STATEMENT WHICH MAKES ONE THINK

Parenthood Becomes a Disgrace When with It Comes No Ability to Give Little Folk a Chance.

By FRANCES SHAFFER.

It is said that over a million children cannot go to school because their parents have need for their labors; and the statement makes one pause.

It is not a popular opinion, exactly; in fact, it is a bit treasonable to the modern trend of thought, but many a time one is inclined to wish that the world might be led to believe that parenthood is something of a disgrace when along with parenthood there is not the ability to give the little folk a chance.

Because life is not one great play day for most of the workers here, even if fairly equipped for their labors; and when children are driven out into the work-a-day world before their little minds and bodies are ready for the struggle the odds are heavily against them, from start to finish.

And with the picture fresh in mind of one of the "little mothers" with which our cities are almost overflowing, straining and tugging away under the weight of a heavy baby brother, one is bound to ask where and how her chance comes in.

Kept out of school when her mind is fairly crying for training, and away from play when her muscles needed it most simply because the home needs her labors, what will her future be? Yet folk who are concerned with the good of the race earnestly talk of the duty of parenthood and rarely mention the obligation to the child. At least, not down in the places where the "little mothers" abound. Yet it is there that the big families thrive; there that the boys and girls trudge off to work at the very height of their plastic time of life, burdened with worries and hardships and cares when they ought not to guess that there are any such things as hardships.

And until the happy time is here when the work of a man's hand or hands yields sufficient income to pay the way of all the little ones that come and to start them on their bigger way rejoicing because they are prepared to serve in the field of their own choosing, it seems that the world might better concern itself with the quality and opportunities of childhood rather than with the problem of increasing the numbers.

It seems, too, that it might better think out some scheme of work and of compensation for work whereby the returns for honest labors would be sufficient to enable an ordinary man to support a reasonable family without calling upon undeveloped boys and girls to help share the burdens of home before they have secured half their rights as men.

And whenever some of us hear the greatest call to big families we think of the little ones that are here already, some of them kept home to serve as "little mothers," some of them hurried out to the searing fields of industry. And we are minded to send back another call. Let us develop the material on hand and prepare the field a bit before worrying too much about the decline of the human race, lest we be more numerous yet and worse off.

The time has gone by when enough to think of the individual apart from the state and of the bare chance of a boy or girl playing a war game all kinds of tough endeavors to a useful end toward the end it seems a real tragedy to see the multitudes of children ushered into workshops untrained for anything but the hardest of labors, and with no opportunity for growing. For it is only the very exceptional boy or girl who somehow struggles for education along his working way. The rest, of average mind and average will and determination, it they know little of their rights are equipped to take the humbler tasks, remain in the twilight in the best and pass through all of life's battle but that the human cereal.

In a country like ours, with doors thus wide open to at least an ordinary education, it seems like stealing part of a child's birthright to take him out of school and away to work before he has made any kind of a fair educational beginning. Yet they tell us that it is the urgent call to work that is responsible for the many boys and girls who enter the race for money long before they are ready for the practical side of life. They turn to the lowpaid industries, and they never rise any higher throughout their lives. Their very language betrays the lack in their childhood, and we say to ourselves that with the schools free to all there seems little enough excuse for their ignorance. But we forget that parents needed their help.

And the worst of it is that as the years pass by, these handicapped children, grown into men and women have little folk of their own, to whom they cannot offer ordinary advantages for the very same reasons that held them back.

Doubtless some of them outride all their difficulties and are a blessing to themselves and to the world they serve, but it is not exactly pleasant to think of the others struggling away and never rising above early opportunities and early environment.

Some glorious day all our work problems may be solved and we may enter upon a stage in which not a child shall be yoked to labor, and then we can better afford to talk of the dropping away of the human race.

Meanwhile there is something askew in the talk, at least as some folk view it.

Those Girdle Ends.

Of course, girdles with long ends are being worn, and will continue to be worn throughout the coming season; but the ends now are just a little newer. Now, to break the monotony, why not take the ends of one or two girdles, press them out and proceed to make a nice, fat, loose Japanese obi bow of them? It's as easy as the traditional "spill" off the obi log. The obi may be worn front or back, and has simply two loops with no ends.

To Produce Thrillers.

