

1938
*Christchurch Kindergarten
Chronicle*



Patronesses:
Mesdames Thacker, Hadfield, and Miss Hull.

1938

Christchurch Kindergarten Chronicle

ROLL CALL.

JUST before nine o'clock, the little under-fives say good-bye to home and hurry off to Kindergarten; some holding big brother's hand, some pedalling manfully on the ubiquitous tricycle, others riding gaily tucked up in a little basket on the back of mother's grown-up bicycle!

In St. Albans, Phillipstown, Sydenham, Selwyn Street, Richmond, Linwood, and New Brighton we see these children (370 of them, there are), and we wonder perhaps, "Why do they go to Kindergarten? Is it really worth while?"

In the following pages you will read some news of the Christchurch Kindertgartens—news sent in by mothers and teachers. Kindergarten children, of course, cannot write yet, but you will find some of their remarks faithfully recorded.

Even although we cannot include many photographs of the children, we hope you will see them peeping through these pages, and realise that their Kindergarten years are worth while. As parents and teachers grow in knowledge and skill, these years will become of still more value for our future citizens.

Kindergarten children learn from their environment and from each other even more sensitively and indelibly than we do. While thinking of their needs we might well ponder on the following words from an Indian poet, quoted by Dr. Elizabeth Bryson in her splendid book, "Learning to Live":—

THE CHILD.

Your children are not your children,
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.
They come through you, but not from you,
And though they are with you, yet they belong not to you.
You may give them your love, but not your thoughts,
For they have their own thoughts.
You may house their bodies, but not their souls,
For their souls dwell in the house of to-morrow, which you
cannot visit, not even in your dreams.
You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like
you,
For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.

DAILY WORK AND PLAY IN THE KINDERGARTEN

SUNBEAM

(Cornwall Street, St. Albans.)

Although Sunbeam is the oldest Christchurch Kindergarten, it is a bright and sunny spot, where one may find busy little housekeepers, gardeners, carpenters, artists, or musicians.

Recently Sunbeam has been improved by the addition of a new section, thereby enabling the children to have plenty of outdoor activity. The building has been renovated and painted throughout, making Sunbeam bright and happy for children and teachers alike. We thank all kind friends for their help.

Two groups of children are at present very interested in Spring projects—one taking the form of a house and garden, including domestic animals and Spring flowers. The other project table shows a park with lambs frolicking through trees gay with blossom. Each day something new is added, as the children observe Nature around them.

HAZEL GORRIE,

Director.

SHIRLEY CLARKE,

Assistant.

PHILLIPSTOWN

(St. Asaph Street.)

The year 1938 seems to be passing far too quickly! Speaking generally, the children's health has been good, but the attendances have been very spasmodic. With a roll of 60, the average should be higher. However, this term it has improved slightly,

and we hope will continue to do so as the days become warmer.

This year we have added a concrete sand-pit and two balancing boards to our playground equipment, and gardening tools have been given to the children.

How they have enjoyed working in their own garden and planting the seeds several mothers have kindly sent us.

The children have been for short walks to see the new leaves on the trees and the Spring flowers, and one day they went to see a real live goat!

We are looking forward to excursions farther afield, and would be glad to hear of offers of conveyances.

EDNA PEARCE,

Director.

NOELINE STURGESS,

Assistant.

SYDENHAM

(Queen Street.)

We are happy to report Sydenham Kindergarten activities in our first magazine.

The delightful relationship between committees, parents, and staff, and the co-operation in every activity has been the most outstanding feature. Large outdoor educational playthings have been made by willing fathers; and this equipment is much in demand with the children.

Both committees and all parents shared the equipping of the Doll's Corner; household activities, cooking, washing and ironing, cleaning and sweeping, making beds and bathing baby are now accepted as a regular

part of Kindergarten routine.

Case histories and observation records of the children kept by the staff are proving most helpful to the study of the individual child, and we thank the parents for giving their valuable time for discussions. We regret that our records are incomplete without the doctor's report.

