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RANDOM THOUGHTS

by Doris Burton

Those of us who have children quite often ask ourselves why they do not behave toward us as we behaved toward our parents, and what we have done all along that possibly could have been influential in their development along the wrong lines.

I can't recall my mother ever having to tell me more than once to do a thing; and as for saying "Wait a minute", I knew better. I can't remember ever having had a spanking as a child. All my mother had to do was LOOK at me.

With all the child psychology books available now, and all the past experiences with one's own children to refer to, some of us still think we may never reach the goal for which we strive so hard. That goal usually is to have a perfectly managed home filled with peace and quiet, but can it be that we are wrong and that this should not be our goal at all?

Everything I've read on child psychology emphasizes the fact that from the very beginning of a child's mental development, he should be provided with some outlet for his excess energy. Repression of any natural, healthy instinct or impulse is a wrong; and any parent who attempts to maintain quiet in the home for the sake of his or her nerves, pays doubly at the expense of those same nerves with restless, irritable children.

If the parent is successful in the effort for quiet, he or she may have as their reward an even worse state of affairs: children thoroughly repressed, lifeless, in-

attentive, and wholly without interest or enthusiasm.

There is, of course, a limit to the noisy exuberance to be allowed them. One doesn't necessarily have to "take it" every minute of the day. A child, who has been reared properly, knows instinctively when a mother or father has had enough and, as a rule, will cease the disturbance of its own accord. If the child does go past the limit, then it becomes the parent's duty to the entire family to demand cooperation from the child.

One can demand things of certain children; but with others, particularly the self-assertive child or the selfish child, it sometimes pays off in the long run to compromise. Self-assertiveness in a child can be channelled into paths that will lead him through the years to great things.

For the selfish child, nothing is better than play with other children, particularly in groups to help him lose that trait. He must then learn to share what he has with other children or suffer the consequence, and children can sometimes be very cruel.

For the child who is slow, a sluggard in everything he attempts, the same rule applies. He will learn through play with other children to think and move much faster. The blessed result will be an intellectual awakening which will be noticable to one only when mental activity, such as school work involving much thought, becomes easier for him.

Be very careful about saying, "Oh well, he'll outgrow it". Ignoring a child's need for help is un-

In the days when there were few cars and lots of horses around, I was walking down the street of a certain town one day with a bunch of other men; and I was on the edge of the sidewalk, nearest the street. Here and there, horses were tied up to hitching posts. As I passed a horse, and without paying much attention to him, I suddenly felt a snapping at my arm, and found that I had by the barest margin escaped being bitten by the animal.

I suppose that this poor horse had had bad treatment ever since he was a colt. Maybe his owner gave him whacks over the nose every time he came up to him. With such memories, the horse was bound to feel suspicious of everybody, and quite understandably snapped at anybody coming too near his face.

I wonder whether there are boys and girls in our community who for one reason or another are getting the idea that the whole world is against them and who as they get older are going to have dispositions like that horse.

The problem of human relations cannot be solved simply by shielding our children from painful collisions and frustrations. To some extent, we can and should shield them. But more important than merely quarantining them from the evil and brutality that lurks

everywhere, is the duty of directing all the activities of our children, until we know they are on solid ground, is of utmost importance. We must learn to accept the fact that they are individuals, each with a distinct and different set of characteristics; and then make a special effort, in a way that is not obvious to the child, to correct any flaws we may discover in his character.

Then, and only then, will we have earned the right as parents to say, "Well done".

in many places is to help them to "take it" and yet keep their dispositions sweet.

Go to a large hospital for crippled and disabled people, and you will find there some of the saintliest persons in the world — too noble to be resentful against God or fate. And perhaps in the next room or bed will lie a patient who is like our "horse", feeling sorry for himself, squealing about the hard luck he has had, indulging in bitter jibes at the doctors and nurses.

In the time of depression when many people were thrown out of work, hundreds had a grudge against "capitalists". And those were days when communistic thoughts found fertile soil in the minds of even Americans.

The characteristic of getting mad at others when things don't go the way you want them to may be seen also in the attitude of larger social groups. Have labor unions ever acted in that way? Have racial groups ever gone out to "beat" or to "kill"? Readers, Friends, think this over!

Let Burnsville be a community that, on the one hand, will not tolerate treatment such as our "horse" had when he was a colt, and that, on the other hand, will produce people with characters too noble to bite and blame even if they have been treated unjustly.

EVERY STICK AND STONE

Almost every stick and stone in more than 25 counties is being covered in one of the most complete geological surveys ever made of the state.

The purpose of the survey is to bring the geological map of the state up to date. The "slate belt" is perhaps the most poorly mapped part of the state and the geologists are concentrating on it.

The survey, a Governor's project, will serve as a basis for the later economic exploitation of the

Obituaries

RANSOM M. RIDDLE

Ransom M. Riddle, aged 67, a retired Yancey County farmer, passed away Monday morning, Sept. 17, in an Asheville hospital after a long illness.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 18, in the Concord Church near Burnsville. The Rev. Elzie Ray officiated assisted by the Rev. Bascomb Hensley and the Rev. W. J. Baker. Burial was in the Penland Cemetery.

Mr. Riddle was a member of the Baptist Church for many years.

Surviving are the widow and four daughters, Mrs. Monroe Thacker of Star Rt., Burnsville, Mrs. Roy Waycaster of Fletcher, Mrs. Jim Brooks of Mooresville, and Miss Alma Riddle of the home; also three sons, Plato and Claude Riddle of Asheville, and William O. Riddle of Burnsville; one sister, Mrs. Jennie Riddle of Pensacola; and fifteen grandchildren.

JOHN LETTERMAN

John Letterman, aged 75, of Route 9, Greenville, Tenn., a former resident of Yancey County, passed away Sept. 3, in a Greenville hospital, following injuries suffered in a farm accident.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alice Jones Letterman, and one daughter, Mrs. Ray Crum, both of Greenville; two brothers, Joe W. Letterman of Celio, and Nelson F. Letterman of Knoxville; and also by three nieces and three nephews. Funeral services were conducted at Zion U. P. Church, of which he was a faithful member, on Wednesday afternoon, September 5, by the Rev. John E. Powers assisted by the Rev. Richard Waddle.

Mr. Letterman was the son of the late David A. Letterman and Ruth Peak Letterman. He was born on May 13, 1861, at Pig-Pen community of Yancey County. He moved with his family to Greene County, Tennessee, in 1908.

rocks and minerals in the state.

So, if you see a group of men, walking around and picking up all the rocks in your neighborhood, don't call the paddy wagon. They're just geologists.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to our friends and neighbors for the many kind and thoughtful remembrances shown us during our recent sorrow, and also for the beautiful flowers. Mrs. Ransom Riddle and family.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE RECORD

Plywood manufacturing started in Oregon. In 1904 a box and barrel factory in St. Johns made the first panels.

Alamos in southern Sonora, Mexico derives its prosperity from the Mexican jumping bean. Each July and August residents pick and package the world's supply of brincadores (jumpers). Joaquin Hernandez, a native of Alamos known as the Jumping Bean King, buys almost the entire crop for export.

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Griffith & Hilliard

Deyton Farm Supply

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Burnsville Shell Service

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Burnsville Super Market & Pete's Snack Bar

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Ray Bros. Grocery

Pollards Drug Store

Western Auto Associate Store

Main Street Service Station

Town & Country Shoe Store

The Yancey Pharmacy

Vint & Lee's Esso Service