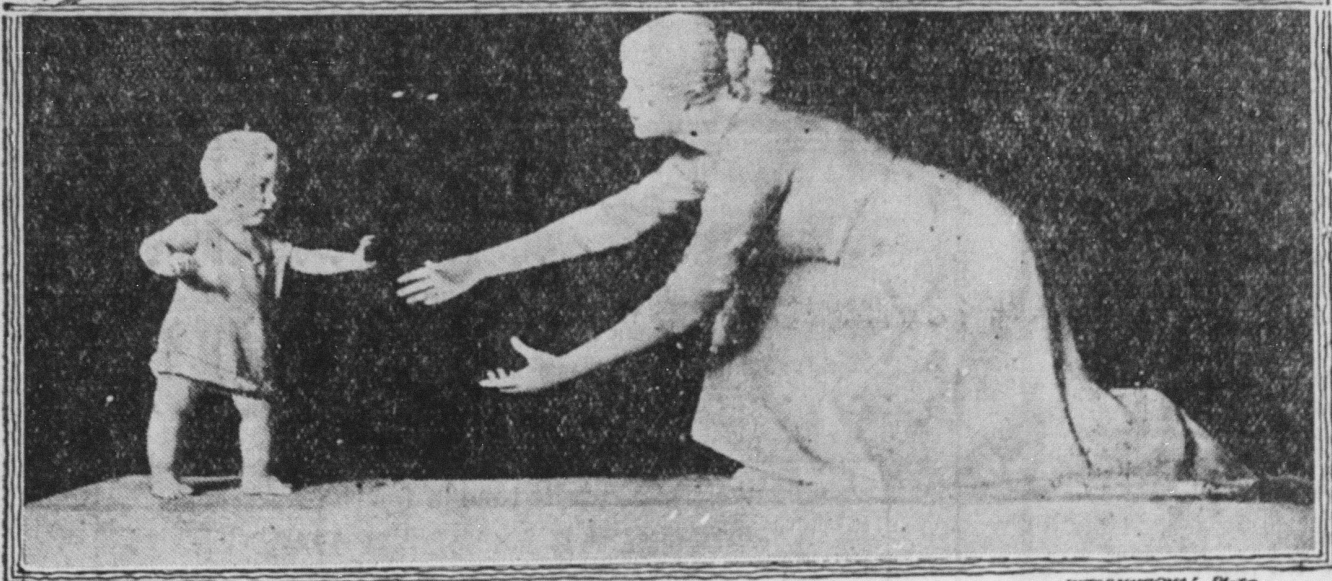


# Origin of Mothers' Day



Bricard's "The First Step"

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

ALTHOUGH the official observance of the second Sunday in May as Mother's day is regarded as a modern custom, it is in reality a revival of one of the oldest feasts celebrated by mankind. For the gifts of flowers, candy and the like which we send on Mother's day correspond to the ancient sinnet cake, a feature of "Mothering day" of the early Britons. On Mothering day all young persons away from home visited their parents, taking along gifts of sweet confections of honey in the form of sinnet cakes. Still farther back in antiquity the people of Asia Minor held a feast early in May to worship Rhea, "the Great Mother of the Gods," and this feast later became the feast of Hilaria, an annual event on the Ides of March in Greece and Rome.

Just how much these ancient rites contributed to the modern celebration of Mother's day it is impossible to say, for there is some dispute as to the origin of the idea which resulted finally in setting aside the second Sunday of May for honoring the mothers of the nation. No less than four cities in as many different states claim that honor for one of their citizens. Up in Albion, N. Y., they will tell you that it originated there and offer the following facts in support of that statement:

George M. Pullman dedicated a home on the St. Lawrence river to "Father and Mother." This was opened for a large family reunion in August, 1888. In 1894 a church was built by Mr. Pullman in Albion, in memory of his parents. He put a great deal of thought, sentiment and time into both buildings—the home and the church.

These two things and the manner in which the work was done made such an impression upon the people at Albion that at the first anniversary of the mother's passing on it was decided to call the Sunday nearest that date "Mother's day," and they voted that hereafter, in that church, it should be an annual event.