The children's health has been exceptionally good, and a high average attendance has been maintained throughout the winter. Projects with interesting posters and sand trays have been made by the children in connection with their particular units of work.

Excursions have not been as many or as varied as we would wish, but we hope that in the near future we shall have a band of kind folk who will lend their cars regularly, as a number of our children rarely see the countryside or visit the seaside.

We specially thank Mrs Ralph Winterbourne and Miss Mary Aitken for their voluntary services in the Kindergarten.

Never a week passes by without visitors, and we feel honoured that they are interested enough to come, and hope they will come again.

NANCY E. PARSONS,

Director.

GRAY HUGHES,

Assistant.

SELWYN

(Selwyn Street, Spreydon.)

Until recently all was running smoothly in the Kindergarten world. Then came the measles epidemic, from which it seems impossible to escape. Apart from this, the children are all well and clean, and, partly due to this wonderful milk-in-schools

scheme, are looking exceptionally healthy and bright.

Selwyn has decided to begin early in training the young to become "road conscious." The children have had daily exercises in observing traffic rules, thus aiding Mr. Semple in his "Safety First" campaign!

Cottontail, our pet rabbit, has recently moved to quite palatial quarters, owing to the interest and kindness of one of our fathers, Mr. Ny. Cottontail is a never-failing source of entertainment to new pupils, especially the tearful ones.

During the winter term we experimented with a coal and wood community project. The top group made a lumber-camp and forest in the sand tray—an occupation in which they delighted.

MOIRA MARTIN,

Director.

FREDA FISHER,

Assistant.

RICHMOND

(North Avon Road.)

And so another happy year is advancing to its close, and thoughts of Christmas parties will be our next consideration.

Roll numbers and attendances during the year have been good, in spite of the prevalence of measles in the winter term. The general health has been splendid, and the daily drink of milk has proved very beneficial.

Daily records of our children's physical and mental development have been introduced, and these, together with the weekly discussions regarding them, have been of great help and interest to the staff.

Springtime and warmer days bring

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thoughts of excursions. We are very grateful to four of our mothers who have kindly provided transport, thus enabling the whole Kindergarten to visit two homes in the neighbourhood to see lambs and chickens.

A transport project kept little fingers busily engaged during the winter term—bicycles, buses, motor-cars, and aeroplanes being created with evident enjoyment.

Several large boxes from the M.E.D. were ably converted into an "up-story" playhouse by Mr. Cordery. This has been filled to capacity on every available opportunity since.

Groups of secondary school girls who visited the Kindergarten during their "home-life training" displayed great interest and enthusiasm in all branches of our work.

To this, our first magazine, we extend our very best wishes for its future maintenance and success.

JOY BARTRAM,

Director.

CONSTANCE CORDERY,
Assistant.

LINWOOD

(Rochester Street.)

The year at Linwood began with a roll number of forty children, and with parents and local committees showing a keen interest in social and financial activities. We had visits from various appreciative secondary school girls, and are looking forward to seeing them again later in the year.

Many excursions were enjoyed by children and staff, the most thrilling being a visit to the blacksmith—the return journey being made in a horse-drawn cart.

On July 7th we celebrated our birthday, which proved as popular as ever.

We were glad to see the trees in blossom and the daffodils peeping up from the grass in September. A new addition to our play equipment is a covered sandpit kindly contributed by Mr. J. Royds. Great was the excitement when the tip-truck came along and tipped the sand. The weather has been ideal for outside activities.

MARJORIE SUCKLING,
Director.

EDNA FURZE,
Assistant.

*At Linwood in September,
With the blossoms on the trees,
The teachers got the measles
From the eyelids to the knees.*

*They went to bed so hap-
With a spot a trifle sore,
They woke up in the morning
With fifty thousand more!*

*Their necks became all lumpy,
Their eyes were swollen red,
They looked a perfect picture,
And headed straight for bed.*

*And there they lay in darkness,
Though quite without a pain;
Just counting spots from morn till
night
Till spots were on the wane.*
—E. FURZE.

