

Women

The Guardian, Charlottetown, Mon., Oct. 3, 1966. 9

MARY HAWORTH

Mother Would Benefit From Specialist's Care

DEAR MARY HAWORTH: My mother, 74, is getting to be such a problem for my sister and me that we feel we can't handle it without outside help. Since father died some years ago, she has lived with either my sister and her husband or me and my family (husband and four young children). Frightened and confused, unwilling to live alone or even be-alone, she went first to live with my sister.

There she made life so disagreeable, because of her inability - or just plain obstinate refusal - to be alone at any time of day or night that my sister's health began to break. At that point we agreed to share the responsibility of mother's care.

Frankly, I don't know how much longer I can keep the agreement. Mother is becoming increasingly confused and downright slovenly. Her toilet habits are deplorable. She doesn't wash or bathe unless I personally supervise the operation. Last week she was leaving the house wearing her underslip over her dress.

She shares a room with my two young daughters; there is no other possible arrangement.

Teacher Fin's New Alphabet Is Useful

EAST PRAIRIE, Alta. (CP)—Teacher Marion Loring says her experience in teaching Metis children English with a 44-letter phonetic alphabet has convinced her of its value.


The method is known as ITA—Initial Teaching Alphabet—which was devised by Sir James Pitman, the English educationist.

Last September, few of the Metis children here could speak, read or write English. By the end of the school year, Miss Loring says, a number had become fairly fluent with the help of ITA.

One boy who at first could do nothing more than string together a meaningless jumble of words was able to write a coherent story after two months. Another who had never been to school and couldn't read or write was producing 300-word stories by the end of the year.

ITA, in which each sound has its own symbol, has been used experimentally in some Vancouver schools in the last few years. Proponents say it helps some children through the first stages of learning English, after which they can switch easily to the normal alphabet.

In Nigeria, where Miss Loring taught for two years before coming to Alberta, the native children taught by the ITA method did far better, she says, than those using traditional methods.



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Nun Operates A Nursery For Incurable Children

BELMONT, N.C. (AP)—Large tumor on its back, and Sister Marie Patrice bent over the playpen and lifted a baby girl with blonde curls.

"Isn't she lovely," the nun said softly, kissing and nuzzling the child.

The baby is 11 months old. She looks normal except for one feature. Her head is larger than usual. She is a hydrocephalic.

Like most of the 69 children at Holy Angels nursery, she will live only a few years.

These children are blind or deformed. Some are both. Most are under six years old. Modern medicine can do little for them.

Though she remains in a wheelchair, she may some day walk with the help of braces. She goes to school now.

"Others heard of us and wanted to bring their helpless infants," Sister Patrice recalled.

She asked the Sisters of the Sacred Heart to borrow money to build a nursing home. But they said they could not until they paid off a debt on the college.

Sister Patrice got permission to solicit funds. She enlisted a board of advisers. The nursery began to grow, almost entirely through donations.

There are children from seven states at the nursery. It's now so big that Sister Patrice said she now must limit it to children from North Carolina.

Sign Language Isolates Deaf Says Teacher

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (RNS)—A Roman Catholic nun who teaches religion to deaf youngsters never uses the sign language. Instead, she speaks slowly and enunciates carefully.

"The deaf are trapped in their own world. If they use sign language, but if they speak, they are an integral part of society," explained Sister Mary Madonna of the Sisters of Joseph of Carondelet Order.

With Sister Ann Gerard, a fellow teacher at the St. Joseph School for the Deaf in St. Louis, she taught summer religion classes at St. Thomas the Apostle school here to 16 deaf Catholic youngsters.

(Including your two brothers whose help to date consists of "giving advice"), and forthrightly transfer your mother to a psychiatrically staffed first-rate nursing home for the aged.

Experience in similar cases indicates that the nursing home sojourn with its humane but impersonal ministry can be remarkably effective in revising the elderly patient's attitudes from erst-while tyrannical to rationally cooperative, so that early return to the family may become feasible.

M. H. Mary Haworth counsels through her column, not by mail or personal interview. Write her in care of The Guardian.

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Honeymoons Not Good Idea Writes Rabbi

LONDON (AP)—A honeymoon trip is "a thoroughly bad way to begin married life," says a British rabbi. He suggests, newlyweds should start married life together in their own home.

"The honeymoon is an artificial way of starting life," Rabbi Vivian G. Simmons wrote in the Journal of the National Marriage Council.

"Here are two young people, freed for the first time from the joys or burdens, the securities or uncertainties of their separate homes, going into the world together.

"The proper place for them is the home which they have prepared for themselves. Instead they are alone together in the characterless atmosphere of a hotel room, condemned to live for a time in completely unnatural conditions which impose restrictions on them."

"The worst of these is the practical impossibility of getting away from each other, morning, noon or night."

In the home, he added, "the proper, normal setting of life falls into its proper place."

Systems Being Tried Out To Assist Handicapped

By BOB MacKENZIE
OTTAWA (CP)—Experimental electronic engineering work at the University of Saskatchewan may offer hope to people of normal intelligence who are unable to communicate because of combined speech and physical handicaps.

