

Our Children

By Mrs. W. B. Davis



A lot of what some call naughtiness is just natural activity with no place to go. An intelligent child needs challenging things to do at school and at home. Parents are often patient with preschool children. They realize that our commonplace every day world is to him full of wonderful intriguing objects and splendid adventure. When three year old baby paints the floor with shoe whitening, mother explains that Daddy was using shellac on the floor, that whitening is for white shoes and that floor painting is a grownups job. Give him his brush and water and start him on his own job of painting, while cleaning up the mess, she thinks he was smart to imitate Daddy and she is right. Bobby, we'll call him was transferring into action knowledge gained by observation unhappily when Bobby reaches school age, his mischievousness probably will not meet with the same tolerant understanding. More will be expected of him and mother will often complain "But he knows better."

At the very time when growing bodies demand action movement and action, children enter school.

They have been accustomed to physical freedom. They want to run, to jump, to shout. They need such activity. The joys of associating with other children is a new discovery to them. They are sociable; they want to talk, to work with other children. Play gives children the same feelings of joy and achievement that work, recreation art and exploration give adults. Childhood should be joyous. Happiness is an indication of whole some growth and sound parents and child relationships. The joyous self-directed activity of the little child is his best possible education. He needs an environment that is rich and free, secure and safe, but full of opportunities for adventurous exploration. Happiness is a sign of good personal growth, just as radiant health is a sign of good physical growth. No one, either child or adult can be really happy unless he has the full use of his own powers. Parents should watch for signs of readiness, provide the kinds of materials or opportunities for which the child seems ready and wait to see what the child can do. And if it turns out the child is not ready, there should be no urging. Just wait.

Dr. W. A. Hunton, educational director of the Council on African Affairs, has recently published a booklet titled "Stop South America's Crimes." Both Dr. Hunton and Dr. Yergan have been following closely the proposed annexation of South Africa led by Premier Jan Smuts (the move has been pigeonholed by UN for a year) and have disseminated a deal of intelligent information on Africa through to the schools and other interested organizations.

Births



Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Jackson, nee Charlotte Williams, announce the birth of a baby girl, Patricia Anetta, born Tuesday, December 10.

Campus News



by Jeanne Malone

Here's good news for university students and the citizens of Lincoln. Lincoln's Social Action Council has voted to accept the university student committee on racial affairs into its membership.

The S A C, composed of a group of Lincoln citizens, was formed during the past summer to promote economic and social equality for all races and nationalities. By merging with the SAC, the student group hopes to profit from the experiences of the local council and to co-ordinate their activities in the hopes of obtaining greater results.

The student group will, however maintain its individual identity and will continue to do work on its own.

The Ivy Leaf club, the interest group of the Alpha Kappa sorority met and elected officers and outlined a few of its future activities which you will probably hear more about later. Those elected to office were: Jeanne Malone, president, Juanita Hanger, vice-president, Melsena Goolsby, secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. Ruth Thomas and Mrs. Betty Pittman both of Omaha and both alumni of the University of Nebraska paid a surprise visit to the campus Wednesday, December 11. They were accompanying Mrs. Pittman's husband who was attending a meeting of the State Veterinarians Association. Another recent visitor to the University campus was Miss Jacquilan Johnson, a former student of the Nebraska University also of Omaha who was visiting Miss Charlotte Preston, Sunday, December 8. Mrs. Virginia Rose was another visitor from Omaha who visited Miss Ruth Norman. Mrs. Rose accompanied her husband who came to the Veteran Hospital for a tonsilectomy.

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