

Helping Your Child Get a Successful Start at School on Opening Day

Parents have the leading role in preparing their child for school and seeing to it that he gets the right start. I hope that this article will help, somewhat in preparing your child for school this fall.

Your child should have training in personal health, independence in looking after himself and ability to get along with other children and with adults, before he goes to school.

Do not become anxious if your child seems slow in getting started in school. Remember that it is a very different kind of life than that he led at home. Remember, too, that all children do not grow at the same rate any more than they all cut their teeth, learn to talk or learn to walk at the same time.

You can help him in the following ways: Show a sincere interest in his school activities and in the things he brings home. Encourage him to feel that he is a "big boy" now and to understand that school is his "job" and to feel pride in it.

If he does not seem happy in school life go to the school to visit. Watch him in the class activities and try to see why he does not fit in well. **TALK THE PROBLEM OVER WITH HIS TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL.**

In regards to your child's health habits—you child should get up early enough so that he has plenty of time to do the following without undue haste: Wash and dress properly, brush and comb hair, eat a warm nourishing breakfast, attend to toilet, wash hands and brush teeth (using own toothbrush). Hurrying and worrying about being late to school may upset a child for a whole day.

I believe it always advisable to know when to keep your child home from school. Your child should be kept home if he has any of the following: Acute cold, swollen glands, skin eruptions or rashes, fever, sore throat or earache, discharging nose, or general signs of listlessness, weakness, drowsiness, flushed skin and headache.

When a child enters school he becomes at once a member of group. You can help him to fit into that group and to take part easily in the routine of the school day by seeing that he has the following habits well developed: Take off and put on his wraps and hang them where they belong. (A LOOP SEWED ON CLOTHING WILL MAKE THIS EASIER.) Wash and dry hands reasonably well take care of himself when going to toilet and wash hands afterward, cover his mouth when he coughs or sneezes, keep hands and other objects away from mouth, proper use of handkerchief, use caution in crossing roads and streets, care of own property and respect for that belonging to others, eat quietly with mouth closed and speak clearly and without "baby talk." (It is necessary that the child has correct speech habits before he can be taught reading.)

If you will follow the following instructions and ideas it will help your child to get ready to read. Your child should understand that he will probably not receive "a book" as soon as he goes to school. Most children who have not had the chance to go to kindergarten are not

ready to read from a book in the first weeks of school. They must develop certain abilities and understandings, which are built up through a "Reading Readiness" program. This may take five or six weeks, or it may take several months for some children. Before a child is ready to read in a preprimer he should be able to do the following things:

1. See clearly the details of printed words. (The necessary development of eye muscles which this requires comes, for most children, between six and six and one-half years of age. Some children need special exercises to train their eye movements. This training is given in the Reading Readiness program.)

2. Handle crayons, scissors, pencils and other schoolroom tools with good control. Little children's large muscles develop first; then the small muscles of the hands and fingers develop. Some children must have many weeks of practice before they can handle crayons, pencils and scissors well enough to do the detailed seatwork which must accompany the reading program.

3. Work and play easily with the group. Informal games and discussions and many kinds of cooperative work and play in the Reading Readiness program help to build up the shy child's self-confidence in group activities.

4. Look at pictures understandingly and talk about what he sees freely and in good sentences.

5. Retell a simple story with correct order of events.

6. Enjoy working at a task for fifteen or twenty minutes and keep his attention on it.

7. Show interest in books, signs and other reading matter.

In our schools manuscript writing is taught in first and some in the second grade. This kind of writing is easier for children to learn because it is simple and the letters are not connected. Because it resembles printed letters it aids them to see the relation between reading and writing. The change to regular handwriting is made after the children develop more mature muscular control, usually in late second or in early third grade.

Work, with the school, not against it, and make your child's school experience as harmonious and successful as you can through your wholehearted cooperation.

—C. A. Meyer

FLYING CROSS AWARDED—

Airman Second Class Jessie C. Meadows, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Meadows of Jackson County, Oregon, was recently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement while participating in a combat mission. Airman Meadows was the flight engineer on a B-26 attack bomber flying over Korea on April 22, 1952.

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An all-time Oregon record for signatures on initiative petitions has been set with 59,192 certified names filed with State Registrar Dave O'Hara on a constitutional amendment establishing the basis for a fair truck tax bill. Here Ellery Sills, president of the Oregon Highway Council (left) and Phil Brady (right), president of the Joint Council of Drivers No. 37, International Teamsters, hand some of the last of the Multnomah County petitions to registrar of elections, James W. Gleason. Eighty-nine and seven-tenths percent of the 65,991 signatures were declared valid by O'Hara.

Class B All Stars Notes

The Western All-Stars will hold a 5 lb. per man weight advantage over their Eastern opponents when these two teams clash Aug. 30th in a Shrine Hospital benefit game at Pendleton's Round-Up park.

Boasting an average team of 180 lbs., head coach Bill Patterson of Gervais plans to avenge the beating he received last year in the Class B finals when he lost to Wallowa and Eastern coach Dan Rollins. Chas. Moore, Creswell, will be his assistant coach and Walter Fallon of Pendleton will serve as both manager and trainer for the Western team.

When informed of his weight handicap, Dan Rollins laughed it off with "Any-time I can field a team of 175 pounders, I'm more interested in what the bay has inside of him than extra poundage and I've got some of the finest boys on my squad that ever trotted onto any gridiron. I beat Patterson last fall and with Tom's help I'll do it again. (Tom Johnson, John Day, will be his

assistant coach.) Roy Tatum of the Eastern Oregon College at La Grande will handle the training chores for the East team.

A glance at the roster will verify his statement that he does have a lot of good material, but he will also have some real competition. Every boy on both squads has been a star on their own teams, some of them for three years of high school competition and kickoff time will see what is probably the most talented assemblage of high school football players ever assembled on any Eastern Oregon field.

Please add 5 lbs. to weight of each man on roster. The weights given are check-in weights from last fall.)



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Funds for County Fairs Now Being Distributed

Statewide distribution of funds for county fairs is now being made. Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry said today. The funds will go to Oregon's 36 counties in the amount of \$8,644.45 each.

The distribution is made from funds received by the state tax upon pari-mutual betting made at horse and dog racing in the state. As of August 7th, this total \$683,194.07, of which \$269,194.07 is apportioned to the state's general fund. The remainder has been apportioned to ten different fairs and expositions and to the counties for their fairs or expositions.

A similar distribution will be made next October following racing at the State Fair and other tracks. The total received for distribution in 1951 amounted to \$817,574.74.

Fairs and expositions receiving funds from the August 7th distribution, according to law, are: Eastern Oregon Livestock Show, \$7,500.00; Northwest Turkey Show, \$2,400.00;

Pendleton Round-Up, \$7,500.00; Pacific International Livestock Exposition, \$35,000.00; Oregon State Fair, \$35,000.00; Mid-Columbia Livestock Show, \$5,000.00; Klamath Basin Round-Up Association, \$5,000.00; Spring Lamb and Dairy Show, \$2,500.00; Pacific Coast Turkey Exhibit, \$2,400.00; and Oregon State Corn Show, \$2,500.00.

Miss Nancy Runyan and her friend, Miss Carol Reif left Wednesday for Paso Robles, California, where Miss Runyan will spend week or so then go on South to Cardiff by the sea and visit her grandparents.

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Fishermen can't be too careful with fire in the forest. One fire started by a carelessly dropped cigarette or a campfire left untended can destroy a forest. Good fishermen are good woodsmen, too. They're always careful with fire because they know green forests and good fishing go together.

