

DAY NURSERY DEFEAT OF MERCIES

Takes Care and Worry Off the Working Mother and Starts the Tiny Tot on Road to Good Citizenship and Good Health.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN. (Copyright, 1908, by Frederic J. Haskin.) New York City, Nov. 27.—One of the most telling factors in a big city's work of helping the poor to better citizenship is the day nursery. To these, working mothers bring their babies and little children, leaving them all day to be cared for after the most scientific methods. The total cost to the mother is five cents a day, to the nursery 25 cents. The further benefits the mother and baby and the rest of the family receive are beyond measure. The gospel of cleanliness and health are taught by precept and example. The unconscious influence of the beautiful clean rooms, the careful preparation of the food and the joy of good work well done, permeate a wide circle of homes about each day nursery.

Here in New York there are 48 day nurseries in Manhattan, and 66 in Greater New York, all supported by private philanthropy and churches. They each house anywhere from 20 to several hundred every day, and cost on an average from \$4,000 to \$7,000 a piece a year. In these are representatives of nearly all nations. As it is easier for a foreign-born woman to get work here than it is for her husband, the nursery comes as a happy solution to the problem of what to do with the children while the mother is away. Through the babies the mothers are reached and the home of the foreigner who comes in contact with the day nursery becomes Americanized quicker than the home of his neighbor.

Watched Till Able to Earn Living. There are children from homes where the father is often a drunkard while the mother supports the family. Arguments have been made that such fathers should be made to care for the children and leave their place in the day nursery for others. To this the board of managers of each nursery has invariably made answer:

"The children of such a father need our influence more than those who have no father, or whose fathers are hard working men. They need to learn lessons of sobriety, industry and honesty that will save them from the state into which their father has fallen. What a child is before the age of eight, that it will be all its life. The influence of the average day nursery here on a child extends over a period of life from a few weeks old until he is 14 or 15. Under the constant care of a matron, trained nurses and kinder, gardeners, the babies and 'runabouts' are kept for 10 or 12 hours a day at the nursery until they are six years old; they then are required by law to go to school, but the nursery does not lose sight of them. Many of these children are collected in the nurseries after school hours and taught industrial arts, or games, until their parents come for them. Next morning they gather again at the nursery at 7 o'clock. The hair, face and dress are inspected, the matron gives them a light breakfast and from there they go to school. This plan is kept up until some of the children are old enough under the law to go to work. Day nurseries are the biggest employers give them preference over other applicants. There has not been a known case of a child who has been cared for in a day nursery ever appearing in the courts.

Cleanliness and Good Food. The day nurseries in New York since they are intended for children of working mothers, are in the districts where the homes of such workers are thickest. Often a family is so poor that it may enjoy its benefits. It is interesting to watch the arrivals as they come in groups, each child for which a place is given over to the matron by its mother or father or older sister. The matron looks to see that they are clean and well. The babies are sent upstairs to be bathed, fed and dressed in clothes belonging to the nursery, and are then put to sleep. The little 'runabouts' have their faces and hands washed, their clothes covered with clean aprons, and after a breakfast, are sent to the kindergarten or to the play grounds. At feeding time the 'runabouts' sit at a semi-circular table designed by Miss Marjory Hall, and receive the attention of the Federation of Day Nurseries, and face their nurse, who feeds them, turn about, each from its own bowl and spoon. Every Monday morning the inspection is most rigid. Every article of the children's apparel must be clean, every button must be in place and every hole neatly mended.

The first time a mother comes to a nursery she is allowed to see where the baby is put, what it wears, and what it will eat. One German mother gazed in awe on her own baby in its little white dress and sobbed with joy. "So clean, so pretty, it is an angel. It is not mine little baby." When the baby's own clothes are put on at night for the mother to take it home, the keenness of contrast between clean whole clothes and unclean, ragged ones is noticed. Better clothes are soon provided by the nursery.

CLEVER WIFE
Knew How to Keep Peace in Family.

It is quite significant, the number of persons who get well of a sore heart trouble when they let up on coffee and use Postum, as the beverage at meals. There is nothing surprising about it, however, because the harmful alkaloid in coffee—caffein—is not present in Postum, which is made of clean, hard wheat.