NEW BRIGHTON

(Sea View Road.)

This year has been an important year for New Brighton Kindergarten, for, thanks to Lord Nuffield, the New Zealand Government, and kind

STUDENTS' NOTES.

1937 saw eight hopeful students enter their Kindergarten career—Roma Bailey, Deborah Alexander, Rona Mould, Janet Wills, Betty Rawstron, Margaret Quartley, Monica Strack, and Rosamund Williams.

This year, 1938, Janet Birdling, Marie Keltie, and Hilary Thornton joined us.

We were all a little strange to each other at first, but meeting at lectures in the afternoon we soon got to know each other better, and this was further helped by a staff picnic to Quail Island.

In the middle term of 1937 we had a students' dance at the Y.W.C.A., and this year one at Richmond.

To keep fit we took up Badminton, some of the staff joining too. We all enjoyed it, and although play was not of the best we got much fun from dealing with the vagaries of flight of the elusive shuttlecock.

In addition to our regular course, interesting lectures have been given to us by Miss Edith Howes, O.B.E. (Nature Study), Miss Saunders (Speech Training), Miss Macalister (Reading), and Mr. Winterbourne (Intelligence Tests and Child Study).

Carpentry classes have been very helpful in providing Kindergarten material, but not many of us show signs of becoming expert cabinet-makers.

That childhood complaint, measles, proved to be no respecter of persons, for four of our number have been victims.

As students we have watched with interest the growth of the Kindergarten movement during the last two years, and we hope that next year it will be wide enough to include us all.

friends too numerous to mention, we opened on the 8th February in our beautiful new building. What a joy it is to have a school of our own!

The children are very interested in the laying-out of the grounds, and have brought quite a collection of plants and seeds.

Unfortunately, the lawn is very slow in growing, so the play area has to be somewhat limited.

During the warm weather we made many excursions to the beach, and although the children live so near, they are always eager to go again. They have attended well all the year, and the general health is good.

JOYCE GODFREY,

Director.

BETTY ANDREWS,
KATHLEEN JOSEPH,

Assistants.

APPRECIATIVE NOTE.

From all members of staff to all Local and Parents' Committees—a sincere "Thank-you" for your untiring efforts to keep our Kindergartens well stocked and cared for; and gratitude for your sympathetic response to our many requests!

From Staff Members to Students—

Best of luck in the approaching ordeal of "examinations"

IN MEMORIAM.

MRS. J. R. EVANS

*A foundation member of the
Christchurch Free Kindergarten
Association, who gave untiring
sympathy and help over many
years.*

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KINDERGARTEN GRADUATES' CLUB.

Our Club was formed with the object of keeping together all who have taught in the various Kindergartens and who hold the Association's Diploma.

The bi-monthly meetings are always very much enjoyed, and very noticeable is the happy spirit of comradeship which work among children seems to awaken.

Our meetings throughout the year have been well attended, variety being the keynote. A picnic to Diamond Harbour, tea at the Sign of the Takahe, a picture party, a "film star" party, and cards were amongst our functions during the year.

D. JOSLING,
Hon. Secretary.

LECTURERS' COMMENT

We, the undersigned, sorrowfully counting the grey hairs engendered by two years' wrestling with the Kindergarten students for their muscular, mental, and artistic development, hopefully affirm, "Perhaps, after all, it was worth it."

Of late, a lurking suspicion that contact with these eager young teachers of to-morrow has been far from detrimental to our own education makes us say:

"Yes, of course it was worth it—indeed, priggish as it may sound, it has been a privilege."

JEAN HAY,
Dip. Dalcroze School, London.
MARIGOLD JOHNSTON,
Dip.F.A.

RENE WILKIE,
B.Sc., Dip.Ed.



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REFRESHER COURSE.

