

Successful Parenthood

GIVE CHILDREN ACTIVE PART IN ENTERTAINING

MOST of us are planning to do a lot of entertaining when the war is over and our families are all together again. But let's not go back to the prewar fashion of spending most of our hospitality on women friends at afternoon affairs, or on dinner parties, just for grownups. Let's give the children an active part in our entertaining.

For one thing, the drama and excitement of company coming makes children particularly receptive to learning. That's the very best time to teach social manners (real courtesy, of course, is from the heart and is absorbed every day from the atmosphere children live in). But knowing that they are to see pretty Mrs. Smith who is so kind, and funny Mr. Smith who

makes them laugh, gives children an incentive for rehearsing how they are to greet Mr. and Mrs. Smith when they arrive, how they are to act at the table so these charming grown-ups will like them, and so on through the catalogue of manners.

Also, you can teach children more about meal serving when company preparations are in the air than at more prosaic times. Working with the best dishes and silver, instead of the too familiar everyday ones, planning a centerpiece of fruit or jellies when flowers are not available, stimulates the imagination and helps create a fondness for other household arts.

Cooking, too, is more happily learned when the food is something special. It's hard to keep children out of the kitchen when you are making something that smells extra good, so take advantage of this to make cooking interesting and glamorous.

Cooking outdoors is one popular way of entertaining which gives the children an excellent opportunity to help run the show. If you haven't a back-yard fireplace, make that one of the first family projects when father or big brother comes marching home. There need be no danger in cooking outside if you teach the children the following regulations: Have a bucket at hand filled with earth or sand. Never start a fire without an older person to supervise. Always have the surrounding area clear of loose bits of paper, dry leaves, or anything else that can blow about or catch fire from a spark. Wear no loose fluttering clothing. Never play around the fireplace when a fire is burning. When lighting a fire, kneel with back to the wind. All cooking pots must have handles. Be sure that your cooking utensils will sit solidly on logs, stones, or grill, before lighting the fire. The fire must be absolutely dead before you leave it.

Too much trouble to entertain with the children at your heels? Yes, it's a lot of extra bother, but being a good parent is the most trouble-taking career we know of and the most rewarding! Besides we have a hunch that good house-keeping is going to be a more cherished art after the horrors of war that our young people have faced. And mothers will be expected to instruct their children in homemaking with the zeal our great-grandmothers practiced.

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SOIL CONSERVATION

L. Coit Dellinger, R-1, Cherryville, located in the Mt. Zion Church section, has been getting some excellent grazing from two acres of sericea lespedeza this summer. Mr. Dellinger reports that his cows graze it readily in spite of rumors that cows won't eat it.

The corn crop over the county has prospects of the best ever grown, and many farmers are predicting the highest yields they ever produced. This is due largely to: better preparation of seed beds; better applications of fertilizer and side-dressing of nitrogen; better seed, including recommended and tested hybrid varieties; a good season; and, turning under soil improvement legumes and other conservation practices.

Iswight L. Beam, R-1, Cherryville, located near the Lincoln County line, has an excellent stand of kudzu on about three acres of steep and rough land. This field is a sight to behold and a fine example of a good soil conservation practice on steep land protected against any sign of erosion and producing a bumper hay or grazing crop. This kudzu crop is about shoulder deep over the field and Mr. Beam plans to cut it off hay around the end of the summer.—Another example of wise land use.

Dr. M. D. Fronberger, Gastonia, reports, on his farm located near Bessemer City, a perfect stand of sericea lespedeza in a 3-acre draw being used for a meadow strip. This strip carries terrace water from about 30 acres of his cultivated land and will provide a permanent hay crop every year in addition to "walking the water" out of the field. Dr. Fronberger sowed the sericea himself this past spring on oats used as a nurse crop, then later cut off for hay allowing the sericea to come through.

Terrace lines were staked recently to be built by the county terracing units and by farm tractors on the following farms: B. M. Mollen, Stanley; A. T. Newton, R-1, Dallas; E. S. Fletcher, Audie, Bungalow, R-2, Bessemer City; J. S. Huffstetter and Yates Homesley, Ernest Roberts, R-1, Kings Mountain; and, Alton Carpenter, R-1, Cherryville, N. C.