"Two years ago I was having so much trouble with my heart," writes a lady in Washington, "that at times I felt quite alarmed. My husband took me to a specialist to have my heart examined. The doctor said the coffee I used was organic trouble, but said my heart was irritable from some food I had been accustomed to eat, and asked me to try and remember what disagreed with me. 'I remembered that coffee always soured on my stomach and caused me trouble from palpitation of the heart. So I stopped coffee and began to use Postum. I have had no further trouble since.

A neighbor of ours, an old man, was so irritable from drinking coffee that his wife wanted him to drink Postum. This made him very angry, but his wife secured some Postum and made it carefully according to directions. "He drank the Postum and did not know the difference, and is still using it to his lasting benefit. He tells his wife that the coffee is better than it used to be, so she smiles with him and keeps peace in the family by serving Postum instead of coffee." There's a Reason. Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville" in packages.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true and full of human interest.

parents and the first victory for good citizenship is scored by the day nursery. All the milk used is prepared by trained nurses, and when the babies are taken home at night the mothers are given night feeds in bottles to take with them.

Keep Home Life Blissful. As a means of keeping home life intact, the day nursery has already proved its usefulness. The baby that is taken home by the tired mother is not a fretful hungry bundle, but a happy little human being nourished with good food, pure air and a long sleep and now ready to be a joy to its mother. There is no known case of a mother who has children at the day nursery ever being willing to give away one child for adoption.

The "nursery lady" becomes the best of neighbors to the babies' mothers. Her visits are welcome because she comes helping, not inquiring. She commends cleanliness and thrift, and lets the mother see how sweet and clean her simple rooms can be. She finds that her example is followed and when chairs take the places of overturned boxes and a bit of white linen appears on the shelves on the wall, another victory has been scored.

Amusements for Tired Mothers. It was tried for awhile to interest the mothers in evening lectures, but when you have scrubbed or worked in a factory all day your back is too tired and your brain too dull to absorb instruction. You want to be amused, and now these tired mothers are taken to some entertainment, usually at the Hippodrome, for, since many are foreigners, they understand that best of all amusements is a study. One woman looked so happy a matron asked: "You enjoyed it, didn't you?" The eyes widened and overflowed with tears. "Enjoy I am glad I see it before I die." Another looked serious. "And you? I am afraid you did not have a good time." "Oh, no, this is what I must have before I die. It is so beautiful!" Heaven and the Hippodrome! She supported an invalid husband and several children, and pleasure had never come her way before.

Sometimes a tragedy makes the need of a nursery known. Some one nursed that one he opened in downtown district, where the office cleaners could leave their children. This or that delayed the work. One day a mother locked her two little ones in and went to work. The room caught fire and when the neighbors broke in the door, the children were dead, locked in each other's arms, and between them, dead, too, the kitten they had tried to save. Another little child, locked in, leaped from the window to wave goodbye to the mother and fell to death below. One mother is crazed; the other still bowed in grief, but in that neighborhood a nursery has been opened for such mothers and at 20 minutes to 6 every morning the children are received and put to bed to finish their sleep.

Nurseries for Good Citizenship. The Jewell nursery, organized 20 years ago, and maintained in memory of her own child by Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, now president of the Federation of Day Nurseries, is down in the Italian quarter. When she stated not long ago that she was to have a model six-story new building, someone said, "Why, they are only Italians down there," and she replied, "Yes, but they are babies just the same." Because of this spirit from these Italian babies some of New York's best citizens will be made. It is in this same nursery that much has been done to teach kindness to animals. The children of the neighborhood were eager to torture cats and dogs. The matron let it be known that children who wanted to might bring in sick cats and dogs and help her treat them. The plan has worked beautifully. True, the nursery sometimes acquires an embarrassment of riches. This summer a very small boy with a very large package inquired for "the nursery lady." Answering this, as she does all appeals, the matron found herself the recipient of five young kittens carefully packed in ice and wrapped in a newspaper by their kind guardian.

