CHILDREN AT WORSHIP

Children Learn Responsibility By Holding Own Church Services

The town of Milton, Mass., is the site of America's only children's church, run by and for children.

Each Sunday morning the bell of the little colonial building calls eighty young members of the Children's Church of the First Parish Unitarian church to services.

A tiny, blond child with a solemn gaze toddles up to a miniature alter, clutching a taper in both hands. Teetering back and forth on her thin legs, she lights the alter candles. One of the "elders" of the church, a 15-year-old girl, quietly walks to the organ and stretches her fingers over the keys as a cue for the choir to start assembling its dignity. There may not be much technical perfection to the 15-voice choir with its wavering childish trebles and uncertain adolescent altos but there is immense dignity.

The doll-house-size "Children's Church" at Milton, Mass., is the first church in the country founded exclusively for children. They sing their hymns, read the scripture and conduct their own prayers. Above the youthful choir files out of its own church, headed for its parent church where the young people sometimes sing for special services.

There is the same dignity about the congregation seated in the small pews. As the majestic tones of their own Hammond organ swell up, Alice-in-Wonderland-like girls sit quietly in their pews with none of the fidgeting and giggling that often characterizes youngsters attending religious services. Solemn-faced boys pay determined attention to what is going on before them, mindful that they are present in their own church instead of that of their elders. Even the five-year olds are conscious of the dignity of their position in this, their own religious world.

Children from 5 to 15 years old lead the hymns, read the scripture and conduct their own prayers. The only adult taking part is Mrs. Edyth Stonestreet, minister of this miniature congregation for the past nine years.

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THE CHILDREN'S CHURCH was the idea of the late wife of the Rev. Vivian Pomeroy, who is pastor of the First Parish Unitarian church attended by the children's parents. Mrs. Pomeroy believed children should have a service they could understand and enjoy, one that would be their very own. She was instrumental in having an abandoned schoolhouse moved to the church grounds adjoining the adult church in 1937.

An entry way, steeple, window shutters and paint were added to transform it into the diminutive house of worship. Everything about it is scaled to children's size.

The children begin their service in the larger church next door where the Rev. Pomeroy delivers a children's sermon but that is the end of their time in the adult religious world. Immediately after the sermon, they file quietly out to their own small church where they take over. It's not a game with them. It is a very serious matter and each of the 80 members reflects his satisfaction with the arrangement in his feeling of responsibility about the conduct of his church.

Star Dust
STAGE-SCREEN-RADIO

By INEZ GERHARD

SUSAN PETERS must be very tired of hearing that the way she has carried on since she was crippled in that hunting accident is wonderful; any actress could be proud of her career. Not content with success on the screen, she has made numerous radio appearances, toured the country in two plays, and

SUSAN PETERS

now has added a television serial, "Miss Susan", to her schedule, (on NBT-TV weekday afternoons). That involves lengthy rehearsals as well as the actual performances. Miss Peters plays a young lawyer, and is supported by an excellent cast, headed by Mark Roberts, Helen Ray, Katharyn Grill, Joseph Foley and Robert Pike.

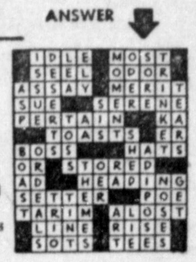
Eddie Cantor is indulging again in his favorite occupation—raising money for a worthy cause. He has been knighted as the first "Cancer Crusader", heading the American Cancer Society's annual campaign, in April. Called the world's greatest fund raiser (he sold $43,000,000 worth of war bonds,) he has also originated many slogans, including the March of Dimes.

Evelyn Varden, radio mother of "Young Dr. Malone", who was acclaimed for her performance as the southern aristocrat in "Pinky", is featured as the nurse in the production of "Romeo and Juliet" starring Olivia de Havilland. When it opened recently in New York dramatic critics agreed that Miss de Havilland looked very beautiful, were less enthusiastic about her talents.