E. C. Pasour Route 1 Bessemer City, located near Pasour Mountain, has been following the practice of improving his pasture by liming, top dressing superphosphate in the spring and adding annual lespedeza seed to improve the mixture of grasses. Liming and fertilizing the pasture attracts the cows as the better quality of grass is indicated by the fact that they graze in the places that have been limed and fertilized, even to the drill rows.

Terrace lines were staked recently to be built by the county terracing units and by farm tractors on the following farms: C. H. Willis, Route 1 Dallas; H. M. Mullen, Route 1 Stanley; Ernest Roberts, Kings Mountain, Route 1; W. M. Lingerfeldt; R. C. Hood and E. H. Biggerstaff, all R. F. L. Bessemer City.

Spurgeon Webber Route 1, Kings Mountain, located near Lincoln Academy, is doing a fine job in his community in assisting his neighbors in establishing conservation measures on their land. Spurgeon has already terraced around 30 acres with his tractor and a V-Drage, after the terraces had been laid off, in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service district program. Farm plans are being developed on all the farms in his community and by working together they plan to get all their land terraced, establish adequate waterways and meadow strips, plant kudzu and sericea on steep and eroded fields and pasture improvement work started. Farm plans are being developed on the following farms in this community: Spurgeon Webber, C. L. Webber, Robert B. Spencer, Maude Spikes and Paul Brooks—another example of neighbors working together and getting conservation practices established on the land.

R. M. Rhyne Route 1 Mount Holly, located near Stanley, cut a fine crop of hay from around 5 acres of sericea lespedeza. It is knee high again and he plans to harvest the next crop for seed. Dick harvested a good seed crop last year and in addition to cutting a hay crop, he sold several hundred dollars worth of sericea seed for additional farm income, as well as good land use.

Dane S. Rhyne of the Rhyne Dairy, on the edge of Gastonia, is getting some excellent temporary grazing from about six acres of Sudan grass; although the grass was sown late, due to the dry weather, Dane was determined to sow it as soon as he got a season and finally got it sowed in early July. With the excellent season that followed, he will realize plenty of good grazing for his dairy cows.

Limberneck Epidemic Avoided By Care

Poultry producers of North Carolina were warned this week to watch for the appearance of limberneck in their flocks, because the disease occurs mostly during the hot summer months. The warning was issued by Dr. K. S. Dearstyne, head of the State College Department of Poultry Science.

Limberneck is usually found in small flocks which are allowed a free range. Dr. Dearstyne said. It is very easy to recognize as the name describes the condition of the birds eating decomposed material of a nitrogenous nature.

Dead chickens and manure piles where decomposition has taken place are excellent sources of the trouble. When the disease breaks out, the owner should con-

ced and much erosion is prevented in renovating thin sod the experts suggest that the sod be double-cut with a heavy disk to a depth of about 4 inches.

Shallow seed bed preparation for permanent pastures should be followed with shallow seeding, generally about one-fourth inch deep. One of the best methods is to use a cultipacker seeder. Many growers mix the seed with lime or phosphate and then cross drill the land. A seeding attachment on a grain drill or a hand seeder may be used. The seed should be covered with a cultipacker, harrow,

or brush drag. The whole idea is to get the seed covered but not to plant them too deep.

Inoculation is necessary for white clover units it has been grown on the land before. "Moisten the seed with a water-syrup mixture, mix with plenty of culture, and then dry with a small amount of cottonseed meal," say the experts. "The inoculated seed should not be exposed to the sun, and it is best to sow them on a cloudy day. When there is any doubt as to whether the inoculation has taken effect, the field can be re-inoculated by broadcasting some of the culture mixed with cottonseed meal or inoculated soil just ahead of a rain."

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DISK RATHER THAN PLOW PASTURE LAND

In seeding permanent pastures around September 1, the most favorable date, disking is much better than plowing. Pasture experts of the Agricultural Experiment Station at State College say the seed bed for grasses and legumes should be shallow, firm, and well pulverized.

If stubble or the cover crop is chopped up and left on or near the surface, evaporation is reduced

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THIS AUGUST 3, 1945

Alfonso Beam
TOWN CLERK

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