

MAGGIE AND JIGGS

AT THE GOLDEN GATE

St. Peter stood guard at the Golden Gate. With a solemn mien and an air sedate. When up to the top of the golden stair. Maggie and Jiggs ascending there. Applied for admission; they came and stood. Before St. Peter, so great and good; In hope the city of peace to win. And asked St. Peter to let them in.

Maggie was tall, and dark, and thin. With a scraggly beardlet on her chin. While Jiggs was short and thick and stout. And his stomach was built so it rounded out. His face was pleasant and all the while. He wore a kindly, gentle smile. The choir in the distance the echoes woke. And Jiggs kept still while Maggie spoke.

"O thou who guardest the gate," said she. "We two come thither beseeching thee To let us enter the heavenly lanl. And play our harps with the angel band.

Of me, St. Peter, there is no doubt. There's nothing from heaven to bar me out. I've been to meeting three times a week.

And always I'd rise up and speak. I've told the sinners about the day When they'd repent of their evil way.

I've told my neighbors—I've told 'em all 'Bout Adam and Eve and the Primal Fall. I've shown them what they'd have to do If they'd pass in with the chosen few.

I've marked the path of duty clear. Laid out the plans of their whole career; I've talked and talked to them loud and long. For my voice is good and my lungs are strong;

So, good St. Peter, you'll clearly see The gate of heaven is open for me. But Jiggs, here, I regret to say, Hasn't walked in exactly the narrow way.

He smokes and swears, and grave faults he's got. So I don't know whether he'll pass or not. He never would pray with an earnest vim.

Or go to revival or join our hymn, While I the sins of my neighbors bore. He gadded about with Dinty Moore. He made a practice of staying out late.

Which is a sin all women hate. But, at last, when he did come home, The rolling-pin went straight to his dome. I know him, St. Peter, know him well.

To escape from me he would go to hell; But, St. Peter, I need him here, And hope you can see your way clear.

On earth I bore a heavy cross. Give me in heaven still Jiggs to boss. I've brought my rolling-pin, plates and jars. To keep him from dodging among the stars.

"But say, St. Peter, it seems to me. This gate isn't kept as it ought to be. You ought to stand right by the opening there And never sit down in that easy chair.

And say, St. Peter, my sight is dimmed. But I don't like the way your whiskers are trimmed; They're cut too wide, with an outward toss. They'd look better narrow and straight across."

St. Peter sat quiet and stroked his staff. And in spite of his office he had to laugh; "Who's tending this gate, Maggie, you or I?"

Then he arose in his stature tall, And pressed a button upon the wall. And said to the imp who answered the bell, "Escort this female around to 'ell."

Slowly Jiggs turned, by habit bent. To follow wherever Maggie went, And St. Peter, standing on duty there Saw that the top of his head was bare;

He called the old boy back and said: "Jiggs, how long hast thou been wed?" "Thirty years," (with a weary sigh), And then he thoughtfully added, "Why?"

St. Peter was silent, with head bowed down; He raised his hand and scratched his crown; Then, seeming a different thought to

take, Slowly, half to himself, he spake: "Thirty years with that woman, there! No wonder the man hasn't any hair! Swearing is wicked, smoking's not good; He smoked and swore.—I should think he would. Thirty years with that tongue so sharp—

Ho! Angel Gabriel! Give him a harp! A jeweled harp with a golden string. Good sir, pass in where the angels sing."

And Gabriel gave him a seat alone. One with a cushion, up near the throne. "Call up some angels to play their best. Poor Jiggs has certainly earned a rest."

"See that on finest ambrosia he feeds. He's had about all the hell he needs. It isn't hardly the thing to do— To roast him on earth and in future, too."

And Jiggs, looking down from his high level. Thought of Maggie and felt sorry for the devil. —George Bradshaw in The Pere Marquette Magazine.

FIVE THOUSAND MILES ON \$35 WORTH OF GASOLINE

A dispatch from Port Arthur says that Mr. and Mrs. John L. Baxter of Toronto spent a day there on their return from Los Angeles, California, en route to Toronto after a three months' motor holiday. They had travelled more than 5,000 miles at a cost of \$55 for gasoline, and have spent only \$126 for parts. They have had only three punctures and a blowout all the way, one puncture and a blowout between Toronto and Los Angeles and two punctures on the way back. They made a detour on their way through Minneapolis to go up to Duluth and thence to Fort William and Port Arthur, and as they were anxious to see and travel over the Scott Highway.

They made the outgoing journey in three weeks via Chicago and Salt Lake City.

RANDOM REMARKS

A man can be a scoundrel without breaking any law.—George Bernard Shaw. We have more leisure now in one year than our forefathers had in twenty.—George R. Sims.