Oh, what excitement, and what a babble of tongues, when the Kindergartners of New Zealand congregate, as they did last May in Dunedin.

In spite of a heavy programme of uplift—we don't mean, of course, that the lectures were heavy—but we, alas! were feeling "somewhat end-of-term-ish." In spite of all this, the Refresher Course was amazingly stimulating and helpful to our work here in Christchurch.

We were delighted to hear our most recent representatives from the States—Misses Colegrove and Parsons—and we particularly enjoyed the discussions and Dunedin's famed hospitality.

Those Christchurch mothers and committee members who were privileged to hear the reports of the Conference from staff members one afternoon at Linwood were, we know, amazed to realise what a vast store of sagacity, observation, and tact had been latent in the most harmless-looking staff member!

One and all came back with a determination to improve existing

equipment and reorganise everything that needed it (and probably some things that didn't). One and all brought back happy memories of sight-seeing trips and receptions, of Dunedin's six Kindergartens, and, best of all, of talks and discussions with our northern and southern friends.

We were pleased with the reception given to our Christchurch Kindergarten film—and, whisper it softly—it really is rather special!).

And now we are looking forward to the next Refresher Course, in 1940, Exhibition year, when we are to be the guests of the Wellington Association.

Union is strength, and how eminently worth while these Refresher Courses are, only those who experience them know! We trust that the "worth-whileness" will seep through into our daily work. We are deeply grateful to the Dunedin council and staff, who were our hostesses, and we wish to thank our own Association for making the trip financially possible.

THOUGHTS FOR MOTHERS.

"The wives other women envy are not those who sweep by in sables, but those who wear their husbands' homage like a household flame."

"As the years pass, we are often saddened because we seem to have achieved so little, to have realised so few of our dreams. But has success entirely eluded us if the loose clay

we dug so laboriously makes a few bricks with which our children can begin to build some shining temple of their own?"

"The best gadget to have around the household is a handy oil-can of humour."

—MARGARET BAINES.

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FEEDING THE KINDERGARTEN CHILD.

This period, 3-5 years, is an important one, both from the physical and mental side of the child's development, and to get the very best out of this period he must be physically sound.

Unfortunately, we often find children who are lacking in stamina because they are not properly fed. This does not necessarily mean that they are not getting sufficient food, but that the quality of the food is not suited to their years. Thus we get cases of malnutrition.

How can this be avoided? What should a child eat, and how much should he eat?

The Health Committee of the League of Nations has answered these questions for us. They have divided the foods into two groups: (a) Protective foods, (b) Energising foods.

First on our list of Protective foods comes *milk*. Milk has been, and still should be, the principal food of the child for some years yet; and the amount advised is 1½ to 2 pints. This may be taken in many forms, because milk is milk, whether it is drunk from a cup or eaten from a spoon as milk pudding. A part may be taken with the morning cereal, some as milk soup or mixed with midday potato, and the remainder as dessert—e.g., jelly custard or cereal pudding.

Our next Protective Food deals with building-up of new body tissues, and the third to fifth year is decidedly a period of growth. Then we have egg, meat, fish or liver, and one of these should be included in the day's allowance. The egg may be served

in any way in which it is kept soft—e.g., boiled, poached, scrambled, or as an omelet.

Fish is important also, because it is easily digested and contains iodine, which is often lacking in our New Zealand diets. For children of this age it is better if grilled, steamed, or baked—and *not fried*.

Green vegetables are our next consideration, and are essential for the minerals and vitamins which they contain. Children should be accustomed to these in the form of purees, or should have them finely chopped or washed—e.g., spinach, string beans, and asparagus—later on, lettuce and finely shredded cabbage.

Fresh green vegetables and fresh fruits play an important part in the health of your child. Include oranges, apples, bananas (mashed), and stone and berry fruits in season.

Potato and other root vegetables can be served with the midday meal, and perhaps added to evening soup.