"Behave Yourself" can hardly escape being a good picture. William Demarest and Lon Chaney have been added to the cast supporting Shelley Winters and Farley Granger, and the famous James Wong Howe is the cameraman.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

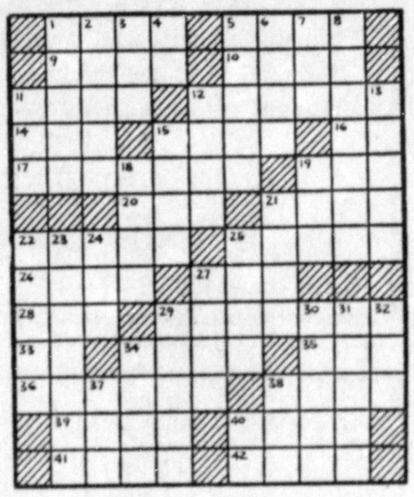
LAST WEEK'S ANSWER



N-13

ACROSS
1. Scheme
5. Head cook
9. Coin (It.)
10. In this place
11. Quantity of yarn
12. Heart-shaped figures
14. Devoured
15. Malt beverage
16. Measure (Chin.)
17. Maker of saddles
19. Measure of weight
20. Pole
21. Chop
22. Exclamation
25. Skating areas
26. Exclamation to attract attention
27. Chum
28. Attempt
29. A treeless plain
33. Music note
34. Stocking
35. Help
36. Inform
38. City (Alaska)
39. Saucy
40. One's dwelling
41. Weakens
42. Goddess of discord (Gr.)

DOWN
1. River (Uruguay)
2. Covered the inside of
3. Chest
4. Sodium (sym.)
5. Applaud
6. Listen
7. Blunder
8. Hair above horse's hoof
11. Owns
12. Pay attention
13. Submerges
15. Bloom
18. Unit of weight
19. Brown by the sun
21. Nuclei of a starch grain
22. Former Italian soprano
23. Long-tailed edible crustaceans
24. Exclamation
25. Utter wildly
27. Ago
29. Classifies
30. Feminine name
31. French city
32. American humorist
34. Musical instrument
37. A size of coal
38. Correlative of neither
40. Pronoun



THE FICTION CORNER

DIFFERENT LANGUAGE

By Richard H. Wilkinson

SHORTLY BEFORE noon on the day the Garrisons left Laredo for Mexico City, their motor went dead. Mrs. Garrison was greatly disturbed. "Of all places!" she said, "to have this happen. I declare, you should have had the car looked at in Laredo."

"I did," said Mr. Garrison. His voice was muffled because his head was beneath the hood. But Mrs. Garrison was paying no attention anyhow. She was gazing about the wild, rugged, treeless country in which they had stopped, as if expecting Pancho Villa and a horde of vicious looking henchmen to rise up from behind a rock. Five horsemen suddenly appeared outlined against the sky on the crest of a nearby hill.

3-Minute Fiction

Mrs. Garrison let out a squeak of fright. Into her mind there flashed stories of the roving bands of outlaws that inhabited the hills of Mexico.

Mr. Garrison lifted a grease-besmeared face and stared at the horsemen. Then he looked at his wife and saw that her cheeks were white. "Rubbish!" he said. "No need to be scared."

The horsemen were coming down the hill. Mrs. Garrison had a wild impulse to flee. She could see the leader of the quintet and his appearance confirmed her fears. Just as the stories had said, he was dark and handsome and oily.

The leader of the group doffed his hat and said something in Spanish that neither of the Garrisons understood. They regarded each other with frightened looks. One of the henchmen dismounted and proceeded to examine the car.

"My father," she said in perfect English, "regrets that he does not speak your language."

"They're wondering if it's worth anything," Mrs. Garrison said.

"It isn't," Mr. Garrison told her.

There followed a rapid jargon of speech between the riders. Presently two of them uncoiled ropes and attached the ends to the automobile's bumper. It was quite evident that they planned to tow the thing away, and the Garrisons were congratulating themselves on escaping with their lives, when the leader signed to them to enter the vehicle.

