

WOMAN'S VARIED INTERESTS

CHILDREN AND THE WAR

It Is Well, When Your Son Asks About the European War, to Talk Frankly, Without Bias, and Inspire Him with Distaste for All Military Measures.

It is curious that so many people who take it as a matter of course that children's questions about war and machines should be fully answered nevertheless hesitate when it comes to children's questions about war, and particularly about the present European war. It is as though we felt somewhat ashamed before our children that such a stupendous question could be carried on by grown-ups, and like the ostrich of the fable, we pretend that there is no such thing, although we cannot hide the fact from the alert youngsters.

How Much Shall They Be Told?

It is futile to ask whether children should be told about the war. Unless they are kept in solitary confinement they are constantly getting information and misinformation in large instalments. The important question to ask is: What shall they be told? or, How shall they be told?

We must make up our minds how we wish to have our children look upon war in general and upon the facts of this particular war. We must decide whether they are to cultivate, through their new learning, a spirit of militarism, or a narrow partisanship for this or that party to the conflict. Is information about war and fighting to develop an admiration for the soldier as the highest type of hero, or is it to establish the conviction that war is the normal and rational method for settling differences among nations?

It is because we fear the narrowing effects of partisanship and the possibly brutalizing effects of militancy that most of us hesitate to encourage our children's interest in the war. But if our reasons are of this kind we should go a step further. We should recognize that a partisan is not a suitable person to give children information about the great struggle. Nor is such a person the one to explain to a child what he thinks are the causes of the war.

Let a parent may well take occasion to explain that because of birth, or early associations, or business interests, or family connections he is very decidedly prejudiced one way or the other, and that he must therefore refrain from attempting to bias the judgment of others, especially of his children. To state frankly that you are prejudiced is no easy matter. But there is no better opportunity to teach the child the importance of suspending judgment, and there is no better illustration of the fact that our judgments are not only colored but badly warped by our feelings.

Apply the Perspective of History.

It is the parent who hesitates, because he does not wish to warp the child's mind, that should now find the best opportunity to study up his history and acquire a perspective through which to view the events of the day. When a child is old enough to ask a question he should have the best answer available up to the limits of his understanding and interest. If he is old enough to be shocked by the reports of "atrocities" he is old enough to be taught that the whole war is but

a tangle of atrocities, and from the nature of things can never be anything else.

The child with ideals easily has his sensibilities outraged by the accounts of a treaty violated or of a neutral nation ruthlessly crushed to clear the way for a more powerful people. And we do well in trying to preserve these sensibilities against the hardening influences of the bloody story. But we must go further.

It is not enough to arouse the child's resentment against those who commit the wicked deeds. One does not need to go very far back in the history of our own times, to discover that none of the nations now at war is entirely with clean hands. Nor is it enough to arouse resentment against the outrageous deeds. If feelings are to be aroused they are to be directed against the whole scheme of life and thought that makes war a possibility.

Discourage Martial Spirit.

It is not those parents who see in the military virtues the basis of the moral life that hesitate about discussing the war with their children. On the contrary, these take advantage of every detail to impress upon their children the glories of sacrifice and hardship, or the nobility of this particular kind of public service.

Those who hesitate are the very ones who fear that too much preoccupation with the war and its events will bias the mind of the child toward interest in martial affairs. Thus they lose a great opportunity to instill in them early a determination to use their powers to combat war. They lose the opportunity to impress the children with the tremendous destructiveness of war and with the importance of holding it in reserve for the most serious tasks of humanity. They lose the opportunity to counteract the military spirit that is only too ready to break loose on the slightest pretext.

Frank Discussions Beneficial.

Now that the interests of so many millions of people are centered about the war, we shall find it easier for children to learn important historical and geographical facts than ever they could under the ordinary conditions supplied by the school or the home. In a few short years our children will be getting this information as school "lessons" with the usual travail and hardship. They will then have a real grievance that we did not let them learn what is important in the whole matter while the interest was most alert to assimilate all that came to the mind.