The last on our list of Protective foods is cod-liver oil. Now, even though we do get a reasonable amount of sunshine during the winter months, it really isn't sufficient for our needs, and you will find that your child will have a greater resistance to the usual winter ills if you include a small teaspoon of cod-liver oil in his daily diet.

The above are your Protective foods; but we still have to consider that children are constantly active. His energy requirements can be met by butter and cereals in the form of wholemeal bread and oatmeal.

No other foods are needed in your child's diet. Don't make the mistake of spoiling his taste for simple foods

by adding unnecessary seasonings and sugar to his foods. A small amount of sugar should be added during cooking, but never at the table.

A child whose diet is adequate and well balanced does not crave sweet foods, but once indulged in this, a bad habit is formed which is practically impossible to eradicate.

The food intake of individual children will vary considerably from any standard, because the growth and muscular activity differ. Little boys show more muscular activity and frequently require more food than little girls. Watch weight and appetite, and if additional food is needed, supply plain bread, milk, and cereals. If the child is hungry, such food will be cheerfully accepted, and it will not encourage him to over-eat merely to please the palate!

Keep the meals to three regular ones per day, and encourage the drinking of water between meals. If food is required between meals, make it regular and simple, and discourage indiscriminate between-meal "snacks."

(a) Protective Foods—

Milk 1½ pints.
Egg (or meat fish liver), 1oz.
Green leafy vegetables, 2-3½oz.
Potato (and other root vegetable), 3½oz.
Cod-liver oil.
Vitamin C (present in raw fruit and vegetables).

(b) Supplementary Energy-Yielding Foods—

Fat (butter), ½oz.
Cereals (bread, etc.), 2½oz.

—M. B. STEEL, Dip.H.Sc.

*All your store of deep affection
Won't achieve a clear complexion
If the diet of your little ones is wrong:*

*Ignorance, however tender,
Seldom brings about the splendour
Of a childhood that is gloriously strong.*

*Health, both bodily and mental,
Isn't something accidental,
And the child that stands out clearly
from the mob*

*Is a prize the world is gaining
From a wise parental training—
Know your job!*

—Berton Braley.

OBITUARY.

We record with deep regret our sense of loss at the sudden death of Miss N. E. Dutton, who has been the Principal of the Dunedin Kindergarten Association for many years. Her influence has permeated the Kindergarten movement of New Zealand, and teachers, parents, and children feel they have lost a personal friend. A memorial minute prepared by Miss L. Kelsey includes these words, whose appropriateness all who knew Miss Dutton cannot fail to realise:—

*As you search with unaccustomed glance
The ranks of Paradise for my countenance,
Turn not your tread
Among the bearded counsellors of God;
I, sure, shall keep a younger company.
Look for me in the nurseries of Heaven.*

—Francis Thompson.

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IMAGINATION.

IMAGINATION.

"Know you what it is to be a child? . . . It is to be so little that the elves can reach to whisper in your ear; it is to turn pumpkins into coaches, and mice into horses, lowness into loftiness, and nothing into everything, for each child has its fairy godmother in its own soul; it is to live in a nutshell and to count yourself the king of infinite space."

—Francis Thompson.

Johnny comes running into Kindergarten to tell the teacher he met a giraffe with pink ears! Small Peter boasts that "Daddy has an aeroplane with sixteen propellers!" And we wonder, "Whatever will become of these children? Are they competing for the prize they are bequeathing to the biggest liar breathing?"

The vivid, wayward imagination of young children in some of its manifestations is often a problem to young mothers and teachers, so let us see what the Psychologists have to say about it.

We are told that there are three stages in the development of the imagination, and it is the first stage, Fancy, which presents so many startling complications. With these young children the line between the real and the unreal is very vague. So many ideas and impressions come crowding into their minds. They cannot control and understand them all, chiefly because they have not the experience of life to know what is possible and what is impossible. Language difficulties may also be the cause of misunderstanding, causing Joan to tell you she saw a pelican when the word

she really wants is "parrot"!