Mrs. Garrison shrieked and clung to her husband. "They're going to kidnap us. Oh, Lord, have mercy!"

Mr. Garrison was more practical. "I doubt if they harm us if we do what they say. If we don't—they might cut off our ears."

Thus having set his wife's mind at rest, he preceded her into the car and sat behind the wheel.

AN HOUR LATER they turned into a side road and presently the car stopped before a great rambling ranch house.

The prisoners were ordered to alight. A wizened, copper-colored Mexican unloaded their handbags and led them inside and to a bedroom.

"Not bad for a kidnaper's hideout," Mr. Garrison commented

"It will probably take every cent we have to pay the ransom. They think we're rich."

Some one knocked at their door and they both started. But it was the same wizened servant. He beckoned to them and they followed him out and along the corridor and into a dining room. The leader of the kidnapers was waiting for them."

The Garrisons were hungry and so they ate. By the time the meal was finished all hands felt pretty gay.

Footsteps sounded on the porch, and a young girl entered. At sight of the Garrisons, she hesitated, but their host greeted her warmly, and beckoned her to him. There followed a jargon of speech between the man and girl. The girl's face suddenly lighted and she looked at the Garrisons.

"My father," she said in perfect English, "regrets that he does not speak your language. But he trusts you have been made comfortable and will stay with him a few days. He has many American friends and whenever the chance offers he likes to extend them the hospitality of his home. He tells me that your car has been repaired and is waiting."

Mr. and Mrs. Garrison looked at each other. Mrs. Garrison said: "Oh, my! Just imagine! Do let's stay, Henry."

And Henry said: "O.K." And for no accountable reason he grinned and felt tenderly of his ears.

Attractive Scrapers Are Simple to Build

Foot Scrapers You Can Make

WHAT CHILD would track mud into the house passed a squirrel or a pert pup holding a foot scraper? There are also scroll designs for wooden holders for scrapers made of strap iron.

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Pattern 237 gives actual size cutting guides and directions. Price 25c.

WORKSHOP PATTERN SERVICE
Drawer 10
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Ancient Pentagon

The Palace of Minos on the ancient Island of Crete had more more rooms than most modern skyscrapers. It was inhabited by about 100,000 persons and included store-houses, offices, courtrooms, chapels, schoolrooms, libraries, soldiers' barracks, coach houses, wine shops, and an inn for strangers.

Hidden Jibe

Humpty Dumpty, in the famous nursery rhyme by that name, was represented by their parents to 13th century English children, as "an egg." The rhyme was intended as a jibe at King John, who was compelled to sign the Magna Charta at Runnymede, June 15, 1215.

Youngsters' Vocabulary

The average 18-month-old child has a vocabulary of only about 10 words, despite the elaborate claims made by some parents and other doting relatives regarding their speaking ability.

KIDNEYS MUST REMOVE EXCESS WASTE

When kidney function slows down, many folks complain of nagging backache, loss of pep and energy, headaches and dizziness. Don't suffer longer with these discomforts if reduced kidney function is getting you down—due to such common causes as stress and strain, over-exertion or exposure to cold. Minor bladder irritations due to cold, dampness or wrong diet may cause getting up nights of frequent passages.

Don't neglect your kidneys if these conditions bother you. Try Doan's Pills—a mild diuretic. Used successfully by millions for over 50 years. While often otherwise caused, it's amazing how many times Doan's give happy relief from these discomforts—help the 15 miles of kidney tubes and filters flush out waste. Get Doan's Pills today!

DOAN'S PILLS

38% Brighter Teeth

Amazing results proved by independent scientific test. For cleaner teeth, for a brighter smile... try Calox yourself!

CALOX Tooth Powder

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WHEN SLEEP WON'T COME AND YOU FEEL GLUM

Use Delicious Chewing-Gum Laxative REMOVES WASTE NOT GOOD FOOD

• When you can't sleep — feel just awful because you need a laxative — do as MILLIONS do—chew FEEN-A-MINT.

