

Spinster Justice Says Parents Need Firm Hand

By ROBERT VAN BUSKIRK
United Press Correspondent
Vale, Ore.—A spinster justice of the peace advocates a firm hand with a razor strap to disenchant juvenile law-breakers.

Judge Mary Graham had a few sharp words to say about pampering parents, whose moments of distress come after their children get into trouble with the law.

"If they had allowed themselves to become disturbed enough to apply the razor strap at the appropriate time, they wouldn't be troubled about their kids later," she said in an interview.

She advocated a firm hand at an early age. She said she was not suggesting paddling as a regular thing, but that parents ought to discipline

strongest weapons against teenage offenders."

"I have never approved of keeping their names out of the paper because of humiliation," she said. "And often, public humiliation might awaken parents to their parental responsibilities."

The judge also favors legislation which would make parents responsible for the acts of their children, and even subject them to penalties.

She feels that parents would be more aware of their youngsters' activities if they knew they would answer for any trouble involving their children.

How come, the magistrate is giving advice about rearing children, when she remains single.

"Thank God I'm single," she snapped, "if I couldn't do a better job than some modern parents."

Potpourri

Mrs. Una Inch, who will retire soon as assistant superintendent of county schools, has been honored a number of times recently. Since Potpourri has known Mrs. Inch for a long time, we venture to say that one honor she received recently impressed her very much. She was a guest at the annual Parents' tea of the Jackson County Special Education class, and was presented a cake.

This was no ordinary cake. It was made by one of the boys at the school, Johnny Wilson of Central Point, who had competed with other classmates in making the best confection for Mrs. Inch, and had won. The cake represented a play ground and a little red schoolhouse. The playground, of chocolate frosting, was complete with slides and teeter-totters made from paper straws and foil, there were trees and flowers, and a little American flag flew from the top of the red schoolhouse.

Potpourri didn't see Mrs. Inch's cake, but we know how to describe it because Johnny, when he heard that the Tribune was interested, went to work and made a duplicate which he sent down to the news room by a friend, Mrs. Margaret Crumacker. And the cake was thoroughly enjoyed, down to the last bit of red schoolhouse frosting.

Pappy and Potpourri spent last Sunday with a jaunt to South Umpqua Falls in the Tiller area. The pleasures of the day included a slight family argument, Pappy maintaining that the two of us had traveled over the Tiller-Trail road at least once before and Potpourri equally sure that we hadn't.

At any rate the day turned out well; the weather was warm and bright, we found several interesting wild flowers to photograph, identified a tree new to Potpourri and thoroughly enjoyed seeing the beautiful South Umpqua River and the falls, the falls turning out to be completely different than anything we'd seen before.

The water at the falls actually doesn't "fall" very far—but instead is spread out over an odd rock formation in a gently curving sheet which ripples and shimmers and doesn't appear to be very deep or swift. However, at one side there is a bowl-shaped hole into which the water does fall with the characteristic roar and rumble of other water falls. A fish ladder has been constructed at the side near the bowl, but although the two of us watched for quite some time, we saw no fish. Two men also watching said they had not seen any fish using the ladder, but that they both had caught their limit down stream.

The South Umpqua is a beautiful stream—there are many spots of "white water" and some small rapids; the vegetation is lush and green. Last Sunday the wild lilacs and the wild roses were both in bloom, a joyful sight. The roadsides were also bright with hundreds of clumps of the small yellow daisies which some call Oregon sunshine. We saw many white daisies, several clumps of low, pink flowers which we couldn't find in the wild flower book, a larger yellow daisy new to both of us and three or four clumps of a bluish-purple flower identical to some growing in the yard at home and which all these years we'd called aubretia. This was the first time we'd ever found it growing in the woods; we couldn't find it in the wild flower book, either, so now all is confusion.