No one at that time had any thought of how far-reaching this observance would become, or that it would so appeal to all lovers of mothers as the yearly celebration has now shown.

Down in Henderson, Ky., they claim the honor for Mary Towles Sassen Wilson. Born and reared in this little city, on the south bank of the Ohio river, in the 60s, she labored earnestly to have April 20, her mother's natal day, observed in the schools in the manner in which the day is now celebrated.

In 1893 Miss Sassen, then a school teacher, published a book setting forth her ideas, aims and objects, dedicating the volume to her mother, with a hope for national recognition.

She traveled extensively and addressed various educational meetings throughout the country in her effort to have the day observed in the schools. It was in the little Center street school of Henderson that the first observance of Mother's day was held by Miss Sassen, and in 1894 she succeeded in having it celebrated in the public schools of Springfield, Ohio. In 1899 she became a candidate for superintendent of public instruction of Kentucky, and it was then generally discussed over the state that she had first conceived the plan of celebrating Mother's day.

Mary Towles Sassen married Judge Marshall Wilson of Florida, and gave her life to the cause of motherhood when her first child was born.

Still another claimant to the honor is Indianapolis, Ind., which comes forth with a citizen who, it says, is the "father of Mother's day." Recently Representative Louis Ludlow of Indiana in a speech on "The Origin of Mother's Day" put forward the Indianapolis citizen's claim to the honor. His speech, as reported in the Congressional Record, follows:

Mr. Speaker, one of the most blessed of all anniversaries is Mother's day. The very name of this anniversary makes a thousand bells tinkle in our recollection. It sends us back to first principles and revives all of the hallowed memories of childhood. It brings before the vision of every one of us the sweetest face we have ever known; we see her smiles and tears and once more hear her sing her lullabies. It makes our hearts throb and our voices choke as we recall the unfathomable devotion of "mother," how she toiled and suffered and the privations she endured that we might be fed and clothed and trained to do the part of honest and upright citizens in the varied activities of life.

It is to me a source of special pride that the city which I have the honor to represent in the congress of the United States was the birthplace of Mother's day. A silver-tongued orator of Indiana—Frank E. Hering—first coined the sacred phrase which is now recurrently heard around the world. The Order of Eagles, of which he has long been an outstanding leader, took up the slogan; and giving expression to the mother love that is in the hearts of all of us, it has striven worthily and accomplished a great deal toward throwing the encircling arms of love and protection around the poor and aged mothers of the land.

A most interesting account of the origin of Mother's day is contained in an editorial that appeared in the Indianapolis Times on February 7, 1930. Mr. Boyd Gurley, the author of the editorial, is a patriotic and brilliant newspaper man who in 1928 was awarded the Pulitzer gold-medal prize in competition with all of the editors of America for the most distinguished public service rendered by the newspaper profession during that year. The editorial in the Indianapolis Times is as follows:

**A REAL ANNIVERSARY**

This city has many anniversaries which it celebrates in pride and thankfulness, the birthdays of those who served the nation and humanity well, of soldiers and of statesmen who won glory and gratitude, of poets who wrote songs that are immortal, authors whose messages remain for the ages.

Today is a different sort of anniversary. It is the birthday anniversary of an idea which became an impulse, an impulse that became a great movement.

On the evening of February 7, 1904, the English Opera House was crowded. Those who assembled belonged to the lodge of Eagles.

The speaker was a young professor from Notre Dame, notable chiefly as being the first Protestant to hold such a position in that university. Otto de Luse had found him at South Bend and been impressed by his oratorical charm.

He did not suspect that the event was to make history.

It was on that night that Frank E. Hering, in a burst of oratory, traced all the goodness of men to mother love, all the advancement of civilization to the sacrifices of motherhood, all the hopes of the future to the influence of mothers.

much of its sorrow and leave it only its glory.

It is well to remember anniversaries, especially of imperishable ideas. It is also well for Indianapolis to remember in pride that with her other contributions to progress and civilization it furnished the birthplace for a great idea from which has come better things for all.

