

Widening Educational Horizons

This is the last issue of Widening Educational Horizons until after the holidays.

To both children and teachers we extend the wish for pleasant and happy holidays. Days filled with the joy of living that only our Prince Edward Island summer can give. "The world is so full of so many things I'm sure you should all be as happy as kings." May you come back to the classroom in the fall ready for work and with the determination to do even better work than you did in the past.

We hope the parents and others who were interested in reading the articles in this section will look forward to this page in the fall. We endeavored to awaken an interest in education as carried on throughout our Island and shall continue to give you information that should be of interest to all those who are concerned with the education of our boys and girls.

This department is conducted by the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation. Contributions are welcomed and should be sent to Estelle Bowness, General Secretary, 98 Prince St., Charlottetown.

WILL HE BE READY FOR SCHOOL?

By Marian D. James, Supervisor of Kindergarten and Primary Schools, Victoria Schools, B.C.

Have you said many times lately, "I have a child who will be ready for school in September?"

If you have such a child in your family do you really mean that he will be ready? Or do you mean that your child will be the right age for commencing school on September 1st? There is a tremendous difference between being ready and being the right age.

School administrators work months ahead to prepare schools and classrooms. Teachers spend years preparing themselves to teach young children.

Parents want their children to attend good schools staffed by good teachers. They want happy school experiences for them.

Preparing a child for school is an important phase of the child's education. Nothing in the way of magic takes place when he becomes of school age. But parents can work magic in the way they prepare him for school experiences.

Timothy cried bitterly for the first two days he attended school. He just sat and sobbed. The teacher and the other children tried to comfort him but their efforts were in vain. Timothy just cried more lustily. His sobs became almost hysterical screams.

On the third morning the teacher managed to talk to him and at last Timothy sobbed out, "I can't read. I can't write. I can't do arithmetic. What's the use of MY coming to school?"

Poor Timothy! His preparation for school had doubtless been a series of warnings. "Wait till you go to school! You will have to work then! The teacher will give you lots of reading, writing and arithmetic! You won't have time to dawdle!"

Peter spent his first two days at school making friends with every one. He was a bit chatty but his merry laugh and his lusty spicing voice made everyone feel at home. Lucky Peter! His preparation for school had doubtless been a series of encouraging comments. "You will meet many new friends at school. You will play many games. You will sing many songs. You will learn to read for yourself. Soon you will be able to write your own name."

How can parents bring about the magic of readiness for school? During the next few months each member of the family can help the school beginner.

Readiness for school experiences depends on each phase of the child's development. Each child has certain needs. The following suggestions are offered to assist parents who ask, "What can we do to help our child be ready for school in September?"

PHYSICAL READINESS

A. Children Need Good Health Habits

1. The exciting first weeks of school are often very tiring for the young child. Adequate sleep and rest are important. Start now to check and establish good habits of going to bed early.

2. Getting up in the morning at a regular time should be encouraged.

3. Routines for getting ready for school should be established now. Going to the toilet, washing and dressing carefully without hurry and fuss will help the child arrive at school ready for work.

4. A good breakfast and a good lunch with time to eat without rushing, will help him go through the day without the snacking that usually occurs at home.

5. Pre-school dental and medical checkups. The wise parent will have any difficulties cared for before September.

6. Suitable school clothing should be planned. Children need clothes that are comfortable, attractive and easily kept clean. Rubbers, galsters and overalls should be purchased large enough to allow the child to get them on and off easily.

7. Outdoor play and experiences will help build up resistance to colds and coughs.

SOCIAL READINESS

A. Children Need People

The very young child is a self-centered individual who likes to play alone. The school child must co-operate with others. Give the children opportunities for playing with other children, for sharing their toys and experiences and for helping about the house.

1. Invite other children to play in your yard.

2. Invite another child to accompany you on a short trip or outing.
3. Allow your child to visit with other children.
4. Allow your child to help you and assume small responsibilities.
5. Be sure your child has many happy experiences with children both younger and older.

