

THE UNDERSTANDING HEART

By MARGARET CONN RHODES

"I do not want you to question what I say, Robert; if I tell you to do a thing you don't need to know the reason why," said a mother the other day.

I wondered what the child thought. Did he get the idea, as many a child has done, that because Mother was a big lady and he was a little boy, she could make him do things when ever she wanted to?

I heard a young mother say the other day, "Oh, I am so afraid I won't understand Teddy, he is such a queer child," and I thought: "It would be much better for you to be concerned about whether Teddy will always understand you."

Do you not believe that much of the disobedience and the seeming indifference of children comes because they do not understand older people? So often demand blind obedience, and the child often grasps only unreasonableness and injustice.

"Let's make the room tidy for Daddy, Bobby," is much better than "Pick up your toys at once." In the former case, the child has been given a reason for what he is required to do, and so the request appeals to him.

Older people are often real enigmas to these little tots, who come out of their dream world to bump against requests of ours that seem useless to them. Blind obedience fulfills only the letter of the law. Obedience with understanding to back it makes of the baby child a co-operative being.

You will find it helpful to ask yourself daily: "Does my baby grasp what I mean?" "Does he get the idea back of that request?" "Does his child mind wonder at my actions?" "Can I take more time to explain and have less desire to command?"

We should lead instead of drive, give the reason with the command and question the child's understanding. A mother may thus avoid both misunderstanding and being misunderstood by her own baby, who undoubtedly wonders at the doings of all grownups.

A School Lunch Garden.

Now that many schools are serving the hot lunch at the noon hour, it will be wisdom on the mothers' part to prepare for it in advance.

While planning and planting the garden we may take the first steps in preparation for it. Many of the lunches now being served to school children consist of soups calling mainly for vegetables. Plant a few extra rows of those vegetables which are used in the soup-making. Carrots, okra and sweet peppers are nice in soup.

Most of the gardens I have seen are large enough to take care of an extra number of cans of vegetables. So, for a good many people, beginning at the canning season is soon enough to begin preparations. Canning a number of jars of soup mixtures simplifies the work at the schoolhouse next winter. These are so handy to put up, too, as often one may use odds and ends of vegetables.

In the fall, when you kill a beef, put up several extra jars of stock for

the soup-making. Don't waste a single bone that has a scrap of meat or a bit of marrow in it, but boil every one and can the stock. I use a pressure cooker for this purpose. I have the bones cut up pretty well. These I put in the cooker with only a little water, then run the pressure up to about fifteen pounds and cook for about twenty minutes. Then I put this stock in glass jars and process as with other things. By the way, these bones which I then take from the cooker are perfectly soft in texture and I pound them up for the chickens to eat.

This work of providing the material for the hot lunches is an excellent work for girls' canning clubs to take up. Perhaps even the boys might be interested in helping more with the garden work during the summer-time if they know that a lot of things were going to be put up for making good lunches for them next winter.

I think this preparedness of the first order. This idea was carried out in one county, when the mothers put up enough soup mixtures to serve hot lunches to their school children all winter.

Dollars and Sense.

I have often wondered if the dressmaker's viewpoint would be of interest to others—women who can sew and women who cannot sew.

During ten years of dressmaking, I have been more and more amazed at the neglect of small things, which mean so much economy in sewing. In children's garments especially do I notice extravagance. It is a case of dollars and no sense when children's clothes are made with no means of enlarging as the child grows.

I am a mother and I find I can realize a worthwhile saving by planning my youngsters' clothing so as to secure more than a season's wear.

Do not select extreme styles for your little girl's dresses. The extreme things soon go out of style; moreover, the simple dresses are more practical.

Shrink all wash goods before cutting. It is easy to shrink and set the color at one operation. A large handful of table salt to each half gallon of water—lukewarm to start and gradually heated as hot as your hand can bear—will work wonders. I use a tablespoonful of vinegar, in addition to the salt, to set pinks. In each case keep the goods moving, rinse well and dry in the shade.

A tuck may be concealed under the hem of a dress in case of a beltless dress, or where large tucks are used for trimming, a small tuck may be run under each large tuck. Where the dress has a belt of cash it is more convenient to make the allowance there, and the tuck will be safely hidden. The straight one-piece dresses are fine for growing girls, because having no defined waistline makes the lengthening process so simple.

Sleeve length is easily allowed by placing a tuck under the cuff. Or the cuff may be turned up while the dress is new and later set on at the

bottom of the sleeve, making the sleeve longer.

When making girls' petticoats cut the undergarments slightly longer and allow one inch or more on the hem and back of the skirt seams. Finish up the garment as usual, and then make a smooth tuck on each shoulder, stretching it out well. It takes but a few moments to lengthen the petticoat, when needed, by slipping out the tucks.