Children can profit from table-talk about the war in the same way as they can profit from home discussions about political or religious subjects. They unconsciously absorb a great deal of information, and learn a great deal about forming judgments. But if the discussion of the war consists of an exchange of vituperation, it is, of course, worth no more than a similar discussion of "politics" or religion. In fact, we must discuss with our children every topic of interest to them and of importance to life.



OF LIGHT GREEN SILK CASHMERE, A FROCK LIKE THIS MEETS ADMIRABLY THE ORDINARY NEEDS OF A SCHOOLGIRL. CHEMISETTE AND CUFFS OF SHEER LAWN, AND THE VEST EFFECT OUTLINED BY A GREEN SILK PLAID VARIATE THE COLOR SCHEME

Children's Frocks

Little Afternoon Dresses in Wool and Silks Generally—Russian Blouse.

VERY smart for semi-formal afternoon wear is the frock sketched on this page. The long waisted bodice of dark blue crepe meteor, which is made with a yoke, has a loose Gibson pleat over each shoulder. The collar and cuffs are of silk marquisette, finished with self-covered buttons. Three rows of shirring form the waist line, from which hangs a tunic skirt, slashed up the sides and trimmed with covered buttons. This model comes in rose, navy blue and Copenhagen for \$18.50.

Green Broadcloth Guimpe Dress.

A smart one-piece guimpe dress of green broadcloth and green silk plaid is sketched here. The separate waist of white organdie, with five tucks on each side, is fastened with pearl buttons, and has embroidered collar and cuffs. At the neck, a smart bow of blue and green plaid is placed. The waist section is of dark green broadcloth bound with black soutache braid and fastened in front with fancy buttons. The side pleated skirt is of dark blue and green silk plaid, and a girdle of black satin ties in a knot in front. Price, \$16.60.

Velvet Belted Russian Blouse.

Another excellent dress is of dark blue and green plaid in Russian style, with flat embroidered collar and cuffs of white organdie. Instead of buttoning down the centre front, this model fastens at the side front with fancy buttons. In the back there is a panel extending a trifle below the hips, trimmed on each side with two covered buttons. A wide velvet belt is placed low on the waist, finished with a strap of velvet. Price, \$16.60.

Long Organdie Vestee.

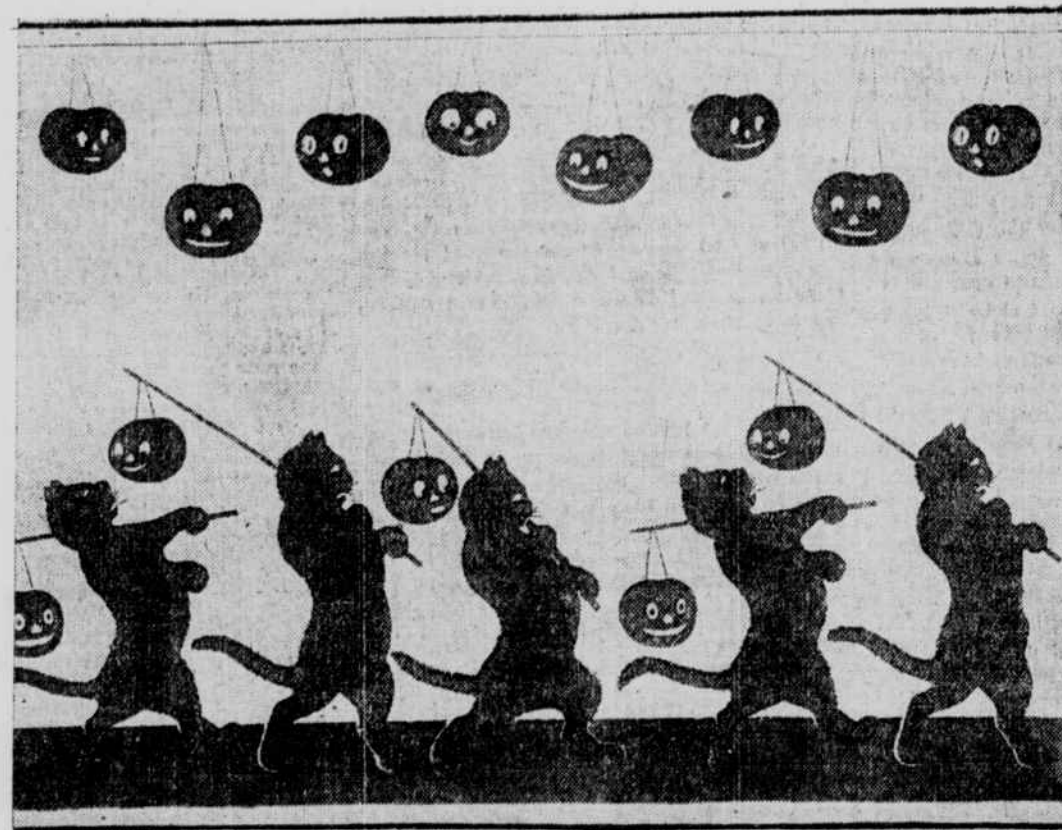
A frock that could be worn either in the morning or afternoon is of figured wool challis. The long waisted model has a yoke trimmed on each side with four tucks, and has a hemstitched organdie collar and long vestee, the latter extending from the neck to the low waist line. On each side of the long vest there are loops and covered buttons of black satin. The pleated skirt has a full tunic and is finished with a wide girdle of black velvet. Price, \$14.50.