In the interest of the Princess Theater, New York, Mr. Brady has entered into agreements with the directors of the Grand Guignon and the Theater Michel, of Paris, for a number of plays. Whereby all of their thrillers are to be reproduced at the Princess. This popular house of thrills will open soon with a new play by George Jean Nathan, "The Eternal Mystery."

ATTRACTIVE FALL MODEL

Hats were never so handsome as now, and black with dashes of bright color is in great demand. The model pictured here is in satin overlaid with chiffon, trimmed simply with an aigrette tied near the top with a tiny bow of orange velvet ribbon.

Cost to make: Shape, 50c; 1 yard of 36-inch moire silk, $2.00; 1 yard of 36-inch chiffon, $1.50; aigrette, $3.00; velvet ribbon, one-half yard, 15c, bringing the total cost to $6.15.

WHAT TO SERVE AT THE HOME TABLE

Carefully Planned Menu at Very Moderate Cost.

BREAKFAST.
Grapes.
Bread Omelet. Bacon.
Tea. Coffee.

LUNCHEON.
Baked Macaroni with Tomato Sauce.
Bread and Butter.
Caramel Custard. Chocolate Cookies.
Tea.

DINNER.
Flank Steak, Broiled.
Browned Sweet Potatoes.
Fresh Succotash.
Whole Wheat Bread, with Butter.
Peach Shortcake. Cream.
Coffee.

Cost of materials:

Melon	$ .10	Tea	$ .05
Grapes	.12	Milk	.12
Bacon	.08	Potatoes	.06
Tea	.05	Succotash	.10
Coffee	.05	Peaches	.10
Macaroni	.06	Shortcake	.05
Bread	.05	Cream and milk	.15
Butter	.05		
Custard, eggs, sugar	.20		
Cookies	.05	Total	$1.34

Bread Omelet—Soak one-half cup bread crumbs in one-half cup milk while beating the whites of four eggs until very light. Beat the yolks of the eggs until light, then add the soaked bread and one-half teaspoon salt. Fold into this mixture the beaten whites. Pour into a hot buttered frying pan and cook slowly until firm around the edges. Then cook the top of omelet in broiling oven. When brown and firm, take out and spread it with butter. Fold and serve very hot.

Macaroni with Tomato—Boil one-half of a 5-cent package of macaroni until tender in salted water. Make a cream sauce with one cup milk and one tablespoon flour flour. Add a little grated cheese, salt, pepper, and one large tomato cut in pieces. Pour this over the macaroni and bake one-half hour.

Fresh Succotash—Three ears of green corn, boiled; one-half box green lima beans. Cut corn from the ears, add to the cooked beans. Then cook for five minutes in one cup milk. Season with butter, salt, and pepper.

WHEN PUTTING AWAY SUMMER CLOTHES

Every Garment Should Be Freed of Dust and Spots Should Be Removed.

To properly put away the summer wardrobe is not merely a matter of placing the various garments and accessories in extra closets and trunks. Every garment should first be carefully examined and any spots upon them should be removed, if it is humanly possible to do so, since the stain if allowed to sink in for half a year may never come out at all and sometimes it decays the fabric. An ordinary grease spot may usually be removed from a colored gingham, linen or muslin frock or blouse, by wetting the place with fresh milk, covering it with common salt, letting it stand for several hours and then rinsing the garment in several waters.

A black oil spot such as is often made by coming into contact with a motor's mechanism, must be taken out with a smearing of butter. Chemists can usually furnish an eradicator which will vanquish ink spots without damaging the material. Of course, all launderable garments are put away clean, but without starch and rough-dried. Warm corn meal will take ordinary dust spots from white serge and on no account should a summer garment of that material be permanently laid away in a soiled state as, after lying for a few months, the grime works into the weave so deeply that it is almost impossible to get it out.

Wrap in Tissue Paper.

Lest a summer dancing frock in white chiffon or China silk become yellowed, it should be wrapped in white tissue paper and then laid away in a capacious box lined with blue paper and holding several cakes of fine white wax which will get yellow instead of the dress.

