

# OUR CHILDREN

By ANGELO PATRI  
CHECK UP NOW

CHECK up on your school child's work. Study his latest report card. If there are signs that he is falling in a subject, if any of his marks are falling off, take up the matter at once. Talk first to the child and remember that your attitude on this is of first importance.

If you take the tone that the child has neglected his work and disgraced himself you won't get very far. Go about it gently. Ask him where he thinks the trouble is and when he says, "Aw, she never gives me a chance," don't fly up at him and end the conference in a tense situation. Listen. Keep on listening. Let him say all he has to say in his own defense and question him further. By and by he will begin to disclose something of his difficulty and that is what you need.

After you have talked to the boy go to see the teacher. Once more you must go about your task tactfully and in the spirit of helpfulness. The teacher is your partner, your working partner, and unless she is with you strongly you are not going to succeed. Tell the teacher you want to do all you can to keep the child progressing steadily and ask her what you can do. Then plan with her. Don't be satisfied until you can answer these questions:

Why is the child falling behind? What must be done first to make up the falling? How much more work has he to cover before the term ends? Can you see a way clear for him to accomplish it? Can you make a schedule of work that will enable the child to complete his work well within the time and allow him some time for review and reorganization?

You see you have not only to bring the child up to the standard just now, you have to plan to help him maintain that standard. You cannot do the work for him but you can so organize his work in co-operation with the teacher that he can carry on for himself. All you can do, once you have found the difficulty, strengthened it, laid out the term plan, is to stand on the sidelines and cheer. He must do the rest.

If sickness has kept a child from school and cost him his standing don't try to make it up at one bite. Talk things over with the teacher. Scale down the subject matter to the essentials. It is surprising how much easier this makes the child's work.

Sometimes a special program will enable a child to make up lessons. This can usually be obtained by asking for it at the school. Drill will not help clear up misunderstood lessons. Get the facts right, the understanding clear before you begin the drill.

## I LOST IT

"TOM, where is your cap?"  
"I lost it."  
"You lost it? Where?"  
"I don't know."  
"You don't know. Do you suppose that all I have to do is buy you one cap after another? Now you go look for that cap until you find it."  
"I don't know where to look."  
"Neither do I. You lost it. You go find it."

After a brief interval Tom comes back. "Well, did you find it?"  
"No. I looked everywhere but it isn't there."

"I suppose so. I'll have to buy you another cap. That makes five this term. I don't know what is going to come of you if you don't take care of your things."

Why buy him another one? It won't hurt him to do without his cap. Many a boy never wears a cap, except on very stormy days. Even if he has to go to church and Sunday school hatless, what of it? He doesn't wear a hat in church anyway. And if he really wanted a cap he wouldn't lose it so many times.

I believe that is true. If a child truly wants a thing he won't lose it save rarely. He is conscious of the thing he wants to keep. He loses a thing he is not conscious of wanting. The way to get him to keep his hat is to make him conscious of needing it. That you do by letting him go without it.

That goes for other things that he loses and forgets. Do not replace it and make him go without until he replaces it if possible.

A child forgets and loses the things he doesn't want to keep in mind or pocket. The poor report is lost or forgotten. The good one, never.

When you find that a child is forgetting certain things, losing other things, habitually, consider the reason. Study why he wants to lose or forget. There is always a reason. The child's mind is always on his side. It helps him to forget and to lose undesirable thoughts. It closes them out with a finality that is as complete as darkness at midnight. Find the reason.

Don't accuse the child of willfully forgetting. He does not willfully forget or lose the unpleasing thing or idea. He is unconscious of his desire to forget and to lose. Remove the cause of his desire and put something desirable in its stead. Give him experiences that will make him conscious of his need to remember and hold on, and he will do both.

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## Spots of Charm in "Bonny Scotia"

Little Lossiemouth Among Others of Interest to Traveler.

British Prime Minister MacDonald was referred to by many American newspapers, during his visit to Washington, as the "son of Lossiemouth." A bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society, tells of this little Scottish town and the country round about it.

Lossiemouth, where the prime minister was born, and where he still spends his infrequent holidays, is a tiny fishing village in northeastern Scotland," says the bulletin. "It lies on the southern shore of Moray firth, a long arm of the North sea which reaches westward to Inverness. On clear days one can see across the firth the blue hills of Cromarty and Dornoch, while beyond them rise the faint, jagged lines of remote highlands in Sutherlandshire.

"The small industries of the town are boat building and rope making. It also serves as the port for Elgin, a clean and prosperous little town, five miles inland on the Lossie river. The ruins of Elgin cathedral are the most picturesque north of the border abbeys. It is called the 'Lanthern of the North,' and dates from 1224.

"Morayshire, the country around Lossiemouth, is low and rolling, bordered by the white sands and blue waters of the firth. Strong winds from the North sea sweep across the wild heaths, covered with sturdy heather, coarse grass, and prickly whin. It was on such a heath that Macbeth met the three witches of Forres.