Long Waisted Figured Crepe.

A long waisted model that might be worn for the afternoon is of figured crepe. The waist has a yoke back and front, outlined with hemstitching. The waist is trimmed with a sailor collar and the three-quarter kimono sleeves have cuffs of dark blue velvet. The frock is slightly gathered at the waist

line beneath a belt of black velvet, from which hangs a tunic skirt. This frock may be had in rose, green and Copenhagen. Price, \$10.75.

Decorations for the Halloween Party.



A PRANCING ROW OF CATS TO PROMOTE JOLLITY AT A CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY.

AS HALLOWEEN falls on Saturday this year, it affords a splendid opportunity for a children's party. This can be held any time during the afternoon, as by excluding daylight from the rooms the decorations can be shown as effectively as though the party were an evening one. Care must be taken to avoid reference to anything that is weird or unnatural, and delightful paper cats should take the place of witches or bogies. A procession of black cats, prancing along on their hind legs and balancing pumpkin lanterns over their shoulders, makes one of the most amusing of table decorations, the cats forming a ring around a centerpiece of fruit, flowers or autumn leaves.

A Bewitching Cat Ring.

By purchasing decorated crepe paper of the desired design, mounting the black cats in pairs, with a stiffer paper between, turning their feet out and pasting them to a circular foundation, the entire ring of prancing cats can be easily arranged. The pasteboard ring on which the cats stand should be covered with fringed green paper

to represent turf. The lanterns swung over the shoulders are a part of the same design and introduce a cheerful pumpkin yellow. Plain black candlesticks can be quite transformed for the occasion by having the tallest of the black paper cats fastened one at each side, almost concealing the glass holder. The candles should be yellow and without shades, thus avoiding any chance of accident at the children's party. At each place put a square of milk chocolate, with yellow crepe paper wrapper over the tinfoil and a black velvet cat with arched black standing on each. The little animal is tied to the foundation with narrow yellow ribbon, tied in a many looped bow at its neck.

The Newest "Donkey Party."

Before the refreshments are served the children can be amused by being blindfolded, given a bow of yellow ribbon and told to pin it at the neck of an immense black fannel cat, sewed to a white sheet. The appearance of the cat, after each child has had its turn in placing the bow, will be most amusing. A prize goes to the child who

comes nearest to pinning the bow in the right place.

A Brilliant Dancing Cat.

