

HOUSEHOLD.

Bribing Children.

Rewards promised for every little duty done, or used as a stimulus for good conduct, is likely to do much harm in the training of the child. True, it is often easier for the mother to 'hire' her child to 'be good' than to seek to secure her aim by measures which call for patience, explanations and perhaps the telling of some story which shall illustrate why a certain thing should or should not be done. But this practice of bribery has most evil effects. Soon the child comes to consider a bribe among his rights, and expects to be paid for good behaviour every time. Indeed, if he is at all shrewd he will soon act 'naughty' on purpose to be hired to be good. Then he will enjoy his ill-gotten gains without having any conscience in the matter.

If this idea of bribery is never developed in the child's mind it will be discovered that he may be persuaded into proper ways by other means which will redound to his own benefit later on, as well as strengthen the influence of his mother. Teach the child that if he treats his playmates in a kindly manner, sharing with them his playthings or other pleasures, he will gain their affection, which is worth much. If he studies faithfully and learns his lessons he will have gained knowledge, and no child likes to be considered a dunce. If he has work to do and does it also quickly and well, he will have time for play. It is not so hard after all to teach the child the great law of cause and effect if the lessons are presented in a manner equal to his comprehension. But it takes time and thought, and must be continuous and never-failing in application.

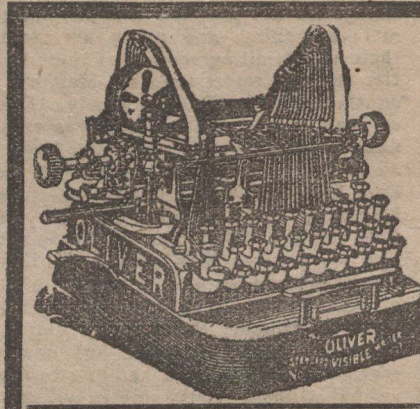
Then there is another reward which may be safely held out to the child—that of a kind and appreciative word given when a task is completed, or good conduct been evident. 'I thank you for being such a good and helpful boy to-day,' said a gentle mother one night as she undressed her small child. The boy put his arms about her neck and whispered shyly, 'You is welcome, mamma.' Even these few words of approbation were far better than to have given the little lad a bag of candy for 'being good.' If dainties are to be given do not connect the gift with the idea that it is a reward for good conduct. Let it stand by itself for what it is, something nice to eat, and meantime teach good behaviour as something which brings its own reward, namely, the satisfaction of knowing that one has done the best he knew. The mother who has neglected to take this view of the situation will be surprised at the quickness with which a child will appreciate a kind approval and try to do right for right's sake. Not always, perhaps, but often enough to make it worth while to help him along in the right way.—Troy Press.

Household Hints.

Good canary seed with good rape seed is the staple food for canary birds; a very little hemp seed may be added occasionally. Sopped bread is good for variety and green food should be given frequently. Dandelion blossoms and thistles going to seed are particularly pleasing to most birds.

If you have ever visited a Chinese laundry and been permitted to catch sight of John at work, you must have seen him using a scrub brush and not his hands to rub soiled places, especially neck and wrist bands. Why not try it in your own laundry, and find out how much less wear there will be on the clothes. Get a medium-size brush that will not tire the hand in using, and be sure it is of good fine fibre.

Bluing for laundry use will be found more satisfactory if made at home. Purchase five cents' worth of soluble blue powder from the druggist, dissolve in cold water, then pour on sufficient hot water to give the strength you wish, trying a little of it in a basin of water. When the liquid cools, bottle immediately and keep well corked. Should too much hot water have been added, remedy the matter by using a greater quantity of bluing to a tubful of water.



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