

'Learning Blocks' May Prevent Intelligent Child From Learning

Editor's note: Following is the last of three articles dealing with education of exceptional children.

BY LOUIS CASSELS

Washington — (U.P.) — Hidden handicaps may prevent an intelligent child from learning to read or write.

These handicaps, which educators call "learning blocks," may be physical or psychological. When parents and teachers fail to recognize their symptoms, a child is unjustly labelled as ignorant, lazy or recalcitrant. Learning blocks can be over-

come, sometimes quite easily, when they are accurately diagnosed and properly treated. Authority for these statements is Mrs. Marion Kingsbury, director of Washington's Remedial Education Center. This privately-supported institution is one of

the nation's oldest and most respected diagnostic clinics for children with educational problems.

Mrs. Kingsbury said in an interview that there are six broad types of learning blocks that often appear in children of average or above-average intelligence. Two of the most common are poor eyesight and poor hearing.

"Many a child is falling behind in his schoolwork today because he simply can't see or hear what's going on," Mrs. Kingsbury said. "Unless they are quite acute these handicaps are often unrecognized by parents and teachers."

Even harder to detect is a difficulty that Mrs. Kingsbury calls "cross dominance." She explained that most right-handed people sight with their right eye; left-handed people with their left eye. But some children are all mixed up; they sight with their right eye, but use their left hand to eat or draw.

This makes it unusually hard for them to master the left-to-right pattern in reading and writing. They give a clue to their problem if they persist for a long period in reading "was" for "saw," "no" for "on," and often write letters and numbers backwards.

Probably the one greatest source of learning blocks, Mrs. Kingsbury said, is "immaturity." "The crux of at least half of our 'reading problems' is that we are trying to teach a child the most civilized art we have invented before he is ready for it," she said.

"Many perfectly normal children mature slowly and just aren't set for first grade work until they're seven or older." "Immaturity may be physical—the child is not yet able to make the fine visual and aural distinctions involved in recognizing letters and their sounds. Or it may be emotional in that he has not developed enough self-control or a long enough span of attention to get along with other children."

Mrs. Kingsbury said that closely related to immaturity is a type of psychological block a child develops when his parents put too much pressure on him to succeed.

"The parental demands may never be expressed in words, but the child senses from adult

moods and tones of voice that he is not living up to what mother and dad expect of him. He reacts by developing an acute fear of failure. He becomes so frantically anxious to do well in school that he can't learn to read at all."

The sixth category of learning block, Mrs. Kingsbury said, might be described as the consequences of neglecting one or more of the first five.

"The fact that the child is falling behind in his schoolwork becomes the main source of his anxiety. Reading becomes a challenge that he feels he cannot meet. He dreads any act of speaking or writing that will reveal his inadequacy. He invents his own 'cover-up' system—he cuts up in class and pretends he just doesn't care about learning to read."

The first step in overcoming

learning blocks is to diagnose them. A child may have several different types by the time he gets expert attention.

Most major cities and virtually all teachers colleges and state universities now have clinics similar to Mrs. Kingsbury's. They give a child a broad range of scientific tests to identify his troubles. If they feel it necessary, they recommend further testing by eye doctors, hearing centers or psychiatrists.

"Most learning blocks can be overcome by proper glasses or with individual tutoring; and by counseling of parents and teachers to help them understand and cope with the child's particular problems," Mrs. Kingsbury said. More severe cases, in which a learning block for too long has gone unrecognized and untreated, may require extensive psychiatric treatment, she said.



Household Finance Corporation, world's oldest consumer finance company, comes to...

MEDFORD

Cash You Get	MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS			
	24	30	36	48
\$100	\$5.90	\$6.72	\$10.05	\$18.46
200	11.81	13.44	20.09	36.92
300	17.71	20.16	30.14	55.38
500	28.86	32.97	49.64	91.66
1000	53.89	62.21	95.64	179.56
1500	77.87	90.38	140.37	269.36

Household charges to the monthly rate of 1% on that part of a balance not exceeding \$100, 2% on that part of a balance in excess of \$100 but not exceeding \$500, and 1% on any remainder.

Yes! HFC loan service... famous from coast to coast, now offers its money service to the people of this community. If you need a loan for any worthy purpose, you are invited to visit our new office. Look for the famous HFC emblem.

\$20 to \$1500

You may arrange a loan at Household and have your choice of loans of \$50, \$100, \$200, up to \$1500. Take up to 24 months to repay.

The principal requirement for a loan at Household Finance, is the ability to repay in regular monthly instalments.