Knowing this, we must not be quick to accuse a child of untruthfulness, for if his remark were perfectly innocent his trust and confidence in us may be sadly shaken.

However, there are times when an element of bravado creeps into the amazing statements. The child really does know better. He is trying to "show off" and gain attention. Even shocked attention is much better than no attention! Here we often do have the beginnings of untruthfulness.

A wise, sympathetic mother or teacher will sense this immediately, and should take care to see that the story "falls rather flat"; or, in some way, perhaps by capping it with an equally wildly improbable anecdote, let the child see that we all know it's just a game of "let's pretend."

Children who habitually indulge in this kind of "exhibitionism" are either starved of love or have been indulged until they have an undue craving for attention.

As children develop, they reach the second and third stages of the imagination: Reproductive imagination, or memory, and the important Constructive imagination which is a combination of the first two stages.

Constructive imagination, building something new out of material already in the mind, is manifested in all the beauty and significance which is our cultural heritage. Music, art, literature, architecture, sculpture, and inventions of all kinds call for originality, the creative spark which differentiates man from the machine.

At every turn in our daily life we are called upon to apply our know-

ledge in new ways—we need the power of imagination.

In ordinary life the person with imagination is quick to see a point and come to a conclusion. He is versatile and adaptable and, above all, sympathetic.

Where is the mother who would like her child to grow up devoid of imagination—dull, self-centred, lacking the joy and liberation of creative effort?

The founder of the Kindergarten, Frederick Froebel, was a poet and a dreamer, believing profoundly in the need for training the imagination.

Kindergartens to-day, with gardening, drawing, dramatisation, modelling, block-building, music, carpentry, conversation and stories and pictures, try to give children scope for the exercise of this creative power.

Let us treat tenderly, with understanding and appreciation, the first shy imaginative flights of little children—for the world sadly needs men of vision who "do not live by bread alone."

Like the poet, the little child says to us:

"Tread softly, for you tread on my dreams."

—RENE WILKIE.

OUR MOTHERS' CLUBS.

SUNBEAM—

To assist in the raising of funds for the Sunbeam Kindergarten, the Mothers' Committee, with the help of the Mothers' Club, held a very successful Harvest Festival early this year. Bridge and Five Hundred parties are held fortnightly, and a recently formed Table Tennis Club every Tuesday night. This is proving very popular with the young people, and we hope to get more members, so that we will be able to hold competitions with other Clubs in the near future.

Convener, Mrs. L. Goldsmith; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. G. McKee.

PHILLIPSTOWN—

The Mothers' Club at Phillipstown Kindergarten is a happy little band of past and present parents, all willing to do their best for the children and the Kindergarten.

A general meeting of the Club is held once a month, when helpful sug-

gestions are received and discussed with interest. At the close of the meeting afternoon tea is served.

In conjunction with the Mothers' Club is the Mothers' Club Library, which is growing steadily and now provides a good selection of literature.

Convener, Mrs. C. Bilton; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. W. McIntosh.

SYDENHAM—

Informal talks, community sings, the Kindergarten film evening, and many social functions have been held by the Sydenham Mothers' Club during the year. Perhaps one of the most successful and enjoyable was the Dutch Auction, when many and varied were the parcels brought. These were ably auctioned by Mrs. Aitken. Bidding was exceptionally keen, and speculation as to the contents of the various parcels caused considerable amusement.

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was the Dolls' Corner Kitchen Evening, and the numerous gifts contributed were of excellent assortment, articles ranging from every kind of kitchen utensil on a small scale to a handsome miniature electric range and tea wagon.

Convener, Mrs. H. Teague; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. W. Teague.
SELWYN—

The Selwyn Kindergarten Mothers' Club has been holding socials each month, the proceeds from which have been spent in various directions. The funds raised from one social were devoted to the purchasing of beakers for the children's use.

The various games and competitions have caused great amusement, and through the courtesy of a few friends music has been provided, thus enabling us to enjoy some dancing as well.