The fourth city which claims the honor of having given to the nation this red-letter day on its calendar is Philadelphia. The Quaker city points out that the movement, which resulted in congress passing a joint resolution authorizing a Mother's day and in President Wilson issuing a special proclamation designating a Sunday in May as the date, thus giving the observance the official sanction of the government of the United States, was started there in 1908 by one of its daughters, Miss Anna Jarvis.

Miss Jarvis' mother, who died in 1907, had been active in the work of the church and Sunday school of a small town in Virginia. On the anniversary of her death the pastor asked the daughter to arrange for a special service in the church where her mother had been a leading spirit. In complying with the request she began to realize the growing lack of tender consideration of absent mothers on the part of children who had left the home roof and strayed out into the world, each with a different interest.

Miss Jarvis talked the matter over with a friend, saying she would like to have one day of the year set aside, especially dedicated to the "best little mother in the world." Through the influence of this friend and others who had become interested, the first observance of the day was held May 10, 1908, in Philadelphia, with special services in all the Sunday schools in the city.

So popular was the idea with the people that Miss Jarvis became even more interested and began a wide-spread publicity of the event. She wrote letters or interviewed people in all walks of life for a proper observance of the day. By the time another anniversary had come around many individuals and organizations observed the second Sunday in May with appropriate ceremonies "in honor of the best mother who ever lived." As a result not only the entire nation, but many foreign countries, observe this day with appropriate ceremonies.

Pennsylvania was the first to make it a state holiday. This was in 1913. In the same year the mayor of Boston set an example of giving a free picnic in a park, when all mothers and their children were given a big dinner by the business men of the city. The object was "to give a day of rest and recreation to mothers who have not had a summer vacation away from the city, and who get few opportunities to do so."

On May 10, 1913, a resolution passed by the senate and house of representatives to make the second Sunday in May a national holiday, "dedicated to the memory of the best mother in the world, your mother." President Wilson was authorized and requested to issue a proclamation to display United States flags on all government buildings in celebration of the day. It is said that when President Wilson signed the proclamation, he turned to William Jennings Bryan, his secretary of state, and said: "Bryan, that's the finest thing this congress has done. God bless the mothers."

Each year the idea grew more and more popular, until in a few years there was scarcely a small church or an organization throughout the land that did not make some observance of the day. And then came the World war, and it was during this time that the day was more universally observed than at any previous time. Boys in France were requested to write their mothers on that day, and so great was the response that shipload after shipload of letters landed at the port of New York to be distributed all over the nation to mothers whose sons had "gone across."

At the beginning the slogan adopted was, as it still is, "In honor of the best mother who ever lived," and the badge was then the white carnation. It is said that this flower was chosen because it was the favorite flower of a President, famous for his devotion to his mother—William McKinley, who habitually wore a white carnation in her honor.

## Community Building

### States Awake to Needs of Beauty on Highway

In the past quarter of a century new roads have destroyed the beauty of picturesque countrysides. All attention has been given to utility, and none to beauty. While highways have made the forests and open country available to millions of people, they have probably done more than anything else to destroy the attractions of the country through which they pass. And close on the heels of the road builders come the outdoor advertising companies with their hideous billboards.

In the next 25 years highway construction doubtless will continue at a rapid rate, but in all probability special emphasis will be placed on beautification. A highway commission will no longer be allowed to cut through a beautiful section of country and leave that part which is most noticeable to travelers defaced with scars and broken ground. The problem has already been taken up in a number of the states. New Jersey plans to replace each tree removed in widening its roads with two new trees. Connecticut has undertaken to plant rambler roses, woodbine and honeysuckle vines over newly graded slopes. Massachusetts is credited with having set out 60,000 trees along its state highways. Michigan and Indiana plant evergreens along their roadways, and a similar practice has been adopted in California.—Washington Post.

### Proper City Planning Seen as "Good Business"

More than 800 American cities now have city-planning commissions and zoning regulations, according to figures published in the American Architect.