"How far is't called to Forres? The answer today is that it is only a few miles west from Lossiemouth, where the Flnhorn rushes through wild, rocky glens to pour into the firth. Here Duncan held his court, and here Shakespeare made Banquo's ghost appear before Macbeth.

"Forres is one of the most ancient towns in northern Scotland. Sweno's stone, carved with runic knots and figures of warriors, is supposed to commemorate a Norse victory of the Eleventh century. Nearby is the old witches' stone, where Forres witches were burned.

"Continuing south and west along the shore of Moray firth, past Nairn and Cawdor castle, one reaches romantic Inverness, capital of northern Scotland and watchtower of the Highlands. The city's history reaches far back into primitive times, when it served as a stronghold for Pictish kings. Columbia paid a visit to Inverness in 565, hoping to convert Brude, then king of the Picts.

"Built on a steep hill in the center of the town, Inverness castle commands a magnificent view from the shining waters of the North sea in the east to the mysterious, blue peaks of the Highlands in the west. Below the castle, and dividing the city, flows the quiet River Ness, spanned by four bridges and crowded with green islets.

"Inverness castle, traditional scene of the murder of Duncan, has been destroyed and rebuilt countless times. It was burned by Donald of the Isles, captured by Bruce, occupied by Mary Queen of Scots, seized by the Jacobites in 1715, and blown up by Prince Charlie in the rebellion of '45. Rebuilt once more, it serves today as courthouse and government seat for Invernesshire. In the piazza before its gates stands a statue of Flora MacDonald, maid of the Isles, who so gallantly aided the fugitive Prince Charlie, escaping to the Hebrides with a price of thirty thousand pounds upon his head.

"A single cairn of stones marks Culloden moor, near Inverness, where the prince and 5,000 hungry, ill-clad clansmen met lasting defeat at the hands of 9,000 British regulars, under the duke of Cumberland. Rough stones, carved with the names of the clans, MacLean, MacLachlan, Mc-

Gillivray, mark the graves of the 1,200 Highlanders who fell. In an adjoining cornfield stands a tablet to the fifty Englishmen who were slain.

"Inverness today is the distributing center for the Highlands. It is here that the annual sheep and wool markets are held. Industries include the manufacture of tweed, brewing and distilling, lumber manufacture, granite cutting, and some shipbuilding. Climate and location have made it extremely popular for summer holidays. Shakespeare discovered that in Inverness, 'the air nimbly and sweetly recommends itself unto our gentle senses.'

"A further attraction for tourists is the 'Northern Meeting,' or Highland Gathering held in September.

Athletes from all Scotland gather for games and contests. Men in kilts and tartan plaids crowd the narrow streets, and the ringing notes of the 'pibroch' echo from the castle walls."

### Mourning Time Saved

Mourning ceremonies shall now last three days instead of forty in Abyssinia, according to a proclamation of Haile Selassie I, "Anointed of God, Lion of Judah" and Emperor of Ethiopia. A favorite daughter of his died recently. Furthermore, good Ethiopians may weep, silently or loudly and may put a black band on their clothes, but they shall not scratch their faces, leap, take off their clothes or dye their costumes either black or yellow.

## Touches of Old Spain in City of Cartagena

Arches, balconies and grills give Cartagena, Colombia, as Moorish an air as any city of southern Spain and make it one of the outstanding picture towns of America. Crumbling towers and faded plaster structures attest the city's age.

Many of the balconies exhibit fanciful carving in stone and the grills are often of wrought iron in arabesque designs. The doors and windows which front on the narrow, dark, cobble-stoned streets, are heavily grilled. Most of the older houses are built in square shapes around a patio or courtyard, where a grass-grown plot, a well or fountain, plants, a tree or two, and usually a gor-

geously colored tropical bird, make a delightful scene in this attractive city.

Walls, in some places 40 feet thick, encircle the old town and recall the days when the city had the strongest defenses on the Spanish Main. Although they are now dismantled, several well-preserved fortresses which dot the walls present a stern military aspect.

### Mass Meeting Tonight

Lady Orator—Now, young lady, make your husband vote the way you want him to.

Young Lady—I'm not married yet, but I'll make my fiance vote my way.  
Lady Orator—No; better wait till you have him in your power.—Brooklyn Eagle.

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Buick—Chevr—4.75-19	8.10	Ford—Chevr—4.75-19	4.65
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Other Sizes Proportionately Low

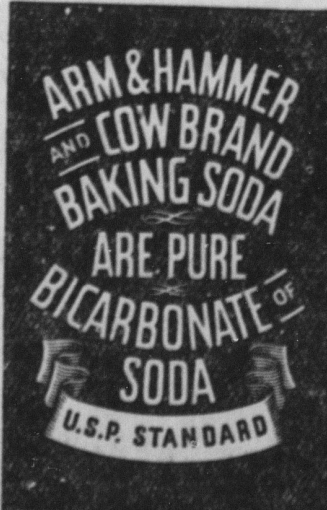
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