An amusing toy, sure to interest the children, is a black wooden cat dancing on his hind legs. He is mounted on a box which contains a small electric battery, and, by pressing a button, tiny electric lights gleam in the cat's green glass eyes. This toy is to be had in several different sizes and with the cat in various absurd poses. A comical, noise-making favor is in the form of a flat black velvet cat's head, under which is concealed an arrangement which produces a prolonged "meow" when the cat's head is pressed. The eyes are made of bits of green satin, sewed on with a black bead, and a few white hairs are attached for whiskers. This is a favor which a child can carry home as a souvenir.

The refreshments should be so simple that not even the most careful parent could object. Bouillon. Potato soufflé. Sandwiches. Creamed chicken. Sponge drops. Vanilla ice cream. Sweet chocolate in fancy forms.

CONSIDER SCHOOL LUNCHEONS

Wholesome Foods Should Be Selected with Care for Nutritive Proportions, for Stimulating Variety and for the Value of Aesthetic Satisfaction.

"IF ONE could see the kind of luncheons that little children bring to school," said a teacher recently, "one would not wonder that they find the lessons too difficult."

There are three requisites to a perfect luncheon for children: First, wholesome food second, a variety, to quicken their appetites, and, third, a tempting manner of serving it.

And besides these essentials there are several little things of value in the "getting up" of a child's luncheon, an important factor in the building up of the robust adult.

As to the First Requisite.

Needless to say that the child's meal should be perfectly balanced as to food values. And there should also be something hot.

There are still many schools that do not possess a lunchroom, in which case the children should be sent home, except in damp or very cold weather. Even where the school provides lunch, it is sometimes better for the children to dine at home, for the breath of outside air on their trips to and from their homes does them good.

Clean, Wholesome Fruits.

It is usually conceded that fruit of some kind should find a corner for itself in the child's luncheon box. In providing fruit, care should be taken that it is neither under ripe nor over ripe.

Remember also that evil germs frequently find a resting place on its surface. Unless the fruit has been taken straight from an orchard, it should be sterilized before putting it into the luncheon box. Most fruits can be dipped into boiling water and quickly lifted out without their pulp being in any way affected.

Most of the fruit sold here has been brought from a distance and has been exposed to flying dust on its journey to New York. In autumn particularly, when so much fruit is eaten, this advice is worth heeding.

The words "nutritive" and "wholesome" mean little or nothing to a child. He never reasons as a grown person does, "I must eat that because it's nourishing." No, he reasons rather: "That's what I like; I'll eat it." "That looks good; I'll try it." The point therefore, is to give nourishing food that the child likes if one would have him perfectly nourished.

Tempters in the Lunch Box.

The child not only likes variety, but that variety must be attractive to look at. Many mothers in their desire to provide their little folk with nourishing food overlook this question. There are two reasons why a child should have food that is tempting to look at. The first is because he is more likely to eat it and eat it with relish. The

second is because he is an envious and very sensitive little being.

Enjoyment Aids Digestion.

Children enjoy eating in groups and comparing their luncheons, often sharing special tidbits and goodies with one another. If one of them has a luncheon less attractive to look at than the others the fun, as far as he is concerned, of the little gathering is spoiled, and with those little pangs of mortification and envy he is not as likely to masticate his food as easily and consequently digest it as well as he otherwise would.

The Pretty Goodies' Value.

This luncheon may be superior to the others in nutritive, but what does he know of nutritive? And what child, with the soul of a child, wants to eat plain meat sandwiches when his little neighbors around him are dining on animal cookies and gorgeous pink frostings? He knows too well that those small neighbors are in their hearts either pitying or despising him because he has no decorated cakes like theirs.

The so-called "sensible mother"—the one who is wise enough to provide custard and sandwiches instead of lollypops is likely to go to an extreme that may be almost as bad for the child. She has little sympathy with her child in his desire for pink goodies. She is likely to answer his complaints by saying that they are "not good for him," that he "mustn't be so silly," that the luncheon she provides is more wholesome than his chum's and so forth and so on.