Do not discard your little girl's dress with the hemstitched hem because it has become too short. Cut the wrong side of the hem loose all the way around, one inch below the line of hemstitching. Use a piece of the same material of which the hem is made, cut the width you wish to lengthen the dress, allowing for seams.

Sew this strip onto the bottom, as if you were facing the dress, turn the hem and whip the facing piece to the one inch of material you left in cutting the hem loose. When pressed you cannot tell that the dress has been changed, as you still have a hemstitched hem.

Children's garments are apt to need repairs very early in their career. New patches on an old apron or dress are often too conspicuous. Make the patch longer than needed, so that when a patch is wanted, it can be cut from the strip, which will have faded with the dress.—J.H.C.

A Kick in Creamed Chicken.

The ordinary creamed chicken on toast is less interesting than it sounds to city people; in fact, it tastes actually flat to the faded country appetite, which is more used to chicken. But it can be made more interesting by adding a dash of nutmeg, which could never be recognized as such, but is absolutely transforming to the dish.

One family ate it tranquilly for years without inquiry, and always expressed great admiration for creamed chicken at home and great scorn for creamed chicken in restaurants. They opened their eyes very wide when they overheard the presiding genius of their kitchen giving her secret away to a young housewife. It sounded like the most unlikely thing in the world to them. But, then, it is just such unlikely things that make French cooking French.—E.S.C.

The Canadian wool clip of 1924 is estimated at 15,111,719 pounds of the value of \$3,777,930, as compared with 15,539,416 pounds, of the value of \$3,160,000 in 1923.

LITTLE THINGS

By M. D. BRINE.

It was only a trifling thing to do, but Robbie Grey could not conscientiously pass on and leave that piece of banana skin lying on the sidewalk. So he paused on his way, and sent the skin spinning into the gutter near by.

"Come on, Rob!" shouted his companion, who had gotten a few yards ahead. "Do come on, and leave that old skin alone! What's the good of all that?"

"What's the good?" repeated Robbie. "I'm going to leave the chance of a broken leg lying around loose? Someone would have slipped on that thing, like as not, and I'll always kick 'em out of the way."

Yes, it was a trifling thing to do; but did it not show the boy's home-training and betray a noble, unselfish and thoughtful nature?

It was only a little thing when Willie Brown paused in his game of marbles to pick up the old beggar-woman's cane, which had slipped from her shaking hand as she hobbled lamely along.

"Pooh! an old beggar!" laughed his companions.

"I'd be ashamed of myself if I couldn't do that little thing for any body, poor and old."

And somehow his game seemed more than ever enjoyable, after the beggar's low-spoken: "God, bless you, little master!"

Down the street on his new velocipede came Alec Wadsworth—a boy of ten years. He was racing with another boy, and just a little ahead. Very sure was Alec of winning the pocketful of marbles, which his big brother had justly offered to the winner of the race.

But a lady coming up the block, laden with parcels, chanced to drop one, as Alec's quick eye noticed, and in an instant he was off his steed, and, picking up the parcel, restored it to its owner, while, with a shout of triumph, his playmate rode on and won the race.

"You goose!" laughed the big brother, who had seen the whole thing. "I don't care!" said Alec. "I'll bet mother would have been glad if anyone had picked up a parcel for her!"

Well, little gentlemanly Alec didn't win the race, but he didn't lose a prize, either, for the big brother decided to "reward merit," he called it, and Alec's pockets soon knew no lack of marbles.

A messenger boy stood waiting for a car. He was tired and warm, and longed for the rest of a few blocks' ride. Hardly had he seated himself when a lady entered. He had a right to his seat, without question; but he or the lady must stand, as every seat was occupied. Without a moment's delay the boy rose, and the lady thanked him, as she took his seat.

Only a little thing, you will say,

perhaps? Yes; but a "straw will show which way the wind blows," and that boy had the instincts and breeding of the future real gentleman.

When the poor blind peddler came through the crowded street the other day, and straying a little from his beaten path, grow confused and timid, it seemed a little thing for rough Irish Johnny, the bootblack (only a little street Arab, in fact), to spring from his blacking box, and scamper after the peddler simply to take the man's arm and guide him safely through the crowd to the right corner.

Johnny knew nothing of polite society, and could neither read nor write, but his heart was in the right place, and his manly, generous impulses would be sure to guide him toward the right path, as his kindly hand had turned the peddler from danger.

"Little things" make up our lives, remember, children, and whether human eyes note the kind actions, or whether they are done in secret, yet the heart is happier for the doing of kind deeds or the saying of kind words.