At present we are concentrating on buying some more blackboards and easels for the use of the children.

We enjoy our Club meetings, and would welcome new members.

Convener, Mrs. T. Hall; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Leitham.
RICHMOND—

The Richmond Kindergarten Mothers' Club have had several varied meetings during the year. Mrs. H. S. Cordery and Miss N. Parsons both gave very interesting talks which were greatly appreciated.

Photographs and curios illustrated Mrs. Cordery's talk on "Experiences in Samoa." Miss Parsons spoke about English and American Nursery Schools, and she also showed photographs, books, and patterns of children's clothing.

A novelty was introduced in our September meeting, when mothers related the most exciting experience in their lives. This proved very entertaining.

A very successful picture party brought parents and friends together, and we hope to foster this spirit of fellowship by holding a picnic in the near future.

Convener, Mrs. H. Wallis; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Stevens.
LINWOOD—

Our Mothers' Club was formed at the beginning of February and at present we have a Parents' Committee of twelve members.

During the year we have been fairly active, and we now hold an afternoon euchre party each week and a social evening for parents and friends every month.

In April Miss Suckling arranged a Harvest Morning, when members of the Club undertook the sale of produce and the dispensing of morning tea.

We have recently formed a parents' library, in which we hope all parents will be interested.

We are pleased that the Club members are taking such a practical interest in the lawns and garden of the Kindergarten.

Convener, Mrs. Stevens; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. W. Thornton.
NEW BRIGHTON—

The mothers of the New Brighton Kindergarten have been very active since the new school opened. Although we must admit that the financial aspect has been our immediate concern, we have not neglected the social part of it. All our evenings have afforded some small offering, not always in cash, but as in one instance, a book. We received enough books at this evening to enable us to open our parents' library.

In June we held a community sing as well as our book evening. The Winter Fair next claimed our attention, then an evening arranged by Miss Millicent Jennings.

Following this we held a euchre and dance, and are hoping to hold more of these.

Convener, Mrs. W. Dixon; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. L. E. Walker.

HAPPY FOLKS.

1lb. understanding, 1lb. good health, 12oz. happiness, 6oz. entertainment, a good pinch of laughter, an unlimited number of good friends.

Method: Take all ingredients, bind together with leisure and pleasure, which can be obtained when you patronise the Mothers' Club socials held monthly in the Kindergartens.

HANDY HINTS.

Equal parts of olive oil, turpentine and ammonia mixed together make an excellent lotion for the relief of rheumatism.

Water in which parsley has been boiled for twenty minutes is a cure for kidney trouble.

One or two drops of Friar's Balsam taken on one teaspoonful of sugar relieves bronchitis, catarrh, etc.

Place an old tea-cosy over the back of baby's chair when it is in use, as it prevents him from banging his head on the hard wood.

THE TODDLER TALKS



Unhygienic!
Small girl watching goldfish intently: "Oh, aren't they naughty? They drink their bath-water!"

Proportion!
While out for a walk, Mary pointed to the gasometer, and asked: "What's that big billy over there?"

Hard to Find!
"The side of my back is hurting!"

Anti-Climax!
Excited four-year-old: "Here's a lady . . . oh, no, it's only mother!"

Such is Fame!
Teacher (after Jean Batten's visit): "Who came to Christchurch in a big aeroplane the other day?"
Startled child: "Not me!"

This Machine Age.
Mother: "Listen to kitty purring!"
Child: "Yes; I wonder what's inside her?"

Stern Necessity.
Teacher: "Why have you drawn baby lying on the hood of his pram?"
Child at easel: "Well, you see, the inside's full of parcels!"

BOOK CORNER.

Hints to Santa Claus—

Three-year-olds love:

The Angus books (Marjorie Flack).
A.B.C. of Barbar (Jean de Brunhoff).
Peter Rabbit, The Three Kittens, Little Red Hen—Milo Winter series.