B. Developing Independence Or Cutting Mother's Apron Strings

1. Teach your child to recognize and take care of his own possessions. Put labels on his clothing and teach him to recognize his own label.
2. Help him learn to hang up his clothes and to put away his toys and books. Help him to be neat and orderly.
3. Help your child to recognize the value of his own things and the value of other people's things.
4. Help him respect other people and other people's rights and possessions.
5. Help your child to accept suggestions and corrections cheerfully.
6. Help him to remain away from Mother or some other member of the family without crying or being upset. When you leave the child, be sure to assure him you will be back for him at a certain time. Don't fail him. Be back at the time you promised. Make him feel quite secure and able to depend upon your promise.
7. Encourage the child to do all he can for himself. Remember you cannot stay with him during his school day. He will be much happier without you if he feels he can manage alone.

EMOTIONAL READINESS

1. Help him feel that the school is a safe happy place for children.
2. Talk of the joyous things awaiting each child at school.
3. Give him experiences which will give him a feeling of being loved and needed at home.
4. Try to visit the school during the spring term. Take him with you to help get over the strangeness of the large building.
5. Be sure to arrange for the child to meet the teacher. Try to make him understand that teachers are friends.
6. Answer his questions clearly.

MENTAL READINESS

- A. Give the child many interesting experiences that will enlarge his background and develop his vocabulary. Answer his questions clearly.
- B. Take him to the post office when you have a parcel to mail. Take him to the railway station when a train is coming in. Let him ride on a train if possible.
- C. Take him to the dock to see a ship docking. Let him go on a ship.
- D. Take him to the airport to see the planes landing or taking off.
- E. Take him to a city to see the big buildings, the buses, the street lights and other interesting things.
- F. Help the child to solve his own problems. Encourage him by saying, "You try first and if you need help I shall be glad to help you."
- G. Develop the child's interest in reading by telling him many stories, reading good books and showing him the beautiful illustrations.
- H. Develop the child's interest in music by singing to and with him. Play musical instruments for him to enjoy. Take him to the concerts in the park or elsewhere. Encourage him to listen to children's musical programs that come on the radio.
- I. Give him large sheets of paper, crayons and paints. Let him draw, colour and paint the things which he finds most interesting.
- J. Give him blocks to build with. He will meet problems that need solving.
- K. Encourage him to speak clearly and to use good English. Baby talk is cute but can be quite a handicap to the six-year-old when he is learning to read.
- L. Help the child to use all his senses (seeing, hearing, feeling, smelling, and tasting). Answer his questions and satisfy his eagerness for knowing "why".

BEFORE YOUR CHILD ENTERS SCHOOL HE SHOULD—

1. Know and use the best way of going to and from school. He should be able to go and come by himself. He should understand that he must not loiter or play on the way.
2. Parents should know about how long it should take a child to reach the school. This is important and may save needless anxiety later on. The wise parent will go to and from the school with the child during the summer. Stop signs at dangerous crossings should be discussed with the child. Hazards may be examined and his curiosity satisfied by the wise mother's or father's explanation.
3. Recognize the labels on his clothing.
4. Be able to take off and put on his outer wraps. The teacher is willing to help but remember she may have to put on 30 or 40 pairs of rubbers, to the 30 or 40 scarves, to button 30 or 40 overcoats.
5. Be able to look after his own toilet needs.
6. Be sure which hand works best for him and avoid changing back and forth. It is not wise to force a left-handed child to use his right hand.
7. Be happy to remain away from home and parents for several hours at a time.
8. Cheerfully accept suggestions and corrections.
9. Be able to follow simple direction and to do simple jobs with one telling.
10. Know the joy of achievement.
11. Know the importance of obedience.

Every child should know and be able to tell others his full name, address and telephone number.

Parents and teachers should, if possible meet together long before school starts in September. No two children are alike. Each child requires studying and his needs can

Hampton and Vicinity

Many citizens enjoyed the first of the one-week series of services of public worship, inaugurated by the Ministerial Association, held in Victoria United Church on June 14, with an augmented choir and special singing directed by Dr. Peter MacDonald. Rev. Mr. Bean delivered the inspiring message.

BETTER JAW TO JAW

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prime Minister Churchill, commenting whimsically on current U.S.-British talks, said it is "better to talk jaw to jaw than have war."