Great endings grow from small beginnings, and it is, after all, the little things which make the sunshine of life.

My Emergency Dessert.

My family is very fond of my emergency dessert, materials for which are always on hand. This dessert can be prepared in a few moments.

For each serving, soak three large square soda crackers in hot water or milk, one at a time, to soften but still keep their shape. Pile squarely one on top of the other, finishing with a spoonful of jelly. Serve with sweetened cream or top-milk flavored with vanilla. Try it.—Mrs. E. E.

But Fly Larvae.

Heavy infestations may cause indigestion. Give the horse a chance; help him to be comfortable by removing the too numerous but fly larvae from his stomach.

Fast the horse 24 hours and give three capsules of carbon bisulphide, to be given one at a time, at three-hour intervals.

The larvae generally pass from the stomach in June, go into the soil for six weeks, and then reappear, to start their devilish work over again.

Babcock Test.

During the past two years several tests for the determination of fat in dairy products have been advocated in competition with the Babcock test. The investigations of the Chemistry Department of the O.A.C. show that these tests are no better, and in many cases not so good as the Babcock test.

The Sunday School Lesson

MAY MONTH

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch, Acts 8: 26-39. Golden Text—The entrance of thy week giveth light.—Ps. 118: 133.

ACTS 8: 26-39.

I. THE VEIL ON JEWISH HEARTS, 26-32.

II. THE VEIL REMOVED THROUGH CHRIST, 34-39.

REMEMBRANCE.—We now return to follow the progress of early Christian history. The death of Stephen, which formed our last study, had for its effect the temporary cessation of the Church at Jerusalem, and one of the unexpected results of this dispersal was the starting of Christian work in Samaria. In this work, which had remarkable results in the winning of converts to Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, one of the seven men appointed by the Church in Acts 6, played a notable part. He was named Philip, and he was the first to be baptized. At the close of the mission it was assigned to Philip that he had further work to do for God, and in our lesson for to-day we read what that work was.

If the Ethiopian officer, whom Philip meets and leads to Christ, was not a Jew by birth, he was at least a proselyte. He was one of those elect souls in heathen lands who had been led to God by the pure monotheistic creed and high moral standards of Judaism. But, as we see by the experience forming our present lesson, his understanding of Scripture was as yet far from perfect. The veil was over his heart at the reading of the Book, as it was in the case of the whole Jewish people. Only Christ could take that veil away, and open the eyes of the spiritual intelligence to the sublime mysteries in the prophets and the other holy writings. But it is deeply interesting and moving to think of this swarthy Ethiopian, once a heathen and an idolater, now an earnest seeker after truth and a reader of the Scriptures, and finally in this way brought out into the light of Christ. How diligently he used what means of grace he had, and with what a blessed and saving effect!

I. THE VEIL ON JEWISH HEARTS, 26-32.

V. 26. The intimation that God had further work for Philip to do at this moment, came through an angel, seen doubtless in a dream or vision. Philip was directed to go southwards, and to join the high road which runs from Jerusalem across the desert to Gaza. This was the main route from Palestine to Egypt.

Vs. 27, 28. The purpose of his mission soon appeared to Philip. He had put himself in God's hands, and now, as he travels, he catches sight of a chariot proceeding along the Gaza road in the direction of Egypt. It contains in it the chief treasurer of the Queen of Ethiopia, who has been up at Jerusalem for one of the great feasts, perhaps the Passover.

We are told that, as he rode, he was reading a roll of the prophet Isaiah, apparently in the Greek translation, known as the Septuagint. This indicates the deep religious earnestness

of this proselyte. God was preparing the soil of his heart for the reception of a greater message.

V. 30. The Spirit in Philip's heart left him in no doubt that this Ethiopian was the man whom God had appointed him to meet.

V. 31. So he hastened up, and by the time that he was near enough, he distinctly heard—for the Ethiopian officer was reading aloud—some sentences from the prophet Isaiah. This gave him his opportunity. Hailing the officer, he asked whether he understood what he was reading.

Vs. 32-35. It was a timely question. The man in the chariot was much perplexed by the passage before him, and had been feeling that, without an interpreter, he could not discover the sense. He now said as much to Philip, and anticipating that Philip might help him, he invited him to step into the chariot and sit by his side. Philip, glancing at the book, saw that it was unrolled at the passage in Isaiah 63, which tells how the martyred servant of Jehovah met death like a sheep-bearing lamb, and how in his deep suffering, his deep humiliation, "his judgment was taken away," that is, he was denied a fair trial, and his precious life was cut off.

