THE

Lumber Coal and Supply Co.

returns its most sincere thanks to its regular and other customers for their co-operation during the past winter in the matter of the distribution of coal,

AND

takes this method to notify them that the agreement between the HARD COAL miners and operators expires August 31st next, at which time another COAL STRIKE may take place.

WARNING

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Having taken over the business of the late firm, we will continue at the former offices on East Main street, the Insurance business in all its lines and ask the patronage of all our former Policy holders and others who may want to take insurance.

By giving strict attention to business we hope to receive and continue your insurance as heretofore. Our companies are all first-class and we offer you rates as low as any other sound financial company can do. Respectfully yours for business.

JAMES E. SMITH & SON,

WESTMINSTER, 9-22-tf MARYLAND

TALKS *to* MOTHERS *about* THEIR BABIES



By DR. J. H. MASON KNOX, JR.,
Chief, Bureau of Child Hygiene, Maryland State Department of Health.

MATERNAL IMPRESSIONS

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THERE is no error which has gained more general acceptance than that which asserts that there may be a harmful physical modification of the child through the influence of some abnormal state of mind in the mother.

Birth marks, for example, are said to be due to a fright the mother may have had or to some terrifying experience during the waiting period. It is said that the sight of a deformed person may produce a deformed child. This kind of an effect is quite impossible.

THERE is no connection between the mother and the child by which nervous impulses can be conveyed. Even the mother's blood does not itself enter the body of the child. The two circulations are quite distinct, and direct injury of the child in this way has never been proven.

If all mothers who had some fright or disturbing experience during the waiting period "marked their babies," very few would escape, whereas the truth is the great majority of babies are born without such stigmata. It is safe to conclude that when they do occur, it is a mere coincidence, and not the result of any known cause. The facts are that the form of a child is established at the third month, and therefore, disturbing events which happen in the later months of pregnancy can have no effect.

USUALLY women do not realize their condition for a couple of months, and do not worry about the bad effects on the child of "maternal impressions" until the latter part of the waiting period.

The harm which a mother may do to her child is the result of her failure to live her own life in a way that will result in the highest degree of health and happiness for herself and, therefore, for the child.

THE child, before its birth, is entirely dependent for its development upon the nutrition which it extracts from the blood of the mother, and it is only through nutrition that the mother is able to influence her child's future. If she lives in such a manner as to conserve her own health, taking plenty of sleep and exercise, and eating sensibly of simple food, she can be quite sure that her child will be able to build up for itself a sound body and brain.

On the other hand, if she neglects these plain rules of health and goes through the waiting period fretfully, full of apprehension or lamenting her condition and paying but little attention to her own bodily functions, it is quite possible that the child may be deprived of some of the nutrition it needs for its own best development.

Many malnutritic fretful babies do not get the right sort of nutrition during the prenatal period, and doubtless many early infant deaths are traceable to these causes.

When folks find fault with the wild doings of the young crowd, it would be a favorable occasion to present them with a subscription paper for a community center with wholesome entertainment.

The great men of the past used to make footprints on the sands of time, but the politicians of the present day have to make handprints on their checkbooks.

THE RUNAWAY

By JANE GORDON

(©, 1923, Western Newspaper Union.)

A YOUNG woman sat on the bench of a rustic bridge in despondent attitude, her blue eyes wide with troubled thought.

The man who came sauntering appeared not to notice the despondency, but only the appealing prettiness of the loiterer. "A lovely day," he remarked.

The young woman stared at him coldly, but he returned the gaze with a winning smile. "So lovely a day," he went on, "that we should all reflect its sunshine. Can you not pass on the kindness of a friendly word."

A very becoming rose color suffused the young woman's cheek.

"You presume a great deal," she said; "please leave me alone."

"I am sorry to refuse the request," the man answered blandly, "but I have spent so much time in the accomplishment of this meeting that now I must see it through, at the risk of later banishment. This seems to be a favorite spot of yours. I have watched you from afar for several days. Today, only, had I courage to follow. Desperation alone forced me on—desperate fear of losing you without a word."

The young woman laughed, but it was not a merry laugh.

"If you will force your companionship on me," she said sharply, "you shall have a word. It may not be pleasing. I have been coming here for several days to consider the wearisome problem of a mistaken marriage. I have reached my decision; I am running away from my husband—"

The speaker leaned forward, breathlessly intent; she had almost forgotten her listener. The man, now gravely attentive, watched the lovely grieved face.

"Unloved?"—the question broke from him unbelievingly.