I have never been able to understand the making of long faces in the presence of trouble.—Bishop of Wakefield. Promoting a man according to the length of his service is silly. You might as well promote him according to the length of his nose.—Henry Ford.

There is nothing better than five minutes with a pair of dumbbells if a girl wants roses in her cheeks. It has the lip-stick and the rouge-pot well beaten.—Dr. Martha Tracy. The best of all habits is to break our habits. Nothing restores our self-respect so much as the discovery that we can do without pleasures to which we have become habituated.—A. G. Gardiner.

A HINT FOR ALL OF US The home town will never grow until each and every citizen realizes his duty to "Buy at Home." The outsider pays no taxes and contributes nothing to the support of local institutions. To build we must first patronize home industry. Every cent spent outside is building the other town. If you spend your dollars at home you are building your own town.

The Kandy Kitchen

The hot weather is here again and with it comes the ICE CREAM SEASON Drop in and visit our parlor—you will find it as cool and refreshing best possible.

GO HOME SMILING with a pint or quart of Willard's Carbonated Ice Cream Metcalf's Chocolates are always good—Just received a shipment of bulks and packages. Neilson's Super-Cream packages, per lb 60c. Annie Laurie, per lb 60c

J. H. Gibbens

Development of Child Welfare and Present Accepted Standards and Methods

The following essay on Child Welfare was read by Mrs. J. S. McIlraith at the Women's Institute Picnic at Holstein and requested by resolution to be published in The Chronicle. Mrs. McIlraith is not the author of the essay, and wishes to say so. It was prepared by her daughter, Miss Mary McIlraith, while attending the Social Service Class in Toronto, and used there on a former occasion by the author. On hearing this paper, Mr. A. E. Trout, Superintendent of the Grey County Children's Shelter, Owen Sound, expressed his approval of its merits, and to give it wider publicity acted on a suggestion and moved the resolution to have it published.

Child welfare is advancing surely but slowly though it is only after long centuries that men are beginning to realize fully the inestimable value of child life. Even in this day of awakened and enlightened minds there are still some who refuse to see the child through Christ's eyes and who are hindering the development of constructive, preventive work among the children of the world.

With the Industrial Revolution came perhaps the most distressing era in the history of childhood. Factories threw home industries out of joint and machines took the place of manual labor. Many of these machines were so simple that children could tend them. The natural cheapness of child labor led to their employment in great numbers. Children were apprenticed at six years of age. They were taken from the poor-houses and herded in factories; they worked long, weary hours under cruel, overbearing taskmasters. Their plight was ghastly and almost unbelievable. Flogged and fettered by overseers, all the joyous light-heartedness which we generally associate with childhood was crushed out of them. Life which should have been a bright, glad, glorious heritage, was full to overflowing with cruel drudgery.

"How long," they say, "how long, oh cruel nation, Will you stand, to move the world, on a child's heart,— Stifle down with a mailed heel its palpitation, And tread onward to your throne amid the mart? Our blood splashes upward, oh, gold-heaper, And your purple shows your path! But the child's sob in the silence curses deeper Than the strong man in his wrath."

But a new day has dawned for the children. National consciences have been stirred and the child is gradually being given the place which God meant it to have. Governments are legislating against child labor, forbidding or restricting it. Nations are shouldering their responsibility and seeking more and more to make the most of the asset which they possess in their children.

In the early centuries education was given in the home. Then came the waves of barbarians, breaking down the walls and sweeping over the civilized world with all its culture and learning. For a time it seemed as though all their progress had been in vain. Culture and education were the possession of the few, and what little there was, was maintained by the Church. Through the dark ages of ignorance and superstition the fires were kept burning on the altar of knowledge by the monasteries of Europe. To-day the State has been aroused to see the importance of education in citizenship and is making it increasingly possible for every citizen to start

out with a good general education. First of all, education up to a certain age was made compulsory. The School Acts of 1919 mark a great step in advancement in Ontario. Not only have the years of school attendance been extended but part-time education is to be provided and made compulsory for adolescents from sixteen to eighteen years of age.

Medical inspection in schools is fast gaining a footing in our country and it has revealed many startling facts which will result in better school accommodation and better physical conditions of pupils. Supervised playgrounds and hot school lunches are adding greatly to the welfare of the child.

But what about the child who is below par mentally or physically? Until recently little or nothing was done to help these poor little unfortunates. They were simply allowed to drift dependent on the hap-hazard ministry of those with whom they were thrown. Now an organized effort is being made to help them. Outdoor and Fresh Air Schools and auxiliary classes mark the line of progress. Classes in children's hospitals and in homes for incurable children have brought sunshine into many starved lives. Disciplinary classes in institutes for correction, classes for those who have defects in their speech, for the blind, for the deaf, for epileptics and for mental defectives are being established here and there. These classes are of the utmost importance because it is quite unfair to expect these children to compete with their more favored brothers and sisters.

