meaning of courts—places of punishment. They are but an admission that when anything comes close to one, his feelings and emotions dominate and control that higher part of him—reason. So, in justice, the affair is appealed to unbiased minds, able to see all sides. They can weigh the causes, not alone the results. Murder is a crime, and the instinct of the man who is touched by it is to punish in kind; but the calm reason of unbiased minds can weigh "self-defence" against the result and arrive at fairer retribution.

A recent course of observation in juvenile court work showed that this institution, which has such astoundingly good results, uses for its maxim "Instead of reformation, the thought, and idea should always be, formation!" Here the child is seen as a creature immature and crystallizing, and at the same time as a future finished product which will show in every attitude, thought, and deed the care and influence of his childhood. In this court, temper and impatience have no place. "Why did he do it? Then we'll remove the cause!" "What course will save him from doing it again?" "What will make him realize, with the strongest appeal to that best in him, his mind and his spirit, that that deed was wrong and another right, therefore more attractive?" "We find that 90 per cent of the offences of childhood are due entirely to wrong treatment and influences at home!" is a direct quotation from a man with years of experience in this work.

Hence, in punishing or in treating, not the least important consideration seems to be, on the part of the adult, a controlled and understanding state of mind, in which reason, not temper, holds sway and dictates the best course for the correction of this tendency and the highest formation of the child.

Very often a sympathetic search for the "why did he do it" shows the act to have been the ignorant output of a really commendable motive. There is nothing that brings to the eyes of a child that hurt look of anguish and draws him into his shell to suffer, as surely as such misunderstandings of his motives. To get his confidence and love will in more cases than not show a something if not legitimate or noble, at least natural behind his so-called misdeeds.

It's the grown-up who "remembers" that understands children, gains their confidence and love, and turns them out in the mold of ideal manhood and womanhood.

Neville, Sask., Dec. 2, 1915.

Dears Sirs:—The regular meeting of the Neville Homemakers met on Nov. 18, at the home of Mrs. A. R. Marquardt. Arrangements were made for the Tipperary Social held on Nov. 19, and the officers for the new year were elected as follows:

President, Mrs. L. Burton; Vice-President, Mrs. A. R. Marquardt; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. R. Good; Cor. Secretary, Mrs. W. F. Dixon. Auditors: Mrs. W. Marjesson and Mrs. J. Beasley. Directors: Mrs. M. Allen, Mrs. T. Robins and Mrs. L. A. Stutzman. Programme

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Black Beaver Shell, fine Persian Lamb collar, strictly tailor-made garments. Regular \$100.00. For **\$66.50**

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WINNIPEG

Committee: Mrs. J. Benson, Mrs. W. True and Mrs. S. T. Bowles.

A dainty lunch was served by our hostess and Mrs. Hillstrom.

At the social the following evening \$17.00 was realized by the club. This will be used to aid those in the district who suffered from the recent prairie fires.

On Nov. 26 the club was visited by Miss Harrison, of the Dept. of Agriculture of Saskatchewan University. In the afternoon Miss Harrison spoke on "Food Values," and many valuable suggestions were given. In the evening there was an open meeting. Mrs. R. R. Bowers, accompanied by Mrs. Brandle, gave two violin solos, which were much appreciated. Miss Harrison was then introduced and gave a very interesting sketch of the rise, growth and work of the Homemakers' Organization. At the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was tendered Miss Harrison and the wish expressed that it would not be long before she would again visit us. A solo was sweetly rendered by Miss Ranks, the P.S. teacher of Minot. Collection was taken in aid of the fire sufferers and the evening programme closed with the National Anthem.

Yours truly,

Mrs. W. F. Dixon, Cor. Sec.

Friends in Time of Need

Neville, Sask., Jan. 10, 1916.

Dear Sirs:—The December meeting of the Neville Homemakers' Club met at the Ladies' Rest Room in the hotel. It being a busy season, only a few ladies were present; however, a very enjoyable and profitable time was spent. During the meeting a committee was appointed and went to interview the mounted police to ascertain those in need who had suffered from the fall prairie fires. They returned with a list given them by the local police. Action was taken at once by the members present in the appointment of a committee consisting of three members and three men, who met later to decide the most needy cases to whom help should be given. The rest of the program consisted of a paper by Mrs. S. T. Bowles, which gave some very helpful items regarding "Preparations for Xmas Dinners." Mrs. J. Benson told how many "Last Minute Gifts" could be quickly and easily made. Mrs. R. Good gave a few interesting hints on "Xmas Decorations." The ladies were then served with a dainty lunch by Mrs. W. J. Sutta.

The meeting broke up with the good wishes for the season.

On Saturday, December 18, the relief committee met. After some discussion

it was decided to divide the twenty-four dollars raised among four needy cases, sending nine dollars to one and five dollars to each of the other three. Cheques were sent through the mail by the secretary.

Yours truly,

Mrs. W. F. Dixon, Cor. Sec.

Theodore, Sask.

Dec. 20, 1916.

The December meeting of the Homemakers' Club was held at the home of Mrs. O. A. Thomas. Christmas ideas and illustrations by the club took up considerable time. Mrs. Tracy gave an interesting report on the convention, and after discussion on Dr. Anna McEvens' paper, a committee was appointed to meet the school board in regard to serving one hot dish each day to country pupils. Christmas carols by the club and a solo by Mrs. Percival were much enjoyed. A pleasing part of the afternoon's entertainment was the presentation of a cut glass bowl to the retiring president, Mrs. Burnard. She was instrumental in forming the club and has been president since its inception. The January meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Hans Hansen, on the third Wednesday of the month.