HOUSEHOLD FINANCE

Corporation of Medford

128 E. Main St., 2nd Floor

PHONE: 3-5301

HOURS: 9:30 to 5:30 Monday thru Friday—Saturday 9:30 to 1:00

On The Side

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

With a lightsome heart I pulled a rose
That grew upon its thorny tree
But my false lover stole my rose,
But, ah! He left the thorn with me.

—Burns

Physicians continue to insist that due to the transfer of germs kissing is dangerous. That it is a major cause of the spreading of many diseases. However, it is said that the use of certain kinds of lipstick by the lady in the case will prevent germ transfer. Remember this, young fellow. Before you let a girl kiss you, ask her, "Is your lipstick germ-proof?"

Those Follies
Flo Ziegfeld considered 13 his lucky number. He always wanted 13 letters in the titles of his plays. As for examples, the plays featuring Anna Held namely: "Little Duchess," "Parisian Model" and "Miss Innocence." All of these were smash hits. Harry B. Smith, author of the first of the Ziegfeld girl-glorifying revues titled it "Follies of The Day." Ziegfeld rejected the title. He wanted one with 13 letters. So Smith changed it to "Follies of 1907."

Asking
Queries from clients. Q. In what play did one of the characters keep asking, "What's all

the shootin' for?" A. That was in the play titled "The Tavern," produced by George M. Cohan. Spencer Charters playing the part of a hermit kept making the inquiry you refer to. Q. What should be the measurements of a 31-year-old woman who is 5 feet seven and one-half inches tall? A. To be properly streamlined a female such as you describe should have the following measurements: Bust, 34; Waist, 24, and hips, 36. She should weigh 128 pounds. Q. My wife wants our new automobile to have a bright red color. What do you think of this? A. It is all right if you don't get mixed up with the fire department cars. However, everybody to their taste. For automobiles, I like black or that dark brown shade that has become so popular recently.

Sidelights
Those who were the only child of their parents usually develop into the brightest adults. So says an expert on the subject of human intelligence. That lets me out. I am one of four children... Women born under Aries (March 22-April 20) lack the gift of simplification of attire. They just can't seem to prevent looking overdressed. Or, so say the stargazers.

Over There
In Paris it is possible to hock an automobile at the Municipal pawnshop. Rate for the loan is about seven per cent. This includes garage charges. The loan is limited to a six-month period. If the automobile is not redeemed by the end of six months it is sold. With gasoline rationing still in force in France, a record number of Parisians have recently put their cars in hock.

Card Games
Playing card enthusiasts continue to make use of the saying, "according to Hoyle." Hoyle, who died in 1769, wrote about only three card games—piquet, whist and quadrille. There are over 300 different card games. Of these, my favorite is still pinochle.

Brides
Am asked to name the youngest of the brides of Charlie Chaplin, the baggy pants comedian. All Chaplin's wives were teen-agers when he married them. The youngest of his four brides were Mildred Harris and Lita Grey, each 16 at the time of the wedding. Oona O'Neil was 18 when she became the fourth Mrs. Chaplin. The oldest of the Chaplin brides was Paulette Goddard who was 19 at the time.

Detroit — (U.P.) — Daniel Dodson, 32, was ticketed by police Tuesday for picking the wrong place to attempt to talk to his estranged wife, Opal, 26. Officers said Mrs. Dodson was driving to work when her husband jumped in front of her car and refused to move. He was ticketed for obstructing traffic.

WATCH WARDS FOR Extras!
Montgomery Ward
117 S. CENTRAL PHONE 2-6241

TONIGHT

5 to 9 Specials!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL!
GIRLS' DRESSES

Reg. 3.98... 3 to 6x... 1.99
Reg. 4.98... 7 to 14... 2.99

BRIGHT NEW SPRING STYLES
GAY WASHABLE COTTONS WITH PRETTY TRIMS
CHILDREN'S DEPT. — MAIN FLOOR

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL!
Reg. 39c
HOLLYWOOD ANKLETS

SPECIAL PRICE **4 pr. \$1** TONIGHT ONLY
NYLON OVER DURENE MERCERIZED COTTON
WHITE AND ASSORTED WASHFAST COLORS. 7-11
HOSIERY DEPT. — MAIN FLOOR

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL!
REMNANTS

SPECIAL PRICE **1/2 Price** TONIGHT ONLY
LARGE ASSORTMENT TO CHOOSE FROM. DRAPERY AND CURTAIN MATERIALS. BUY NOW AND SAVE
YARDAGE DEPT. — MAIN FLOOR

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL!
Reg. 2.98
MEN'S FLANNEL SHIRTS

SPECIAL PRICE **1.88** TONIGHT ONLY
WARM COTTON SUEDE IN HANDSOME PLAIDS, STRIPES SANFORIZED. FULL, LONG TAILS. 2 POCKETS. 2-WAY COLLAR
MEN'S DEPT. — MAIN FLOOR