"Yes," the girl fiercely replied; unloved, left alone in the big house he bought me, from week to week, while he, absorbed in the business which is numbing his very soul, absorbed after business hours with the business associates who come out to his golf course, and to ride the country round in his swift cars, while I may amuse myself as it suits my fancy. Even flirtation with those of his friends whom he brings to enjoy my hospitality does not move him to remonstrance. I was miserable enough to try in order to sound his interest.

"Today I left his guests to their own amusement. I packed a few clothes—my simplest things—to be sent for later. I can bear no longer the heartache, the parade of gayety for the benefit of people for whom I do not care. I shall go to Aunt Janet by the late afternoon train. After that, when I can think clearly, I shall find work some place and try to forget the first happiness of my marriage."

The girl arose, clasping and unclasping her little hands.

"You have had the word you wanted, my friend," she said mockingly: "I fear it brings little gratification."

The man arose also, and stood towering above her.

"You mistake," he quietly replied. "Your confidence has been wisely enlightening and encouraging. I offer my services to help you in your flight. May I see that your trunk is forwarded to your aunt's home? My car is near by, among the trees of the roadside. It would be more comfortable for you to travel in it than in the hot train this afternoon. And it would be my pleasure to drive you to your destination."

Wide, perplexed blue eyes gazed questioningly up into dark, determined eyes. In the caressing softness of his tone the man spoke:

"From your last remark I would gather that your unfortunate marriage had at first been a happy one. I would also gather that you had loved? Perhaps—may I venture further—you still do love this graceless fellow? Is it true?"

Angrily the young woman fought against humiliating confession.

The man's compelling gaze held, then, with a sudden laugh, all of triumph, he gathered in his arms the small, shrinking figure.

"Oh! my dear, my dear," he murmured. "What a pitiful mess we have made of marriage in our loving misunderstanding. Could you not read between the lines of business absorption my steady purpose to bring to you all those things which I thought every woman desired? Don't you realize that I labored early and late that you might flaunt your fine clothes, your fine home, as my associates' wives flaunt their possessions? And I brought my friends to be entertained by you—that all might see your superiority. Oh! I was proud of you. But of late I dared not let myself think that they engaged you wholly. Those little flirtations, dear one, how they hurt and rankled. Now let's forget in the happy present. Let us take our love away together, to that little town where we first spent our honeymoon. We will ride on in our car—and send for the little trunk later. We will telegraph my sister to hostess the house-party we are deserting. After all, those are good friends. They will be lenient with our lapse, with our stolen vacation."

The tall young man released his wife and smiled at her.

"It is a lovely day," he remarked, in the manner of his approach.

The little wife nestled close. "All's right with the world," she quoted.

MELROSE

Reports come from different parts of the country in regard to the cold weather we have been experiencing in May. From Ohio, "We have had cold, snow and ice." The fruit does not seem to be hurt. Everything is late. From near Bridgewater, Va.: "It hailed for two hours at one time. All the vegetable plants are ruined. We must start new tomato and cabbage plants and other things. Beans were beaten to earth. It will make our season very late."

The papers last week printed that scientists claim that the sun is losing some of its heating power. Of course, they will find some reason for the queer antics of the weather. If we read about such things in years past, we learn that there have been such experiences in the last few generations.

Milton Hesson, who purchased the Henry Sterner property, on the Hill, is improving it in having all the buildings repainted by a force of workmen.

Mr. Noah Sellers, living along the B. V. Branch of the W. M. R. R., is also improving his home by having all the buildings treated to a coat of paint. Mr. Hesson's work is being done by Wentz and his helpers. Mr. Sellers has his work done by Utz and his men.

Within the past generation (33 years) we have noticed the perfecting of three methods of travel, buggy, automobile and airoplane. What will the next generation see and experience?

Sunday school at Wentz's schoolhouse next Sunday at 2 o'clock.

In 1780, Robert Raikes of Gloucester, England, founded the Sunday school as we know it to-day.

Recently we found an old paper of 1893, 30 years ago, with the names of the officers of Wentz's Union Sunday school, which will be interesting to many of our readers: Pres. John C. Rohrbaugh; Vice-President, William P. Rhodes; Superintendents, H. B. Burgoon, John W. Kephart, and Edward Horick; Secretaries, George P. Wentz and John E. Rhodes; Treasurer, Phanuel Wentz; Managers, Wm. Crumrine, Nathaniel Shaffer, Levi Myers, James C. Myers, Cornelius Crumrine, Jacob H. Sterner and Jos. James. It will be readily seen by those who are familiar with the names, that seven of the above persons have "passed up higher," and one of the men, Edward Houck is now more than four score and ten, nearing the century mark.

IS THE LIFE OF A CHILD WORTH A CAN OF MILK?

Every resident of this county will be given an opportunity to answer this during the week of June 4 to 10.