Common and Uncommon Sense.

This "sensible mother" forgets a scientific fact—that when her child has a luncheon that will prompt him to laugh with pride and delight he will, because of his complete satisfaction, masticate it properly, as he should, and that his appetite, made ravenous by an appeal to the eye, prompts the gastric juice to flow into the stomach more readily and that thus he derives more real benefit from the luncheon than he would were his spirit less elated. Medical experiments on dogs have proved this fact—that an appeal to the eye and delight in eating affect the gastric juice secretions.

Setting sentiment aside, the point is how best to nourish that growing body. And nothing should be done to hinder in the smallest degree the proper absorption of the food by the body or decrease in the smallest degree the amount of nutritious food necessary to make him in time a robust adult.

The foods in the school lunch bucket must be wholesome; there must be variety to make the child eat, and that variety must appeal to the eye so that he will enjoy what he eats.

MISS WILSON A PATRONESS.

President's Daughter to Head List for "Pandora's Box," Vacation Committee Performance—Miss Belknap To Be Married to Paul Townsend Jones.

Miss Elizabeth Belknap, daughter of Mr. Robert Lenox Belknap, of 3 West 8th st., will be married to Paul Townsend Jones, a son of the late Dr. S. Beach Jones, to-day at the home of the bride's brother, Waldron Phoenix Belknap, 112 East 80th st. Miss Serena Deas Murphy, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Deas Murphy and a niece of the bride, will be the only attendant. Leonard C. Jones will be his brother's best man. Miss Belknap is a granddaughter of the late Henry Rutgers Belknap and a sister of Maitland Belknap.

Miss Margaret Wilson, daughter of President Wilson, will head the list of patronesses for the performances of "Pandora's Box" at the Seventh Regiment Armory on December 4 and 5, under the auspices of the Vacation Committee. Among the other patronesses are Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, Mrs. William G. McAdoo, Mrs. E. K. Holmes, Mrs. Pembroke Jones, Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, Mrs. Ogden Mills Reid and Mrs. John G. Holmes.

Mr. and Mrs. Colgate Hoyt arrived in town yesterday from their country place at Oyster Bay, Long Island, and are at the Gotham.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Graves will leave the Plaza to-day for White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., where they will spend the remainder of the autumn at the Greenbrier.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Akin motored into the city yesterday from Homewood, their country place at Hewlett, Long Island, and will spend the week end at the Gotham.

Professor and Mrs. Henry Fairfield Osborn will give a reception on Saturday afternoon, October 26, at Castle Rock, their estate at Garrison, N. Y.

Miss Avis Fitch to Wed.

A romance that began while they were studying at Swarthmore College will culminate on November 14, when Miss Avis Loraine Fitch, daughter of Magistrate and Mrs. Joseph Fitch, of The Terrace, Flushing, Long Island, will be married to Raymond Clarke Storb, son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Storb, of Pottstown, Penn. The wedding will take place at St. George's Protestant Episcopal Church, Flushing. The bride will be attended by her sister, Miss Dorothea Fitch, as maid of honor, and there will be eight bridesmaids. Claude Francis Gilechrist, of Philadelphia, will be best man. Mr. Storb is secretary and treasurer of the Storb Crushed Stone Company, of Pottstown, Penn.

Miss Letchford to Wed.

Morristown, N. J., Oct. 22.—Invitations have been issued by Mr. and Mrs. William Clark Letchford for the wedding of their daughter, Miss Sarah Augusta Letchford, and Endicott Fiske, of New York, at the home of the bride's parents on November 17. Miss Letchford will be attended by her sister, Miss Marie B. Letchford. A reception will follow the ceremony, to which a large number of guests from New York and Morristown have been invited.