II. THE VEIL REMOVED THROUGH CHRIST, 34-39.

Vs. 34, 35. No wonder that the Ethiopian was perplexed. Isaiah 63 is one of the grandest, but most mysterious, passages in Scripture. The Jews debated who was meant by the martyred servant, and gave various answers. Some said he was Israel personified, others thought that an individual was referred to. But the followers of Jesus have discovered the true answer. Christ by His life and death has fulfilled the prophecy of the divine Martyr. So Philip preaches Jesus Christ to his deeply attentive listener.

Vs. 36, 38. Philip's great discovery regarding Jesus opens the Ethiopian's eyes, and makes a profound impression on his soul. He is convinced that Jesus is the sacrificed One Who was "wounded for our transgressions" and "bruised for our iniquities." And so he asks for baptism. Philip assents upon his confession "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." The chariot is stopped, and the Ethiopian is baptized as a convert to Jesus.

V. 39. Philip's work being done, the Spirit urges his instant departure, but the Ethiopian officer has found his Lord, and goes on his way rejoicing.

Constantinople's old Imperial Palace, which dates back to the 16th century, is now used as a museum and storehouse for the national treasures.

Umbrellas are now being sold in brighter colors than ever; scarlet and emerald are both favorite shades. Handles are also being adorned with china beads.

ANNUALS FOR CUT FLOWERS

By Miss Isabella Preston, Specialist in Ornamental Gardening, Experimental Farms.

If space permits the most satisfactory way to grow annuals for cutting is in rows in the vegetable garden. Then there is always a plentiful supply without spoiling the look of the flower garden.

The seed should be sown in pots indoors or in a hotbed, about the middle of April, and transplanted into cold frames or flats, when large enough to handle. They must be carefully hardened off before planting in the open in May. A few specialties should be sown outdoors where they are to flower. The soil must be well cultivated and raked, and a day when the soil is fairly dry should be chosen for seed sowing. For most seeds a shallow drill should be made with the back of a rake and the seed scattered very thinly on the surface of the soil, which must be made very fine, and then pressed gently down with a piece of board or a spade.

When the seedlings grow large enough to handle, thin out to a suitable distance apart. The distance varies from 8 to 12 inches, according to the kind of plant. Varieties to be sown outside:

Poppy Shirley and Ranunculus-flowered are very dainty as cut flowers, but must be gathered in bud, just as the calyx leaves are breaking and put into water, when they will open out and last a few days in the house. They are all shades, from white to deep red.

Sunflowers of the Stella and miniature flowering type, in shades of yellow and brownish red, are useful in late summer and autumn.

Nasturtiums come in shades of yellow and orange red and are very useful for bowls, arranged with their own foliage. These are plants which flower best on poor soil and the tall kinds can be used to advantage to cover unsightly fences or banks in the garden.

Sweet Peas are the greatest favorites of all annuals for use in the home, but they need special treatment to get good results. The position where they have to grow should be chosen in the fall. A trench a foot or more deep and a foot wide should be dug and a layer of well rotted

manure put in the bottom of this before the top soil is put back. As early as possible in spring, break up the surface soil and sow the peas in a double row, six inches apart and about four inches deep. Supports for the vines to climb should be put in position before the seeds germinate and care must be taken to give support to the small tendrils as soon as possible. In dry weather a thorough soaking of the soil should be given once a week.

Annuals that are best started indoors, though they will grow and bloom later if the seed is sown in the garden, are:

Aster: This is so well known that no description is necessary. Calendula or Pot Marigold: The deep orange double daisy-like flower which is grown by florists for early spring bloom is very easy to grow, but does not require rich soil. It is one of the hardiest of annuals and will bloom until frost comes.

Annual Chrysanthemum is another daisy, but in these the single varieties are preferable to the doubles. The colors are white, primrose, yellow and brown and mixture of these, such as yellow ray with brown center, white ray with a ring of yellow around the centre. These grow into large plants and need about two feet of space.

Cosmos is a large growing plant, which blooms until severe frost. It must be taken to buy seed of early flowering varieties, as the others come too late in coming into bloom to be of much use in the garden. The foliage is bright green and finely cut and very useful for cutting. These are both single and double forms and the colors are white, pink and red. Plant about two feet apart.

Scabious, sometimes called Pincushion plant, lasts well in water, and there is a great number of colors, all beautiful in the house—white, pink, red, maroon and mauve, to mention a few. The plants keep continually in bloom until frost if seed pods are not allowed to form.

The following are also useful for house decoration: Didyma, Dimorphotheca, Phlox drummondii, Verbena and Zinnia.

Halifax, N.S., the Provincial court fall have Mayor Murphy ship intimate war for man was the ev province, but h or twice since, summer.

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CAPE TOW HEIR TU

Addresses Prince fro and Other

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