This week, June 4 to 10, has been set by the Near East Relief as Condensed Milk Week, and everybody is asked to give Borden's Condensed Milk for the starving children for whom the relief organization is caring.

The Near East Relief has set this date in response to the call for condensed milk sent by those in the field. 12,000 cases are needed in one area alone, that in the Caucasus. And this is only one of the sections under the relief organization.

The call is for condensed milk because it may be shipped easily and keeps well. It is food in a condensed form, easily handled and most nourishing. It is especially suited to little ones and it is for these, 200,000 of them, that it is asked. These are children who have no one to care for them, who will literally starve to death unless Maryland does its share in helping by sending condensed milk. But besides these, there are 120,000 orphans in the orphanages under care of the Near East Relief who must be fed regularly. It is for these, children inside and outside of the orphanages, for whom the milk is asked.

Maryland's quota is three carloads. Give a can, that will help. But don't stop at that, give a half dozen, a dozen, a case. Order Borden's Condensed Milk through your grocer for the Near East Relief. Borden's matches, can for can.

Every can will help in getting the state's quota. Harold F. Pellegrin, state director, believes the response will be so generous that Maryland will give over its quota.

Remember—June 4 to 10 is Condensed Milk Week—everybody help by giving.

AMERICA FOR AMERICANS

The Japanese Ambassador says that pleasant relations between his country and the United States may be disturbed over the immigration question. That would be unfortunate, of course, but how about the relations between the Pacific Coast states and the rest of the country? Our concern for American citizens in that section ought to be at least as great as our desire not to wound the tender feelings of the Japanese. When Congressmen are confronted with the alternative of legislating for the welfare of the United States or of Japan they are going to choose the former. "America first" will be applied in immigration matters as in every other question dealing with international affairs.

FRANCE STRENGTHENS NAVY

Reports from Paris are to the effect that, although the French government is pressing for ratification of the Washington armaments treaty, the guns on the French battleships are being elevated so as materially to increase their range. France holds there is nothing in the treaty that prevents such changes. Our own Congress will be called upon to determine the same question for changing gun elevations on our own battleships, when a difference of opinion arose as to whether Congress acted with full knowledge of all the facts. It was finally determined to let the matter rest until Congress could review the question. The French interpretation of the treaty will be of interest when the subject is again considered at Washington.

NO CHAOS YET

The stock argument of advocates of American entrance into the league of nations has been that, without the participation of the United States in the leauge, choas in Europe was inevitable. This country has retained its independence, but the threatened calamity has not materialized. On the contrary, reports from most of the European nations indicate that they are enjoying a steady recovery from the ravages of war. Just as the debt cancellationists have been silenced by the refunding agreements reached between the United States and the debtor governments, so the friends of the league are rapidly being deprived of their material for discussion.

It is confidently predicted that the surplus will cease to be a problem soon after Congress reassembles.

Unrest seems to be increasing in this country, particularly among the kids who have to go to school on circus day.

Claimed that men should not have to wear stiff collars, but how otherwise would some folks' weak heads get held up?



CIRCUS COMING

Gentry Bros. Famous Shows.

Eternal wascination enshrouds the tented and transient city of the circus in the eyes of young and old alike. No siren upon the tempting isle ever sang so alluring a melody as that which the calliope plays when the parade moves up the crowded streets.

Thirty-five steel cars, seventy feet in length, nearly one-half of a mile of cars, freighted with the people, the performers and the paraphernalia of the Gentry Bros. Famous Show, combined with James Patterson's big four ring trained wild animal circus, will come to Westminster, **Tuesday, June 12.**

Immediately upon arrival, the circus property will be removed to the show lot, where hundreds of eager sightseers will gather to see the tented city develop. With intense interest, they will see the big tents rise from their neatly packed folds to full ara, watching the most systematic construction work they will probably ever see. Not even the United States Army itself could achieve the erection and destruction of its tented camps so quickly and systematically as does the crop of the circus. No minutes are lost; each man has his own special duty to do, and in swift and orderly fashion the poles and guy ropes go up, then the canvass is raised over all.

First of all the things to be done in building this tented city is to erect the cooking and dining tent. The cooking ranges, ten in number, go up rapidly, then the coffee tanks are set up and while the crops of cooks are getting out the pans and dishes, the dining tent flashes up, side by side with the commisary tent. The dining tent is divided into two sections, one for the performers and the other for the workmen. Both are served the best of food and over 500 people are fed at each meal.

The Gentry Bros.' Famous Shows, combined with James Patterson's big four ring trained wild animal circus is a small city within itself, with a population of over 500 people, accompanied by 300 horses and several score cages of wild animals, to say nothing of the two wonderful herds of elephants and other animals which do not have to be confined in cages.

Two performances here Tuesday, June 12.

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