Two communications systems now being tested on six children suffering from cerebral palsy are showing promising initial results at the Physical Restoration Centre in Saskatoon, two graduate students reported to the Canadian Medical and Biological Engineering Society's conference Thursday.

At present the only way people with such handicaps can communicate is with a typewriter. Because some lack sufficient control of their arms and hands, they have to use a long rod controlled by their head and neck muscles or any other muscles over which they have sufficient control.

With the small size and close spacing of the keys "the error rate is high," Robert N. Kavanaugh said in an interview.

The first answer was a special keyboard using tapered holes where the "keys" are acting a probe into the hole.

The control system employs 100 holes, arranged in 10 rows of 10, and a four-way selector switch that enables four different uses for each hole—similar to the key which shifts a typewriter keyboard from small to capital letters.

This provides 400 different selections on the control panel, 350 of which are complete words or common letter combinations while the other 50 are individual numbers and letters to spell out words not included on the master system.

Both test systems use this control but they employ different methods to get the message across. One system produces the words and letters on a typewriter—a device intended primarily for use in classrooms.

TRAVEL THROUGH CITY
London is served by 9,000 buses, 6,000 taxis and 244 miles of railway, partly underground.

York Institute Reports On Presentations

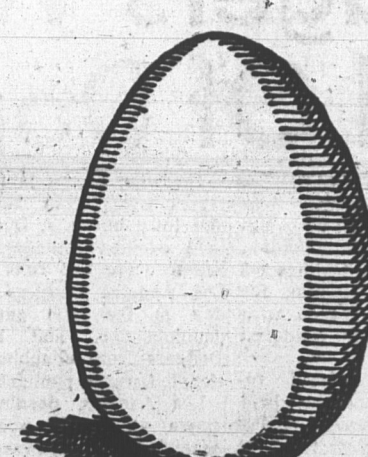
Mrs. Lowell Watts was hostess to the most recent meeting of the York Women's Institute which was held in the community hall. In the absence of the president, the vice-president, Mrs. Peter Proud, presided. Roll call was answered with a home made corsage.

It was decided to give money towards 4-H club expenses. A report was given on the WI presentation of scholarships in Covehead Hall. The first award went to Betty Anne Crockett of York. A report on the institute picnic which was held at the shore, proved it to be a decided success. A contest was conducted by Mrs. Leigh Vessey.

Mrs. Frank Watts will be hostess for the next meeting when roll-call will be answered by appearing in Hallowe'en costume or being heavily fined. The refreshment committee will be Mrs. Reuben Watts, Mrs. Richard Vessey, Mrs. Leigh Vessey, and Mrs. Lloyd Vessey. The visiting committee will be Mrs. Lloyd Vessey, Mrs. Elmer Brown, Mrs. William Crockett and Mrs. Lewis Vessey.

NES CHANGES NAME
OTTAWA (CP)—The National Employment Service became the Canada Manpower Division Saturday as a federal administrative reorganization went into effect. Former NES offices now will be known as Canada Manpower Centres.

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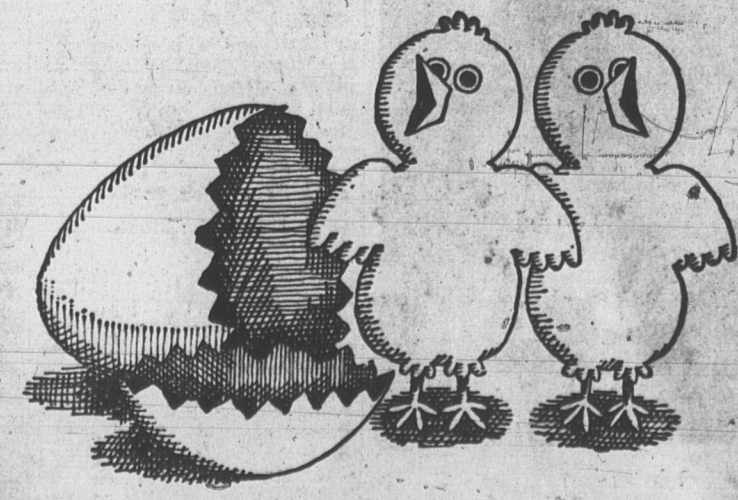
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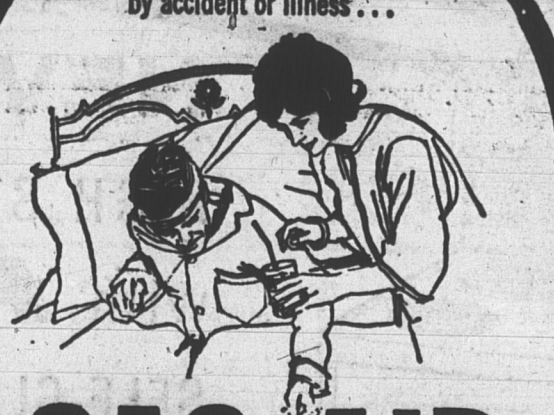
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