First Nursery Opened in 1854. The first day nursery in this country was the Nursery and Child's hospital of New York, opened in 1854, but later discontinued. The next day nursery, the first really permanent one, was established by Miss H. S. Biddle of Philadelphia in 1882, and three years later St. Barbara's House Day nursery, now God's Providence, was established in New York. The largest day nursery in point of numbers is Brightside in New York, a nonsectarian house maintained by Jewish philanthropy, and caring for many thousand children every year. The largest building endowed for such work is the one in Passaic, New Jersey. Manufacturers are opening them for the children of their workers, and when the annual conference of the Federation of Day Nurseries is held in Atlanta early next year a greater showing than the 325 now known will possibly be made and another chapter written in the great uplift of humanity.

EIGHT HOUR LAW NOT GOOD LAW
Effect of Oklahoma Decision.—One Can Work Over-time If One Likes.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Tulsa, Okla., Nov. 27.—The Oklahoma "eight hour" law is believed to be invalidated by a decision of a local court today, acquitting the New State Paving company of a violation of the law because the company showed that the men were anxious to work more than eight hours. Preparations are being made to fight the case on appeal by those interested in the integrity of the statute involved.

"HATS OFF" SIGN TO HANG IN CHURCH

North Yakima, Wash., Nov. 27.—Following his crusade against the wearing in church, Rev. F. C. Whitney, pastor of the First Baptist church here, has made arrangements to have a large sign printed and hung conspicuously in the front of the auditorium of the new church into which the congregation will move in a few weeks. The placard will say, "Please remove your hats," and all women adorned with millinery are expected to obey.

OKLAHOMA SENATOR UNDER CHARGES

(United Press Leased Wire.) Oklahoma City, Okla., Nov. 27.—Senator Roddie, author of the Oklahoma law, is under bond of \$750, after being charged with embezzlement by W. H. Merchant, who alleges that Roddie diverted funds that should have been turned over to an insurance company for which the senator was working. The amount alleged to have been embezzled is \$97.50.

HURLED FROM WATER WAGON; MAY DIE

Pasadena, Cal., Nov. 27.—J. P. Mundorff, 60 years of age, is at the hospital with a fractured skull, following a collision between a San Bernardino local train and a water wagon which Mundorff was driving. Mundorff was hurled 30 feet into the air and the wagon was thrown 50 yards by the force of the collision.

SLIGHT EARTHQUAKE AT SWEET HOME

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Sweet Home, Or., Nov. 24.—A slight earthquake was felt in Sweet Home shortly after 10 o'clock last night. Three slight shocks were felt, each lasting about one minute, with three minutes intervening.

ANNIVERSARY OF MORGAN'S ESCAPE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 27.—Today was the forty-fifth anniversary of the escape of General John H. Morgan, the famous "raider," and Thomas H. Hines from the penitentiary in this city. The sensation which the escape of the famous prisoners of war caused is still fresh in the memory of the older generation both north and south. The call from which General Morgan escaped is still pointed out to visitors to the penitentiary. The round hole which formed the entrance to the tunnel through which the escape was effected may still be seen. Some years ago a tablet commemorating the event was placed above the cell door. Since the day of Morgan's escape the cell has never been occupied. Accounts of the escape differ and are told in many and varied forms. The most plausible, however, is that a hole was cut in the stone slab in the floor, through the ground beneath into an air chamber which runs beneath the cell block. Moving along the air chamber until the level of the female department cells east and then started digging out beneath the hall and under the wall until the level of the stone slab in the floor was reached. Here the tunnel was dug upward and opened in the yard. Securing a rope and a hook on the night of November 27, 1863, the escape was effected by throwing the hook upon the

wall and climbing the rope. After clearing the prison wall General Morgan hailed a passing cab and was driven to the depot. He took a train for Cincinnati and from there crossed the Ohio river into Kentucky.

Locomotor Ataxia

"I suffered intensely from Locomotor Ataxia, and Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills gave me great relief. I have taken them for a long time, and some people say they are not good for me. Well, maybe not, but they relieve my pain and I will take them as long as they continue to do so. Anti-Pain and Nerve and Liver Pills keep me up and I assure you I am thankful for that." JACOB HIRGEL, Covington, Ind. Many persons who suffer constantly from chronic diseases, find great relief by the use of Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills, and after several years use, say that they have in no way injured them or created a habit. The first package will benefit; if not, your druggist will return your money.

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