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL!
Values to 7.95
ASSORTED DOLLS

SPECIAL PRICE **3.77** TONIGHT ONLY
CUDDLY-SOFT VINYL PLASTIC, WASHABLE
MIRACLE ROOTED HAIR. DELIGHTFUL STYLES
SPORTING GOODS — BASEMENT

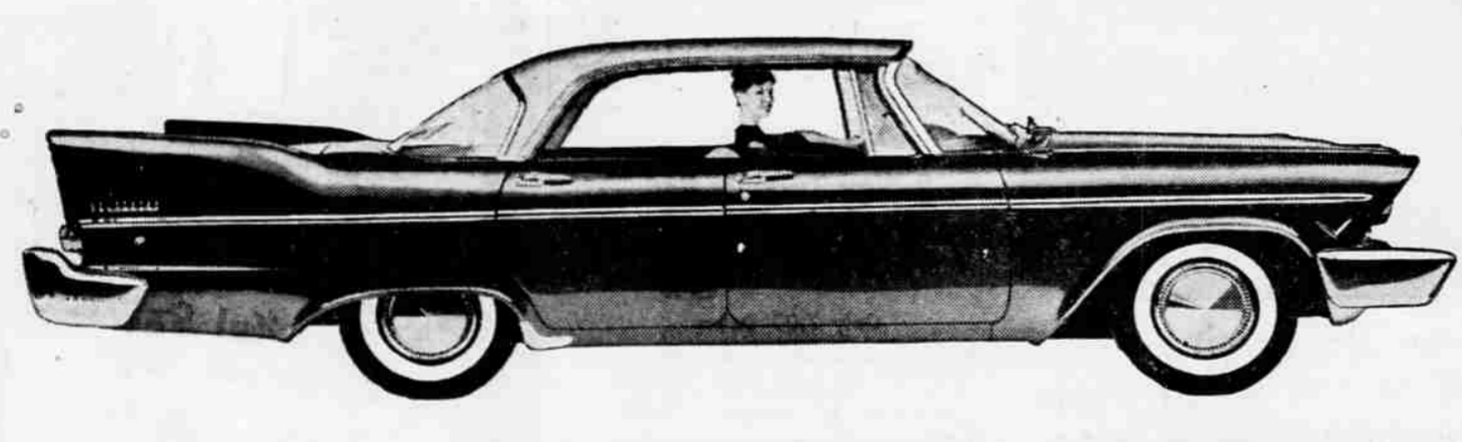
WEDNESDAY NIGHT EXTRA!
3.95 Value
LAUNDRY CART

SPECIAL PRICE **1.88** TONIGHT ONLY
STURDY GRAY ENAMELED STEEL FRAME. FOLDS ROLLS EASILY ON 4 SWIVEL CASTERS. SANFORIZED BASKET
HOUSEWARES — BASEMENT

flights a day to
PORTLAND
\$14⁸⁵ plus tax
SCHEDULED LOCAL SERVICE
WEST COAST AIRLINES

Thousands have seen Plymouth's challenging

COMPARE "ALL 3" SHOWDOWN



You, too, can see documented proof that Plymouth is

3 YEARS AHEAD OF THE "OTHER TWO"!

JUST A FEW OF THE FACTS YOU'LL LEARN AT YOUR PLYMOUTH DEALER'S!

	Plymouth	Low-price car 'C'	Low-price car 'B'
Performance	Maximum piston displacement (cu. in.)	318	312
	Maximum available V-8 hp	290	300
	Highest standard V-8 hp	215	212
	Push-button drive	Yes	No
Comfort	Combustion chamber	dome	wedge
	Torsion-Air suspension	Yes	No
	Legroom, front (in.)	45.9	44.7
	Legroom, rear (in.)	41.5	39.8
	Hiproom, front (in.)	63.0	62.1
Safety	Hiproom, rear (in.)	62.7	63.0
	Gross weight (4-door sedan)	3475	3279
	Total-Contact Brakes	Yes	No
Styling	Brake lining area (sq. in.)	184	157
	Front wheel brake cylinders	4	2
	Flight-Sweep Styling	Yes	No
	Double-header lights	Yes	No
	Wind-tunnel tested tail fins	Yes	No

It's making automotive history all over America—the first time you've ever been able to compare the facts on all 3 low-price cars in one dealer's showroom! No smooth talk... no gimmicks. You get the facts—and you get 'em without any slanting or distortion.

It's the kind of comparison that only Plymouth could dare to make—because Plymouth alone of "the 3" could possibly stand up under it. But we want you to be the judge. Come to your Plymouth dealer's today. He's letting the facts do the talking!

When you drive a **Plymouth** you're 3 full years ahead!