One thing we did identify for sure—canyon live oak. The one from which we picked a sprig was small and shrubby like, but according to the Extension service bulletin we consulted, it accommodates itself to the location—if the tree has room it sometimes grows as high as 80 feet. The bulletin calls the live oak a "split personality," because it has two kinds of leaves on the same tree, one leaf looking rather like holly and the other smooth edged. The tree is an evergreen—hence the name "live" oak.

Sunday's trip sent us browsing in McArthur's "Oregon Geographic Names." This authority gives no background for the name Umpqua except that it is Indian, but does point out the various ways of spelling. The different spellings include Umpqua, Umqual, Imp-qua, and Umkwa, as well as the Umpqua now in general usage.

A sign on one of the creeks which flows into the South Umpqua says "Coffee Pot Creek." However, McArthur lists only a creek by this name in Lane county and refers to the one in Douglas county as being merely Coffee Creek. He adds that according to some authorities, it was named by miners in 1858 "because of some joke about a coffee pot."

Garden clubbers who attended the flower arrangement school given by Mrs. Joe S. Wolff of Bellevue, Wash., last Monday, were sorry that more did not take advantage of her lecture and demonstration. Mrs. Wolff is one of the northwest's best known flower arrangement teachers, and the creations that resulted from Monday's school were greeted with admiration.

One of the most beautiful would have been suitable for a bride's table. Arranged in crystal containers, especially like, but according to the Extension service bulletin we consulted, it accommodates itself to the location—if the tree has room it sometimes grows as high as 80 feet. The bulletin calls the live oak a "split personality," because it has two kinds of leaves on the same tree, one leaf looking rather like holly and the other smooth edged. The tree is an evergreen—hence the name "live" oak.

Mrs. Wolff's knowledge of how to combine color to best effect is evident in her work. One particularly arresting combination was in the violet-red and wine-red tones and included Russell lupine stalks and statice based with red cabbage and turnips. Mrs. Wolff brought her own containers and most of the flowers and other material she used, including the red cut-leaf maple and beautiful purple leaf filbert foliage. She said her stock of containers numbered at least a hundred.

"Now they're putting time in a can," read a recent headline in the New York Times. The story told how an eastern firm is now marketing "factory fresh" alarm clocks sealed in cans, the first firm ever to do so. Canning the clocks, it said, makes for less breakage and insures that the lubricating oil will not dry out. Thus the firm can give a one-year guarantee on the product, rather than 90 days.

Very interesting, but no help to Potpourri, who wishes in the springtime that she could either work at two tasks at once, or else postpone sleeping until late next fall.—O.S.

Philodendron Thrives In Polyethylene Bag

New Brunswick, N. J.—All it takes for a green thumb is a plastic bag, says a Rutgers University professor.

Dr. Spencer E. Davis, extension specialist in plant pathology, has raised a philodendron in a polyethylene bag as an experiment in plant and flower merchandising. He sealed the potted plant in the bag four years ago and it's still thriving, he said. The reason—plastic holds and re-uses moisture in the soil.

The method may eliminate watering plants, said Davis.

New "Scribble Shirt" Good For Autographs

New York—Teen-agers now can give autographs around the shirts on their backs.

A new "scribble shirt" comes equipped with a ball-point pen for writing or drawing on the fabric. The shirt is washable and can be worn with skirts or trousers, and doubles as a jacket and beach coat.

Just soak the plant once thoroughly, put it in a plastic bag, staple it shut, and keep it out of direct sunlight.

Style-Conscious Wife Said Safety Hazard

Chicago—A style-conscious housewife can be a safety hazard at work in the home, O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist says.

A "safe" home dress, he said, should not be a fire hazard and should not catch on knobs and handles.

Chances of falling are increased when skirts are too narrow or too full. A moderately full, gathered skirt generally gives enough room for kneeling and stooping.

The housewife with a bent toward the glamorous in clothes would do herself a favor by avoiding long sashes, ties and generally frilly accessories, Hogsett said.

Sleeves also can be a hazard if they are too full, too wide or too long.

And, he warned, avoid using a corner of a dress or apron as a pot-holder.

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