An expensive Manila braid or Panama outing hat should be most carefully looked after as such headgear is perennially fashionable and easily blocked in accordance with the current shapes. If not badly enough soiled to be sent to a professional cleaner, these finely woven hats should be liberally sprinkled with flour and rubbed with an old piece of soft linen, the amateur cleaner being certain to shake off all the flour before pinning cheesecloth about the hat and placing it in an individual box.

White shoes of every sort should be thoroughly cleaned and placed over "trees" before going into their particular boxes or bags, but especially care should be given to kid boots, particularly any that may have become stiff by being exposed to dampness and then hastily dried. These should first be made soft and pliable by smearing them with vaseline, letting it remain on for an hour or so and then taking it off with dry, soft cloth. Leather mountain boots, which are often the most costly type of footwear in a girl's summer outfit, will become dry and cracked unless thoroughly softened with castor oil. And no matter how many sizes too large they may originally have been, their owner would best keep them on "trees" all winter if she would wear them comfortably during the following summer.

The girl who wishes to preserve her warm weather wardrobe either for the purpose of again wearing it herself or for the pleasure of bestowing it upon some less fortunately situated friend, will never put away any garment the moment after she takes it off, lest it retain an odor of perspiration. Nor will such a girl permit anything to be permanently put away until it has been thoroughly aired in the sun and freed of every atom of dust.

Tango Sashes.

The tango sashes now being worn are ridiculously easy to make. Take a bias strip a yard and three-quarters in length and six inches wide; hem it on both sides—the selvage serves for a finish at the ends—and the sash is complete. A great deal of their charm lies, of course, in the adjustment and tying.

Monograms.

French knots make a very handsome monogram, especially in old English. No padding is required, and the papier-mache letters cannot be used. Stamp the monogram upon the article, and then simply fill it in closely and solidly with small French knots. The result will be highly satisfactory.

Fashion Fancies.

The uncorsetted figure really seems best adapted to the new lines and to the careless, unstudied sect of the summer fashions. Nothing looks set or fixed or fitted.

The waistline is so undefined with the present silhouette that it is placed wherever it best suits the individual figure.

The new draped sash usually comes below the normal waistline and drops a little lower in the back than in front.

A plaited section introduced in a draped skirt is one of the latest caprices of Dame Fashion. Having reduced the width of the lower edge to an almost crippling measurement, she turns about and grants us ample walking freedom by the use of plaits.

Many women still cling to drawers and corset covers and by having these the right shape there is no reason why they should not be quite as satisfactory as a combination under the present style of dresses.

Worth Knowing.

The best results are obtained from a kerosene lamp if the bowl is filled with oil only to within an inch of the top.

The water in which cabbage, onions, turnips, or Brussels sprouts are cooked should be changed every quarter of an hour. Of course, the fresh water used should be boiling when poured over the vegetables. The change of water makes the vegetables less strong in flavor.

The water used in making bread should be scalded and then allowed to become lukewarm before being mixed with the other ingredients. Milk, too, should be brought to the scalding point and then cooled before being used in bread making.

NOTED FOLK DISCUSS PROPER AGE TO MARRY

Editor's Note—During the run of "Years of Discretion" in New York City its theme, which concerns the struggle made by the smart folk of America's largest cities against the first signs of age—the unmistakable slowing-up of physical and nervous energy which manifests itself at the two score and ten mark, lead the members of the remarkable company presenting the Hatton play into a spirited discussion of the proper age to marry.

Beginning with Mr. David Belasco, who produces the widely discussed comedy at the New National Theater in this city next week, a series of opinions, which embrace those of every member of the cast, were transcribed to paper. Because of their cleverness and individuality, they will be published on this page throughout the current week.

Following is Mr. Belasco's idea of the right age to marry:

THE RIGHT AGE TO MARRY.

By David Belasco.

I know of no better way to answer this burning question than to paraphrase the beautiful location of Robert Browning and say that the right age to marry is when one has arrived at "the time, the place, and the loved one," altogether.

Just what age one must have attained before one can hope for this happy conjunction it is impossible to say. To some it comes early in life, to others not until middle age, to others perhaps not until life is well run into its red-and-brown October. And to still others, never.

As a matter of fact, I think it is because of the large preponderance of marriages that take place under the latter condition that we have our present appalling divorce statistics, to say nothing of the tens of thousands of unhappily mated pairs who have either not the energy or the moral courage to seek relief through the courts.

