

Our Women and Children

Conducted by Lucille Skaggs Edwards.

THE ADOPTION OF CHILDREN

Under the foregoing title, Dr. Charles Gilmore Kerley writes a stimulating article in the Outlook and the following is one of its attractive truths:

"It is generally assumed that the benefits derived from adoption are all on the side of the child. This is a general belief and always an error. What possible role could the adopted child or adopted children (for many adopt more than one) play in a family that would accrue to the benefit of the adult members of the family? It is this: they postpone old age. The presence of young children and young people in the home means that the adults are kept young. To be mentally youthful means a postponement of physical age. Has the reader ever been in a childless home, a home that has been childless, we will say, for fifteen or twenty years? If so, you will agree with me that there are signs of age, very definite signs; that the passing years have left their indelible footprints. Everything is painfully precise. Every chair and piece of furniture stands stiff and prim and proper. The home of these old young people characterizes the occupants, and the occupants now demand order, quiet, and creature comforts. Even the family pets resent intrusion or disturbances of their daily routine.

Place a child in a home as described above, and what a change takes place, not only in the home, but in the occupants! I have repeatedly known the advent of an adopted child in a childless home to cure neurasthenia, despondency, and habitual grouch, particularly in men. I am able to give a very effective prescription against premature old age, and the prescription calls for constant association with youth, which means youthful environment—and environment is the great determining factor in human existence, not excepting heredity."

A MOTHER'S TEMPLE

By Hattie Vose Hall

A builder builded a temple;
He wrought it with care and skill—
Pillars and groins and arches,
All fashioned to work his will.
And men said, as they saw its beauty,
"It never shall know decay.
Great is thy skill, O builder!
Thy fame shall endure for aye"

A mother builded a temple
With infinite loving care,
Planning each arch with patience,
Laying each stone with prayer.
None praised her unceasing effort,
None knew of her wondrous plan,
For the temple the mother builded
Was unseen by the eye of man.

Gone is the builder's temple—
Crumbled into the dust;
Low lies each stately pillar,
Food for consuming rust.
But the temple the mother builded
Will last while the ages roll,
For that beautiful unseen temple
Was a child's immortal soul.
—Zion's Herald.

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ONE CERTAIN WAY OF REDUCING YOUR COST OF LIVING

Why not figure out what proportion of the present high cost of living is chargeable to the vegetables you consume during the year? You would find that they represent probably half of your living expense. If you cut this expense down you deprive yourself of the wholesome and necessary food provided by nature, to keep the brain healthy and the body in repair—for more and more is it apparent that the active child, the efficient workers, the man "young at three score" depends upon vegetables to properly "balance" his food ration, since the mineral salts contained in fresh vegetables are absolutely indispensable to health.

With garden seeds at their present perfection, a home garden is bound to be a success, and a space 25x50 feet will produce all the vegetables a family of six would require. Do not put it off! Plan for your garden now, a garden for health and for saving.—People's Home Journal.

ST. JOHN'S A. M. E. CHURCH NOTES

Rev. W. T. Osborne, Pastor.

The Willing Workers met at the Church Friday afternoon. There were two new members, Mrs. Beatrice Napier, and Mrs. Jessie Wright. The Willing Workers have added a literary department to their club, and Mrs. Alice Sherwood read a splendid paper on "Love and Kindness." Mrs. Carrie Carter porved herself quite a dramatic reader in the rendition of "Creation." A real dinner was served after the program.

The Rev. W. T. Osborne will preach a special sermon Sunday morning. Subject, "Saints in Wrong Places."

Mr. Roy Fouts, organist of St. John, is much better and will be out soon.

Mrs. L. Broomfield, daughter of Mrs. Martha Jackson, returned home last Tuesday sick.

The largest audience that has attended a literary society at St. John, was present at the opening of the Tuesday Night Forum, under the management of the Missionary Clubs. The program was par excellent. The instrumental by Miss Otis Watson, solos by Miss Darlene Duvall, Mr. Rufus Long and Rev. F. J. Peterson, were received with hearty applause which demanded encores. The Hon. Amos P. Scruggs gave a splendid logical and practical address on "Poise," which was full of food for thought and enjoyed by the appreciative large audience. The captains and members gave a rising vote of thanks to the participants on program and the audience for the great interest shown in their efforts for the literary, musical and financial development of St. John and the cause of missions. Program for Tuesday night, January 30:

Congregational singing, "My Country 'tis of Thee. Invocation. Vocal solo, Mrs. Ida Baker. Address, "Why We Should be Proud of Our Race," Mr. George W. Parker. Vocal solo, Mrs. Helen Fields. Tenor solo, The Rev. W. T. Osborne. The ladies will serve a fish dinner

and by request chitterlins. Dinner at 7 p. m. Dinner committee: Mesdames Queen Jackson, Maude Ray, Alice Avery, C. H. Huston, Beatrice Napier, Lulu Wheeler, Jessie Wright.

Refreshment committee: Mesdames W. S. Metcalf, F. J. McCullough, Myrtle Moore, Evelyn Ray, and Miss Wilmina Watson.

Entertaining committee: Mesdames Eva Walker, Lulu Rountree, Anna Burton, L. P. Robbinette.

The Missionary Ladies have added

a new club to their campaign, known as the Bright Star Club. The following members have already joined and others are wanted: Messrs. Chas. W. Washington, Plummer Walker, E. W. Moore, E. L. Jackson, W. P. Ray, Dr. Pryor and Rev. G. D. Rivers.

Mrs. C. H. Huston and Miss I. Jackson are the new members who joined the campaign club last Tuesday eve.

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