

Good Teeth—For You, Your Child Your Community

By ERNEST A. BRANCH, D.D.S.

The Council on Dental Health of the North Carolina Dental Society is sponsoring this series of articles on Dental Health. The writer, Dr. Ernest A. Branch, is the Director of the Division of Oral Hygiene of the North Carolina State Board of Health. In this, Dr. Branch designates certain teeth as being the most important.

The Most Important Teeth
"Now We Are Six." In the title

of his volume of enchanting poems for children A. A. Milne recognizes and honors that wonderful year in the lives of his public, the primer set. Let none of us underestimate the importance of being six. Indeed, let us salute that winsome and trusting band of six-year olds, more than 90,000 strong, who are faring forth from the security of home into the new experiences and fortunes of school life. We are all anxious that this may be a happy and successful year

for them.

Those of us interested especially in their dental health realize that the sixth year is of great importance, for it is during this year that the six year molars usually put in their appearance. There are four of them, two uppers and two lowers. The six year molar is the sixth tooth from the front center of the mouth on each side, above and below. And why are they so important? Because they are the first permanent teeth and because each occupies a strategic position in the dental arch.

The six year molars do not replace baby, or primary, teeth. They come in immediately behind the primary teeth and, often come before any of the primary teeth are lost. Many mothers think that they are baby teeth. Because of this mistake and the mistaken idea that baby teeth do not need careful attention, they are frequently neglected. Such neglect is a dental tragedy.

The six year molars are called the keystones of the dental arch. They help to determine the positions of the other permanent teeth and, therefore, influence the symmetry of the jaws. These teeth should be kept in a healthy condition throughout life—from six to "three score years and ten" plus.

This calls for care. Regular visits to the dentist are a "must." As soon as the six year molars appear the child should be taken to the family dentist so that he may examine these new teeth. They may need attention. However, there may be, and often are, slight imperfections. Early detection and correction of such defects will save these teeth from becoming badly decayed. To help preserve this year's crop of six year molars—4 x 90,000—those important first permanent teeth, we are alerting all parents of those who boast, "Now We Are Six." Look in your child's mouth, keep watch for the six year molars, remember that they are permanent teeth, and take care of them.

Care Recommended For Hunting Season

Overman Presents Ten Commandments For Safe Hunting

If you are one of the thousands that will join the ranks of game hunters this week, it will pay you to remember that sportsmanship and courtesy may save a life—"maybe yours," says County Agent C. W. Overman.

Mr. Overman says the first rule in good sportsmanship is to "ask the farmer's permission whether the land is posted or not. No one likes to have his fall and winter crops damaged by persons tramping through soft fields."

"Second, and just as important, is for all hunters to remember that just three causes lead to two-thirds of all hunting accidents: (1) humans in line of fire, (2) mistaking humans for game, and (3) hunting with the safe-

ty catch off.

"Sportsmanship is just good manners. It is common sense in handling guns, plus consideration for others. It means also the use of the right gun for the right game, hunting only in season and taking the limit only if he can use the meat or the trophies. For bird hunting, the true sportsman takes a trained dog to retrieve cripples. He puts out cigarettes and campfires carefully, breaks matches before dropping them and, in other ways, uses his head."

Mr. Overman recommends the following ten commandments for safety in hunting:

1. Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun.
2. Carry only empty guns taken down or with the action open into your auto, camp and home.
3. Always be sure that the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.
4. Carry a gun so that you can always, under all circumstances, control the direction of the muzzle.
5. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.
6. Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
7. Never leave your gun unattended unless you unload it first.
8. Never climb a tree or fence with a loaded gun; lay it down.
9. Never shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.
10. Do not try to mix gunpowder and alcohol.

PROMOTED TO CORPORAL

Herbert Hardy, whose wife, Josephine, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Hardy, live on Route 2, Edenton, was recently promoted to corporal while serving with the 40th Infantry Division in Korea.

The former California National Guard division, which arrived in Korea during early 1952, is undergoing intensive post-truce training.

Corporal Hardy, who arrived in Korea last April, is an assistant squad leader in Company A of the division's 223d Regiment. He wears the Combat Infantryman Badge and the UN

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and Korean Service Ribbons.

A farmer in civilian life, the corporal entered the Army last December and completed basic training at Camp Rucker, Ala.

One of the mysteries of life is how some people manage to think so much of themselves.

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