"The time, the place, and the loved one," or, if you would prefer the vernacular, "The time, the place, and the girl." Then and then only is the supreme moment when any man is justified in committing matrimony.

Let us consider the first-named branch of the trinity—that most important factor in the making of a happy and successful marriage, time. Time, the most precious thing in the world, time, that rarest of luxuries to the average man in civilized life; time, without which nothing can be nor ever has been pursued to successful issue. How many men, tell me, devote either time enough to getting married, or time enough to stay happily so after they are married. Most men select a wife in far less time, and with far less real anxiety to find a desirable mate, than they would dream of expending upon the selection of a thoroughbred team or a touring car. No wonder people write letters to the newspapers asking the question: "Is Marriage a Failure?" or that many of these same newspapers maintain regular departments the mission of which is to teach people "How to be happy, though married."

Then, there's the place—quite as important as the time—to any well-regulated courtship. When one sees the unpropitious environment in which the average modern courtship is conducted, one can only marvel that matrimony is as popular as it is. Certainly motor cars, electric lights, and the victrola cannot hope to compete as sentimental conducives with the old-fashioned horse and buggy, the softly shaded argand burner, and a pair of feminine hands gliding over the ivory keyboard. As a place for courtship, for proposal, contrast the quiet old parlor or front porch of yesterday with the brightly illuminated drawing-room or the steaming golf links of today. And yet, if we are to believe magazine fiction, men and women do plight their troth now in just such unpromising places.

Believes in THE Girl.

As to the girl, well, I am afraid I shall be considered a hopeless old fogy when I tell you that I believe in the theory of THE girl. I am old-fashioned enough still to believe in Goethe's doctrine of elective affinities. I am frank to say that I believe that for every man in the universe there is, somewhere, some particular woman specially designed for him. It is a part of my religion to believe that this man and this woman were created for each other, and that to fulfill the Creator's plan it is their duty to find each other, somewhere, somehow. It is furthermore equally a part of my religion to believe that this man and this woman should persist in their quest until they do find each other, and that it is not the right age for either of them to marry until that meeting comes to pass.

WHEN THE BRIDE CUTS THE WEDDING CAKE

Any rich fruit cake, heavily iced and decorated in white, may serve as a wedding cake. At an informal wedding the bride will cut the wedding cake.

For a pretty little ceremony of this rake cutting the guests should make a wide circle with a white satin ribbon about the bridal pair. To add to the gayety of the occasion it should have baked in it the silver symbols which denote various fortunes.

Breakfast Fish.

When fish can be procured fresh nothing is daintier than a small piece of broiled fish for breakfast. Fish is so much more palatable and tempting broiled than cooked in any other way. To broil fish successfully, clean, wash, and dry it. Split it and remove the backbone or the cook it with the backbone in. Sprinkle the inside of the fish with salt and put it on a buttered gridiron. First broil the skin side for a couple of minutes. Turn and finish cooking on the other side. This method of cooking the skin side only a couple of minutes makes it easier to handle the fish. Garnish the broiled fish with slices of lemon and sprigs of parsley.

Woman in Council.

E. Torday, chief of the British Museum expedition that recently explored the Congo River, says that in the council of Bushango there is always one woman. He found that her opinion seems to carry more weight than that of all the men combined. There can be no war unless she is willing. It all came about through the popularity of the princess, who learned how to start a fire by friction. She beguiled the only man who knew into telling her and was rewarded by a seat in the council.

Cheesed Peppers.

Cheese fixed in pepper shells is very delicious. Scorch the peppers slightly in a quick oven or on a broiler and remove the skins. Split with one careful gash and remove seeds. Insert in each pepper a little ball of rather dry cottage cheese. Fasten the opening closely with tiny toothpicks. Dip the peppers in egg and fine crumbs and fry in a deep kettle of fat.

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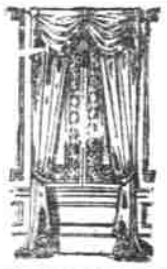

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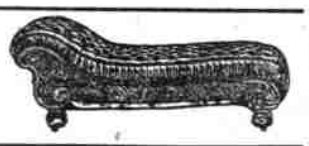

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