



TOT TALK

If you can possibly afford it, while your children are small, buy yourself a tape recorder. We didn't have one when our own kids were growing up, and we'll always regret it.

With a recorder concealed at the right vantage point, you can preserve permanently the joyful shouts of your moppets when they discover what Santa Claus has brought. You can likewise put on tape their birthday parties and other special occasions.

By starting with the Stork's

arrival, you will have an opportunity to record Junior's early wails and later his very first words. The possibilities are endless, and results should be delightful.

Of course, if you are easily shocked and equally chagrined at your child's inevitable misbehavior, you may want to skip over the naughty words he'll pick up from playmates or adults. Especially will this be true, if he learns the words from one or both of his parents.

Tape recorders vary in price, with the quality of the machine's reproduction, and the best ones are rather expensive. Shop around, and for less money you'll probably find a recorder that will be adequate.

The good old days really were good in many ways, but it's a pity that tape recorders weren't available then. Think how much fun it would be to have a collection of memorable events to listen to on a dull winter evening.

To make the history of your child's early years complete, you need a camera too. We don't have very many photographs of our children at our house, but the ones we do have are treasured.

It's sad but true that the years pass quickly. Unless you get pictures and tapes of the fleeting moments as they occur, all the wishing in the world won't provide you with a second chance.

Save your pennies, or stretch the budget for this expenditure. You'll be glad that you did, in years to come.

MIRROR MEDITATION

By EMMITT L. BRINSON

Our advance in knowledge about the universe and world in which we live, of space and time, of life itself, leads us to the truth that man is locked within the cycle and rhythm of creation. As surely as he is born, just as surely his material being is under a sentence of death.

Just as this planet had its birth, at one time a mass of hot gas, continually cooling, so shall it eventually die and be no more. The same is true about everything that we see from the most distant suns to the lowly blade of grass, all following a pattern of the two great laws of creation, growth and deterioration.

Where does man fit in this wonderful yet baffling scheme of things? Is he no more than a happenstance--a chance product of mingling atoms of millions of years ago? Or is there some pattern or meaning beyond our limited means of comprehension?

Whatever answer we give to ourselves one thing is sure. Within the soul of every man there is instinctively, intuitively, placed there by a higher power, a craving to find a place, to fit himself in the vast relationship of the whole.

As man is born he enters into a cycle from which there is no escape. He is endowed with certain characteristics and drives that motivate his life, his very being. An entity of the Creator, turned loose, set free, lord over the whole of all reality.

Yet sooner or later he faces the realization, the umbilical to creation was never clipped. His power was limited. The laws of nature over-ride the laws of man. His reign, his range, his scope, his greener pastures become subordinate to the cycle. He must bow to the inevitable--after the flower--the fruit--there comes the seed. The revelation of science will only describe as it watches the Master-scientist at work. The meaning it can not decipher. The meaning is not the purpose of science. The "how" they describe. They "why" they must stand in awe, as its secrets remain untold somewhere beyond, within the infinite confines of spirit--the mind of God.

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