Besides these classes for those below normal it is necessary to have auxiliary classes for the normal child. We must make provision for some remedial cause and needs special attention to bring him up to his proper standard. There are those who want vocational guidance and technical or industrial schools meet this need. Education must also be provided for dependent children in institutions, but where possible, it is advisable to send such children to the Public Schools.

The antions are beginning to study infant mortality and to ask themselves why it is so high. Canada has to-day a Department of Child Welfare as a part of its Department of Public Health. The duty of this Department is to investigate the causes of infant mortality, juvenile court records and accidents of children. Measures are being taken to educate parents. The establishment of pre-natal and well-baby clinics have saved many little lives. Wherever the Public Health Nurse goes with her knowledge and sympathetic understanding the rate of infant mortality has been lowered.

The prevalence of malnutrition among our children has aroused much agitation. That this is found among the children of the so-called upper classes and is not confined to the working class is also a recognized fact. Milk campaigns and other educative measures have given splendid results. The necessity for pasteurization of milk is now realized and is being enforced more and more.

That housing is a very great factor in child welfare is now generally recognized. The child, not only physically, but mentally and morally, is very much a product of his environment. A child who spends his earliest years surrounded by all that is sordid and ugly is not likely to have a beautiful, upright mind and character. In overcrowded, unsanitary living conditions the child's health and morals are both undermined. Juvenile Court records show that many of their cases come from abnormal home conditions, while a study of infant mortality shows an appallingly high rate where houses are poor and overcrowding prevails. New Zealand claims the lowest infant mortality and, if we study housing there, we find that even in the cities the homes are mostly of the

style, with separate yards and gardens. Better methods of disposing of children who have become dependent through the loss of one or both parents, or through the breaking down of family finances are being developed. A few years ago such cases were placed, with many others, under the roof of an Institution. Now, where a new home must be found, social workers endeavor to find a good foster home where the child will be given, not only the material necessities of life, but the love which his nature requires, and this is a more ideal solution of the problem.

Where the dependency is a result of financial inability, through unemployment, sickness, or death of one parent, the children are not taken from the home unless the situation absolutely demands it. It is now fully realized that the home is the best place for the child and constructive efforts are made to build up the home and make it self-supporting once more. Only when such methods have failed and the parents have proved utterly incapable are the children removed. This idea of maintaining the family as an integral unit is the principle underlying our Mothers' Allowance Act. This Act makes it possible for the widowed or dependent mother to remain at home with her children, giving them the guiding home influence. It also makes provision for the children's schooling to proceed undisturbed. The homes are carefully supervised and great results have been achieved.

Until 1908 the little child who transgressed the law was a criminal and was dealt with accordingly. In that year the Juvenile Delinquents' Act was passed and since then the child under sixteen has been treated as a delinquent rather than a criminal. Generally they have been more sinned against than sinning, they have stepped aside through the influence of environment. Now, under the guidance of a probation officer, both delinquent and home are remodelled and helped into a better way.

The Churches, too, are moving forward in this day and generation. They have caught a new vision and have a new outlook upon the ministry which they owe to the children. They now acknowledge that life is a whole and cannot be departmentalized, that they must meet the needs of the whole life. Every child who comes into the world has a capacity for religion and has a right to a religion of his own. To expect a child to have the same religious experience as his grandfather is as ridiculous as expecting him to wear his grandfather's clothes. The churches are grasping these facts, and one of the most helpful signs of the day is the new and larger place given to children in the programmes of our churches.

Child welfare in America has passed

ed from the in crudely organized tained general re rapidly relating its ful forces in the nation. Better s we can be added we can look into high hopes for fu Child welfare has b the defensive forese who are unwilling t future of the race by ference and negligenc

AMARANTH MAN BA

(Shelburne Free Alibert Looby of Amara engaged in shingling a b vid Rintoul, fell from t and was badly hurt. Beco he attempted to remove overalls while on the roof way he became entangle clothes and fell a distanc In sliding down the roof he contact with a keg of nail was rolled to the ground. T der which he used for going the building had two rungs b It is not known definitely wh Looby or the keg of nails did damage to the ladder. We are g to say he is progressing favora and his doctor expects a speedy recovery.

Lenine is reported as saying Russia is heaven. In which case hell must be worse than is commonly believed.—Toledo Blade.

IN MEMORIAM

Reay.—In loving memory of Frederick Reay, Jr., who died July 27, 1924. Far beyond our world of sorrow, Far beyond its toil and care; There the joys of life to-morrow With our loved ones we shall share. Why weepeth, thy brother is not dead—he sleepeth. —Father, Sisters and Brothers.

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