

Mother's Day-1973

by George B. Russ

In loving memory of all mothers throughout the universe:

Mother, "the divinity of infancy."

Mother, "the angel spirit of home"

Mother, both the evening and morning star of life."

Nature has set the mother upon such a pinnacle, that our infant eyes and arms are first uplifted to it; we cling to it in manhood; we almost worship it in old age.

Mothers constitute the only

universal agent of civilization. The vital interest of America hang largely upon the influence of Mother. The public schools are the great assimilative force of the nation; but, even back of the public schools is the mother's influence. So intense is the power of motherhood, that the mere remembrance of a praying mother's hand on the head of infancy has held back many a son from guilty acts.

Writers Forum has selected for its choice of the Mother of the Year, Mrs. Margaret D. Reaves. The fact that Margaret is a native of my hometown

—Wilmington, N.C., and a graduate of my high school Alma Mater, Williston High School, has nought to do with the selection. The Committee on selecting candidates for the Mother of the Year examines a number of profiles and, after careful screening, chooses a mother who reflects in a large measure the type of motherhood that is pitted against the perils of our modern society; and, succeeds, despite the great odds, to a high degree in the improvement of her family's habits of life: good health, a happy home, and the proper perspectives through which to pursue peace, joy and pleasure in being a member of the human race.

Mrs. Margaret Reaves is the mother of five children: Faneeta Janell, 16—11th grade; Ivan Arliegh 15—10th grade; LaBonnie Adele 11—6th grade; Brian Maurice 4½—Daycare; James Kevin 2½—Daycare.

If the names of the children intone a foreign vibration, your imagination isn't playing tricks. The Reaves were married in England and lived abroad for three and a half years. Upon returning to the USA, the Reaves took up residence in Chicago, Illinois. Here, they resumed their academic training and upon completion of their studies, they decided—after much deliberation—to make Durham their home.

The beautiful, charming Mrs. Reaves is a Therapist; husband James, is a government employee and a student at Kings College. It is a delight to watch the Reaves family arrive each Sunday morning to Sunday School. The father and eldest son pause down stairs



MRS. MARGARET REAVES

for a moment while Bonnie and her mother see that Brian and Kevin are deposited in their class room; then, the men take off up the stairway with the ladies following. Mrs. Reaves is a member of the Dorcas Class; Mr. Reaves is a member of the Men's Bible Class; Ivan is a student of the T.E.L. Bible Class; LaBonnie Adele belongs to the Intermediate Class No. 2. Come rain or shine the Reaves arrive on time, 9:30 sharp.

Between you and me, Margaret Reaves is beautiful. She speaks right up, however, one is aware that she is doing so with a studied effort. And, of course, the devil tells you to "make her talk."

"I see you up and stirring early in the mornings, Mrs. Reaves."

"Yes. I am taking the children to the Daycare Center."

"You are a busy, busy one, Mrs. Reaves."

"Yes—but, at the end of

the day when the children are fed, bathed and put to bed and I can no longer hear, "Aw Mommy!" James and I glue ourselves to the TV."

"So—you're a TV fan?"

"I like to sit with my husband and think while he watches. I turn my thoughts back on my day—count my many blessings—then, I plan for tomorrow."

"Church, TV, and work?"

"I find a great joy in my family—loads of fun and pleasure just being together; and, too, I love the beautiful, wonderful children I work with in the Tiny Tot's Choir. And there is the business of planning and working with the children in my community—we have an annual Relay Race Day—we have all sorts of games—hopping in sacks 'n such. And after labor the children are called in to reward—we have refreshments galore that I make. My life is really well rounded—I even find time to

the day when the children are fed, bathed and put to bed and I can no longer hear, "Aw Mommy!" James and I glue ourselves to the TV."

EGG SIZE
Layers are bred for egg size as well as egg volume, North Carolina State University extension specialists explain. In fact, if hens could be selected only on the basis of the number of eggs they would lay without regard to egg size, strains could be developed that would lay four or five dozen more eggs per hen per year. Some hens have laid over 300 eggs during the year but were not kept as breeders due to the 22 or 23-ounce per dozen egg size. Standard size is 24 ounces.

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DAILY LIVING

"Thoughts For Mother's Day"

by William Thorpe



By WILLIAM THORPE

There will be many people wearing roses this Sunday which is Mother's Day. Some of them will be wearing red roses if their mothers are living, and others wearing white roses if their mothers have departed this life. People will take notice to the color of roses different ones are wearing pertaining to Mother's Day. (All those things are logical.)

Here is a good question we could ask ourselves this Sunday: "Do I, or did I show proper appreciation to my mother for her services and kindness to me, the sacrifices she may have made, the burdens she may or have been carrying?"

The above question came into my mind during my meditation period. We have heard that mothers are the world's worst worriers, and most the time their worrying habit starts over their children. It is natural for a mother to be concerned over her youngsters and exceedingly difficult, because of a mother's emotional attachment for the child, for her to keep her feelings within bounds. But mothers probably should realize that worry never helps and often hinders.

The thing that impresses me most is that many mothers are willing to go to the extreme of suffering because of their desire to please their children. As these children have grown up, trained to let their mother do things for them, they have not realized that they have permitted their mothers to make what amounts to a servant out of herself. From

early morning till late at night, mother is up, attending to the wants of the entire family, and finally dragging herself to bed exhausted and also telling herself that she is happy in having answered the needs of all.

Now, to the ones who will be wearing red roses, it would be wonderful to visit our mothers and show proper appreciation for her services and kindness, the sacrifices she has made, and the burdens she may be carrying.

To the ones that will be wearing white roses, the greatest tribute you can pay to the one who has gone on is the courage and faith with which you meet the situation. It would do good to visualize this loved one as still alive.

Many families have separated, the children crossing the ocean and growing up, never seeing each other again. In some instances they keep in touch through correspondence, but in others all communication is lost. And yet, there is no sense of real personal loss because there is a knowledge that their loved ones still live and have their being in another part of the world.

To the end, it will help us all to feel that life is continuous, even though we may have lost the physical evidence of its existence. It must be only a few years at the most, before all of us will have joined our loved ones, and our thoughts, instead of looking backward upon unhappy moments in our past, will look forward to a time of even greater happiness.

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Miss McKissick Presented at Grady Center



MISS CHARMAINE MCKISSICK

Miss S. Charmaine McKissick former Durhamite, will be presented in the closing Arts and Drama program at T. A. Grady Center on May 15, at 7:00 p.m.

Miss Stephanie Charmaine McKissick was one of the first students to attend the T. A. Grady School and she received her first dance instruction there. She later went on to the Betty Brown School of Dance where she was first introduced to professional dancing.

Miss McKissick attended Durham Elementary Schools and moved with her family to New York in the late sixties. In 1970 she made a recording, "Exploring Music" for Junior Book, New York. She has performed on many occasions as a model-dancer for the Ophelia DeVore Fashionette. She has also done Pepsi Cola Commercials and appeared in various school functions as a model and dancer.

Miss McKissick has founded the S. Charmaine School for Dance for young adults. Her troupes have performed at Ma-

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Continued on Page 8A

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