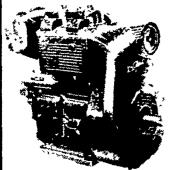
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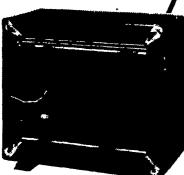
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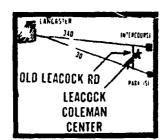
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Ladies Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas

Lancaster Home Economist



COMMUNICATION IS A TWO SIDED EFFORT

If you're experincing the heartache of family breakdown or parent-child conflicts, chances are there is a lack of good communication.

Communication is more than just the exchange of words between people. It is what we say, how we say it, and when we say it. It can also be what we do not say.

Communication is facial expression-the smile, the frown, the raised eyebrow. It is our body action-the clenched fist, the finger drumming, the shrugged shoulders.

We communicate to exchange ideas, knowledge, understand others, reduce tensions, make friends, solcr problems, and express our feelings.

Communication only exists when a message is sent and is received. Therefore, we must learn to be a sender as well as a receiver in order to communicate effectively. Often there are reasons we

don't communicate effectively: If we listen only with our ears, we may miss the emotion behind the words. It

is not only the words but how they are said that determine the message.

Jumping to conclusions lets us hear what we want to hear. This is usually what is agreeable to us.

Reasoning and facts can't penetrate a closed mind. Is your mind already made up?

"You" is as important as"I". Self-centeredness blocks our interest in others Snap judgments result from looking only at outward appearances. If we put

people in categories, we may

not hear what they say.

The message may not get through to us because we're not concentrating or we don't understand it. We can also be so busy thinking of a response that we don't hear the message.

With patience, concern, and practice we can learn to improve our skills in communicating with others. First, we must realize that people are different but have similar needs for affection, safety, respect, and selfesteem.

We need to remember that communication is the total message of our words and our body actions.

Negative feelings such as anger, fear, and jealousy must be dealt with as well as positive feelings of joy, love, and happiness.

Giving of ourselves allows us to better understand the feelings of others and get to the real problem.

Finally, let the sender know his or her message is being received.

SELECTING CHILDREN'S **BOOKS**

Have you taken a good look at the books your children are reading? Are they what you want them to read?

Children and books belong together, but many people try to make money writing for children and give little thought to helping a child develop through literature.

Stereotyping of characters, racial sensitivity, vulgarity, and occasional nudity are common reasons parents cite for keeping certain books from their children while they are young.
I would like to suggest

studying the books you select to be used by or with your children. Believe in what you select and be prepared to deal with questions they may ask.

It is difficult to write good literature when the vocabulary is limited to the range of a beginning reader. Controlled vocabulary books are designed as teaching aids for those children who are unable to read successfully.

They are acceptable, but should be used along with good literature that may may have to be read to the

The feel and appearance of a book is important to a Opponents of child. paperbacks fear the benefit

Soil tests set record

UNIVERSITY park, Pa. -A new record was established March 21 when Penn State University's soil testing laboratory processed 2,300 soil samples, surpassing the previous record of 1,900 set on March 19, 1976.

"The testing service, now 26 years old, normally processes 70,000 soil samples each year," said Dr. W. Wayne Hinish, professor of agronomy Extension. "A standard test consists of pH, lime requirement, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, and magnesium."

Robert J. Thomas, laboratory supervisor, points out that during this psst March, 19.00 samples were processed, or a sample eyery two minutes.

Only 1,500 samples were tested in February, primarily due to the extremely cold weather and frozen soil.



of their reduced cost is overridden by their lack of aesthetic qualities.

Paperbacks also are easily damaged and children may develop a careless attitude about the care of their books as a result. However, if the style and spirit of good literature is found in paperbacks and they are more affordable for your child than hardcovers, then their purchase is acceptable.

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