At Newport.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.) Newport, Oct. 22.—Two cottage rentals for next summer were announced here to-day, Mr. and Mrs. P. Lothrop Ames, of North Easton, Mass., taking New Lodge, the Thomas F. Cushing estate on lower Bellevue av., and Miss Fanny L. Johnson renewing her lease of Edward J. Berwind's Stockton Cottage, Bellevue av. and Bellevue Court. Mr. and Mrs. Ames have already closed their season, but Miss Johnson is still here and will remain for some time.

Miss Maude G. Shepherd, of New York, has finished her visit to Mrs. Vanderbilt at The Breakers. Mrs. Frederic Bronson, of New York, is at present Mrs. Vanderbilt's guest. Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Berwind are closing their season to-morrow. Mrs. Paul A. Andrews returned to New York to-day after a visit to

for their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. H. Fairfield Osborn, Jr. Mrs. Osborn, Jr., was Miss Marjorie M. Lamond before her marriage, which took place in London on September 8.

The marriage of Miss Margaret Stockton Le Breton to Ralph Stuart Rainford, of this city, will take place on November 9 at the home of the bride's brother, Lieutenant David MacDougal Le Breton, U. S. N., in Washington, D. C.

For the benefit of the destitute Belgians an entertainment will be given at the country home of Mrs. William R. Grace, at Great Neck, Long Island, on October 31.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scribner will return to the city from Morristown, N. J., late in November.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis L. Hine arrived in town yesterday from their country place at Glen Cove, Long Island, and are at the Plaza.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Poik, who spent the summer and early fall at Lawrence, Long Island, will open their town house, 129 East 36th st., on October 26.

Mr. and Mrs. Amos R. E. Pinchot, who have rented their house, 1021 Park av., to Vincent Astor, will be at 980 Park av. for the winter.

Sir Arthur and Lady Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver de Gray Vanderbilt, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence W. Bowen and Mr. and Mrs. Claus A. Spreckels were among those who entertained at dinner last night at the Plaza.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Aldrich left the city yesterday for White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

Mrs. Frank W. Andrews, who closed her season during the day and went to Boston before returning to her winter home in Washington.

Miss Martha C. Codman gave a luncheon to-day at her Bellevue av. home.

Miss Katherine Knight and Lieutenant and Mrs. William S. Pye are giving dinners at the Naval Training Station on Saturday evening.

Mrs. Reginald C. Vanderbilt will not close her season until the second week of November.

Mrs. Frederick Neilson leaves here for Hot Springs next week.

Robert G. Hone has gone to New York for the winter.

Mrs. William H. Everett is returning to Washington for the winter in a few days.

Lenox Flower Show

(By Telegram to The Tribune.) Lenox, Oct. 22.—Mr. and Mrs. William Douglas Sloane won the chief award in the Lenox flower show, which opened this afternoon with a display of miscellaneous plants arranged for effect. The prize was a silver cup. It was the seventh time in succession that Mr. and Mrs. Sloane have taken this award.

Mrs. William E. S. Griswold won the first award for orchid groups, showing her Cattleya Liliata and Cypripediums with a setting of ferns. With this award went the silver cup offered by Giraud Foster.

Arthur N. Cooley, of Pittsfield, was second, and Mrs. William D. Sloane third in the orchid competition.

Mrs. Giraud Foster won the first award for table of orchids, and Charles Lanier was second. Mrs. Foster also won the cup offered by the Chrysanthemum Society of America for the best twenty-four ten blooms. The award for the best twenty-four blooms of chrysanthemums was also won by Mrs. Foster.

In the rose division Mrs. Foster won the first prize for the best vase of fifty roses in variety; Mrs. William D. Sloane was second.

Mrs. E. S. Griswold was a big winner of awards in the classes of single chrysanthemums, showing six new varieties never before exhibited in Lenox, including the Daily Mail, which won "The London Mail's" prize of \$1,000 last autumn.

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FOR THE SEMI-FORMAL OCCASION ARE THESE TWO FROCKS—THE ONE AT THE LEFT BEING OF CREPE METEOR AND SILK MARQUISSETTE, AND THE SECOND OF GREEN BROADCLOTH AND SILK PLAID.