Churchill and President Eisenhower both spoke briefly Saturday at a White House luncheon attended by officials of the two countries and a bi-partisan group of congressional leaders. The talks were described as remarks of mutual friendship.

Sympathy of all is extended to the nearest-of-kin of the late Gustav Shaw, formerly of Canoe Cove, whose death in the P.E.I. Hospital occurred on June 12 after a serious illness. Funeral services from the home of his daughter, Mrs. William Farrar, Appin Aoad, on June 14 and at Argyle Shore Cemetery, were largely attended.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Glover, son and daughter, were brief visitors at Hampton on June 19, en route to Riverdale, where Mrs. Glover's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. John A. MacFadyen, were guests of their many relatives and friends

upon the occasion of the celebration of 28 years married life. To Mr. and Mrs. MacFadyen, best wishes are cordially extended for many future years of happiness.

Many district citizens attended the services at the Basilica on June 15 for the late Bishop Boyle, and joined the immense funeral procession to the Roman Catholic Cemetery.

Rev. R. H. and Mrs. Baxter have been enjoying the privilege of having as their welcome guests at Hampton Manse, their son and his wife, Dr. Robert M. Baxter, and Mrs. Baxter of Ottawa. Dr. Baxter, of the National Research Council, Ottawa, and his wife have been enjoying their brief visit among relatives and friends.

A representative gathering assembled in Kingston Hall, on June 18, to hear and evidently enjoy the Hampton Variety Concert, sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of Kingston Church. Rounds of applause followed the various numbers on a fairly long program and were met with ready response by those whose diversity of talents

qualifies them for such demands. Financially, as in other ways successful, an enjoyable evening's entertainment closed with the National Anthem.

The recent death of Miss Ethel Palmer in Charlottetown, has brought sadness and sorrow to the hearts of her many relatives and friends, including those who are residents of this community.

Making a return and pleasant visit to this Province, particularly to relatives and friends of this district, following a previous visit of three years ago, are Mr. and Mrs. J. W. MacIntosh of Los Angeles, Calif., where they have resided for many years. Mr. MacIntosh is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles MacIntosh of Victoria, and as a young man he migrated to Los Angeles, where as an investor in the live stock industry on a large scale, he soon became one of the financially successful Islanders abroad. Possessing musical talents above the average, both Mr. and Mrs. MacIntosh are constantly in demand for services in connection with church and community life of that

Monday, June 28, 1954 The Guardian Page 11

large city. Mr. MacIntosh has passed the three score and ten on life's journey, and, taking turn about at the steering wheel, he and his wife will make the return journey of thousands of miles in their automobile after a brief 10 days visit here, guests of their sister, Mrs. Mullins, and niece, Mrs. John MacQuarrie. They have given of their talents freely while here, and carry with them best wishes for a safe return and for many more years in their work in which they delight to serve.

Mr. and Mrs. Murchison MacEachern have entertained as their welcome weekend guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. MacEachern, sons, and Mr. Jack MacDonald of Rice Point.

Mrs. C. Sherren was hostess to Hampton Women's Auxiliary on June 16. The devotional services were led by the secretary, Mrs. Windsor Bell. Preliminary plans were discussed for the holding of the annual church supper. Mrs. George Cannon invited the members to her home for the July

meeting, with Mrs. Baxter as devotional leader. At the conclusion of the business before the meeting, members were served an enjoyable lunch by the hostess, assisted by her daughter, Roma.

The June meeting of Hampton W.I. was held at the home of Mrs. Howard Myers. The president, Mrs. Campbell, presided over the meeting and a fairly large agenda of business was disposed of. Following communications to the Institute, read by the secretary, Mrs. Merrill, and disposed of, representatives were named to attend the District Convention at Tryon.

FIRST HELICOPTER SERVICE

VANCOUVER (CP)—The first scheduled helicopter passenger service in Canada is planned for three communities on the north British Columbia coast. It was announced here Saturday. Okanagan Helicopter Ltd. of Vancouver has submitted plans to the air transport board for serving Prince Rupert, Terrace and the aluminum centre of Kitimat. All three are about 500 miles north of Vancouver.

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