

Our Children

By Mrs. W. B. Davis



Make Adoption Safe

If you want to adopt a child, and want to make a success of it, you should relax, and plan to be expectant parents for a while, just like any others! Apply for a child through an accredited agency and your waiting period will not be longer than is necessary. A great deal of skillful work goes into a good adoption. It means the bringing together of a mother and father and child who give every indication that they will be a happy combination. Physical health on the part of both parents and baby is not enough by any means, and that is why it is extremely unwise to obtain a baby for adoption by any other method other than through a recognized and qualified social agency. In some States, laws have been passed to safeguard adoption procedures, and eventually all States will have laws such as those recommended by the U. S. Children's Bureau to protect the people involved. Adoption is a many sided social problem. There are often many people and many records concerned in each one. The adopting parents, the trained social workers, the doctors, the psychiatrist, psychological tests, family records and interviews. Experience shows that children and their parents flourish when

emotional, temperamental and intellectual and educational differences are not too extreme. These factors are just as important as specifications concerning physical characteristics which adopting parents may think of first of all, though a good agency has these in mind too. Most reliable agencies insist on a trial of six months to a year before permanent legal adoption takes place. Of first importance is the child himself. If he is very young, his educational and social background is of less importance than what can be learned of his temperament and intelligence. It wouldn't do, to perhaps place a child of just average intelligence in a family of brilliant professional people. Still more vital to the child's welfare is his placement in a climate of warm steady love. The Social workers have acquired a good deal of skill in sensing the emotional atmosphere of a home, and they hesitate to place a child in a home where there is anxiety, or tension or lack of understanding between the husband and wife. The presence of a child is not a cure for those conditions. Every couple who are childless and capable should try giving some little fellow an opportunity to become a useful citizen. It carries along no more pleasure and pain than the ones we call our own.

Officers Installed

Lebanon Lodge No. 3 A. F. and A. M., recently elected and installed the following officers:

Worshipful Master, Edwin Todd; Senior Warden, Sam Kimbrough; Treasurer, William Hightower; Secretary, John W. Reed. Appointed officers are: Senior Deacon, James Adkins; Junior Deacon, Charles J. B. Bradley; Senior Steward, McKinley Tarpoley; Junior Steward, Walter Rife; Tyler, James C. Wilson and Chaplain, Clyde W. Malone.

Grand Master Clayton P. Lewis was in charge of the installation.

Joint Meeting

Robert H. Huckles consistory No. 32 Valley of Lincoln, State of Nebraska will hold a joint session, Sunday, January 26, at 3:30 p.m. with the O. E. S., it was announced by the Grand Secretary, J. R. Kelley.

The purpose of the meeting will be to set up a sister consistory chapter. All ladies of the O. E. S. Chapter are urged to be present. Refreshments will be served.

BOB'S MARKET

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This is My Community

by Eloise Finley
(Interviewed by Mrs. Alberta J. Cooke)

We (the girls) would like to agree with the boys in a lot of things, that we read in the voice last week. We too, would like more competitive games, hikes, skating parties roller skating as well as ice skating, and the card games on the market. The girls would like to have a basketball team. We would also like to make a suggestion. Boys, how about helping to make the parties a success by mixing with the entire group instead of sitting on one side of the room by yourselves. A mixer game might help break the ice. These things call for co-operation of our parents and other adult friends.

We are sure that the older people would enjoy some of our fun if they could and would just try. Doing things together is more effective than just looking on, how about it Mom and Dad?

This is My Community

by Richard Holcomb

Bowling is another competitive game that we could enter into. This sport is healthful as well as a pleasure. A boys bowling team that would meet once a week to bowl and then later enter the tournament would represent our group in this part of the country. This sport is not a costly one and entails no more expense than a show, to each individual. One of our parents or an adult of this community could arrange this for us. Ice skating is a sport that the girls and boys could both take part in, and it is very healthful. It develops the body, and say girls it takes off the excess pounds. Then there is photography, a camera club for the spring boys, and these pictures can be entered in the camera exhibit that is held in Lincoln each year and maybe make the national exhibits. These are suggestions that we wish could be realities. Are you with us?

Title—"Pavillion of Women

Author—Pearl S. Buck

She who had begun by seeking only for herself ended by sharing the lives of all these others for she had learned now the true meaning of self.

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