The rapid growth of the city-planning movement, which got its real start at the beginning of the present century, is due to the business man and property owner's realization of the fact that money put into well-kept parks, pleasant streets and beautiful buildings is not an extravagance but an investment, the architectural magazine observes.

"Even the intelligent remodeling of a single house may raise the standard of an entire neighborhood," it says, pointing out that the difference between profitable and unprofitable rental of either home or business property is often dependent upon the attractiveness of its surroundings as well as the features of the building itself.

### Benefit of Home Owning

The new home is not unlike the first watch possessed by a small boy. The watch is probably of the one-dollar variety, bought by some thoughtful uncle or father with the thought that it would probably crash on the sidewalk within a few days. But the mental effect of that watch upon the boy is not in ratio with its intrinsic value. Now he can tell people what time it is—now he is an important person—he has become somebody.

How much more does home ownership mean to the average grown-up boy? He is somebody in his community from the moment he moves into this home of his own. He is consulted about the new street paving and begins to take an interest in other civic matters. The new home has aroused his ego. It has made him a better citizen in the community in which he lives. It is a mark of thrift.—Washington Post.

### Community Advertising

Industry and commerce ceased long ago to ask if advertising pays. The presence in all towns and cities of whatever size of chambers of commerce, boards of trade and other bodies, a part of whose function is to sing community praise, testifies that the value of public advertising is equally demonstrable. It is helpful, no matter how haphazardly or incompletely projected. When put upon a sound, thoroughly businesslike basis, when a city is advertised as intensively as a commodity reaching out for world markets, results are astonishing.

### Alive to Benefit of Trees

In the last three years 350,000 trees were planted in New Hampshire. The offer last year of free trees was largely responsible for the year's total exceeding that of the three previous years combined. Boys and girls under sixteen were allowed 250 trees, and those between sixteen and twenty-one were given 500 trees.

### Grounds Important

Even though your house be similar to others in its architectural details, your grounds can express your individuality. This is only one of the many possibilities which properly arranged plants present.

Truly, it is not a home until it is planted.

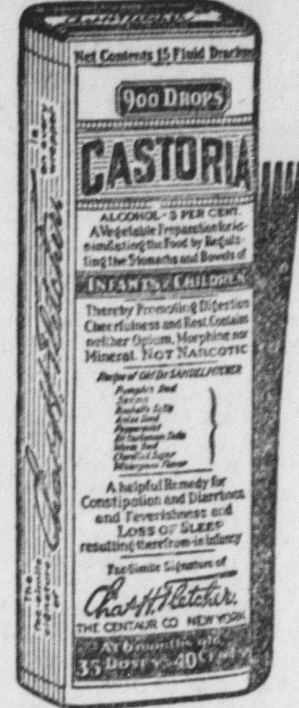
### Show City's Stability

The number of resident house owners is a reliable index to a city's stability.

## When BABIES are upset

Baby ill and ailments seem twice as serious at night. A sudden cry may mean colic. Or a sudden attack of diarrhea—a condition it is always important to check quickly. How would you meet this emergency—tonight? Have you a bottle of Castoria ready? There is nothing that can take the place of this harmless but effective remedy for children; nothing that acts quite the same, or has quite the same comforting effect on them.

For the protection of your wee one—for your own peace of mind—keep this old, reliable prepara-



tion always on hand. But don't keep it just for emergencies; let it be an everyday aid. Its gentle influence will ease and soothe the infant who cannot sleep. Its mild regulation will help an older child whose tongue is coated because of sluggish bowels. All druggists have Castoria; the genuine bears Chas. H. Fletcher's signature on the wrapper.

### Fox's Nickname Old

"Reynard" designating the fox, as well as "renard," the modern French word for a fox, are taken from a celebrated medieval animal allegory called the Roman de Renard or Reynard, in which proper names were given to each beast.

### Retain Your Good Looks

How frequently a woman thinks, "Am I still attractive?" How much thought and study she devotes to her looks! That's natural. A woman hates to think she is growing day by day less charming and attractive. DR. PIERCE'S FAVORITE PRESCRIPTION helps to preserve in a woman the charm and health of youth. It contains no harmful ingredient. This splendid herbal tonic is sold by all druggists in both fluid and tablets.