Doctors say many *other* laxatives, taken in large doses, start their "flushing" action too soon . . . right in the stomach where they often flush away nourishing food you need for pep and energy! You feel weak, tired.

But gentle FEEN-A-MINT is different! Taken as recommended, it works chiefly in the lower bowel — removes only waste, not good food! You avoid that weak feeling — you feel fine, full of life! Get FEEN-A-MINT, 25¢, 50¢, or only 10¢

FEEN-A-MINT
FAMOUS CHEWING-GUM LAXATIVE

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Yes! Both pipe fans and "roll-your-owners" agree there's greater smoking pleasure in crimp cut Prince Albert—America's largest-selling smoking tobacco!

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Tune in "Grand Ole Opry", Saturday Nights on NBC

MORE MEN SMOKE Prince Albert THAN ANY OTHER TOBACCO

The National Joy Smoke

GRASSROOTS

Our Posterity May Have To Repudiate Huge Debts

By Wright A. Patterson

THE PRESENT DECADE is destined to go down as the most profligate in our history. In Washington, the halls of congress and in the executive departments, there is talk only of economies, but it is all talk and no action.

The President talks an excellent line of economy. He tells congress to spend less on home projects, and then recommends new ways and places for appropriations. Congress talks much about the need for economies, and then votes all and more than the President has asked. It results in a merry go round of tax, and tax, and tax, and spend, and spend. In the end, we are destined not to pay as we go, but to build up more national indebtedness for our children, through several generations to pay, or possibly, to repudiate. We are traveling the road to national bankruptcy, with no one willing to apply the brakes.

Congress insists it will cut the President's budget by as much as seven billions, the President dares congress to cut it by as much as one dollar. And the chances are that instead of cutting, congress will, by the end of the session, through the needless items provided for in the usual "pork" bill, add more millions or billions.

For many years, through "pork" appropriations we have attempted what we have termed flood control without any perceptible approach to actual accomplishment, and we will have similar appropriations at the end of this session. The result will be increased, rather than less spending.

But the people do not seem to awaken to the fact that congress and the President are spending their money, that each new billion of appropriations calls for more taxes which the people must pay, more ways through which to collect. Now, in Washington, they are talking about a manufacturers' excise tax, which would mean a new tax to be added to the price of the comodities the people buy. It is not that such a tax is not equitable. It is but another way of taking money out of the pockets of the people to pay for things we could get along without.

We tax the people on the food they eat, in order that congress may provide higher prices for farm products, and so cater to the farm vote without a thought of the retaliation that may come from the five urban votes to each one on the farms. That is a place where the urban vote will, in time, demand a decrease in expenditures.

When that urban revolt comes, as it will, it will make a difference of a billion or more in government spending.

One place where economy could be practiced, rather than only talked, is in the federal payrolls. With the bureaucratic departments now employing well over two million civilians and increasing at the rate of better than one thousand a day, that "army" represents a vast expenditure each year. For the President's party, that more than two million bureaucratic payrollers represents from four to eight million votes in the next election. Naturally the representatives of that party in congress will do nothing about it.

The Republicans in congress would welcome the opportunity of separating that more than two million employees from the federal payrolls if that could be accomplished without abolishing the jobs they hold. They would like to dispense with the present job holders presumably members of the Democratic party, but they want to preserve their jobs so they may be filled the next election — if their party wins. They are more interested in building a bulwark of votes that can insure their hold on the national government, than in national economy.

So it is that, for one reason or another there is no real desire for economy, either on the part of the President or either party as represented in congress. What we hear is only meaningless talk. There has been, and will be no real performance. There is no leadership pointing in that direction by the President or the members of congress represented by either political party. All are playing the game of politics, rather than thinking of the interests of the nation and its people. Should the people awaken and realize what is happening, one or both parties might be induced to take action, rather than only talk.