Write to Dr. Pierce's Invalids Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., if you desire free medical advice. For 10c Dr. Pierce will send you a trial package of tablets.

### Twenty-Foot Bricks

Through the discovery of a new road-building material produced from a vitreous clay, the manufacture of bricks 20 feet long is now made possible.

Indigestion produces disagreeable and sometimes alarming symptoms. Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills remove symptoms and restore digestion. 25c a box. 372 Pearl St., N. Y. Adv.

### Rare Antiques

You must run over sometime and see the antiques we bought on our last motor trip. A couple of early American sandwiches we picked up in a tearoom.—Life.

### For Barbed Wire Cuts

Try HANFORD'S Balsam of Myrrh

All dealers are authorized to refund your money for the first bottle if not suited.

### PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM

Removes Dandruff Stops Hair Falling Imparts Color and Beauty to Grey and Faded Hair

Write to Dr. Parker's Hair Balsam, 239 Broadway, New York.

### FLORESTON SHAMPOO

Ideal for use in connection with Parker's Hair Balsam. Makes the hair soft and fluffy. 50 cents by mail or at drug-gists. Hiseox Chemical Works, Paterson, N. J.

### DAHLIAS

A bargain for this week to get your name on our mailing list.

10 Dahlias Sold Under Color \$1.00. 10 Only at This Price, good varieties. Regular \$2.50 value, add 50c and receive 12 beautiful Gladiolus at same time. Postage prepaid. LYNDBURTT FARM, INC., HAZLETON, NEW JERSEY.

### Save Clothes! Save Money!

Our rubberized aprons are immaculate, modern, economical. Only 25c each; limited supply; act promptly. Remitt 25c to Wilson, 489 5th Ave., New York.

Agents, Salesmen, Distributors, etc. write, fastest selling patented article on market, no foolish contribution. Free particulars. Beach Supplies, Vandam Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

### Dr. Peery's Dead Shot For WORMS Vermifuge

Worms expelled promptly from the human system with Dr. Peery's Vermifuge "Dead Shot." One single dose does the trick. 60c. All Druggists.

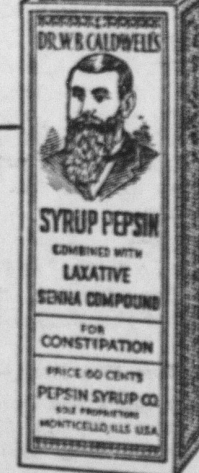
### One Drop

Bourbon Poultry Medicine

For each chick daily in drink or feed stimulates appetite, aids digestion, regulates bowels, promotes health, lessens chance of disease infection. On market for 25 years. Small size 60c, half pint \$1.00. At druggists, or sent by mail. Bourbon Remedy Co., Box 7, Lexington, Ky.

### Old and young can take this family laxative; free trial bottle!

The next time you or the children need a laxative, try this famous doctor's prescription which aids the bowels without doing any harm. Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, containing pure senna and laxative herbs, is effective in a gentle and helpful way. Its action is thorough, but it never weakens the bowels. It stimulates muscular action and is thus actually good for the system. So remember Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin when coated tongue, fetid breath, headaches, nausea, jaded appetite or biliousness tells the need of a thorough cleansing. Druggists keep it in big bottles, or write Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, Monticello, Ill., for a free trial bottle.



## Cuticura SOAP

Does much to keep a good clear complexion, no matter what the weather!

Soap Mfg. Co., Clinton St., and Dr. Talbot St., Proprietors; Foster Drug & Chemical Corp., Malden, Mass.



in Atlantic City

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CONTINENTAL PLAN

No Charge!

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H. L. FAIRBAIN, Manager

The only hotel in Atlantic City serving a tray breakfast to guests room each morning up to 11.00 o'clock WITHOUT CHARGE!

Every room equipped with a private bath tub or shower

NORTH CAROLINA AV., near BOARDWALK Atlantic City