For four-five-year-olds:
Little Black Sambo, Sambo and the Twins (Helen Bannerman).
Nancy (Ruth Nichols).
The Gingerbread Boy.

FOR PARENTS—

"Learning to Live," Dr. Elizabeth Bryson.
"Everyday Nutrition," Dr. Neige Todhunter.

POLITELY.

When Goldilocks went calling
On the Little Baby Bear,
And spoiled his bowl of porridge
And sat holes into his chair—
I hope she hurried home again,
With others nice and new,
And took them back politely
To the Baby Bear—don't you?
—Dixie Wilson.

LITTLE.

I am the sister of him,
And he is my brother.
He is too little for us
To talk to each other.
So every morning I show him
My doll and my book,
But every morning he still is
Too little to look.
—Dorothy Aldis.

THE PRE-SCHOOL CHILD IN THE STATES.

Throughout the world there is a definite appreciation of the essential value of young children to the future of the race.

In the U.S.A. some of the earliest Kindergartens and Nursery Schools were opened for children of professional men and women, who joined together to maintain them for their children, for whom they wished advantages that they individually could not give—e.g., spacious playrooms and gardens with toys and educational equipment to develop growing powers. Many of these institutions were sponsored by colleges and universities, and have the assistance of trained dieticians and psychologists. They are also used as training centres for research students of child development.

In addition to large numbers of Kindergartens affiliated with the public school system, the emergency relief nursery schools were established, during the industrial crisis, as part of the Government's programme to aid the unemployed and protect young children.

In Great Britain, where the movement began among underprivileged families, the large amount of remedial and social work necessary has to a large extent obscured the purely educational outlook which is our main

"COOKERY NOOK."

ANIMAL MALTIES.

1lb. butter, 1lb. sugar, 1 teaspoon cream of tartar, 1-teaspoon baking soda, 1 egg, 2 tablespoons extract of malt, 2 breakfast cups flour, a pinch of salt.

Method: Cream butter and sugar; add egg and beat well, then add malt and mix thoroughly before adding dry ingredients. Roll out 1/4-inch thick, cut with animal shapes, and bake in a moderate oven about 10 minutes.

For a special treat, ice and sprinkle with hundreds and thousands.

DATE ROLLS.

Ingredients: 1lb. butter, 1lb. sugar, 1 egg, 1 cup flour.

Method: Cream butter and sugar, add beaten egg, and then sifted flour. Roll out and put a date inside small portions of the mixture. Bake in a moderate oven.

APRICOT PIE (Non-Pastry).

2 cups breadcrumbs, 3 cups stewed apricots, 1/4-cup sugar, 1lb. butter, 1-teaspoon spice and nutmeg. If dried

consideration in New Zealand.

In the United States the average Kindergarten day begins with physical inspection of the children, followed by guided activities conducive to the children's development.

One sees small groups of children who are independently, definitely, and happily busy, with alert but inconspicuous supervision from the teachers. At different times these groups may examine Nature study material, enjoy music and rhythm, games, stories, dramatics or excursions.

The routines of the day are fitted in—washing and the taking of water, milk, orange or tomato juice and cod-liver oil, as well as dressing, toileting, and sleep routines.

In all Nursery Schools there is close co-operation between parents and teachers, and the sharing of responsibility helps to assure continuity in the way the children are guided during the full 24 hours of the day.

Records kept of the children's physical health, home background and behaviour help both teacher and parents in studying the children and noticing progress and growth.

In America the vital, if not supreme, importance of the pre-school child is everywhere recognised. Is this so in New Zealand?

—NANCY PARSONS.

apricots are used, soak overnight, and then stew with a little sugar till soft. Drain and save juice.

Method: Grease a pie-dish and put in a layer of breadcrumbs and dot with butter, then a layer of apricots. Repeat till dish is full, with breadcrumbs on top. Sprinkle with spice, sugar, and nutmeg. Bake with butter and bake one hour until brown.

HANDY HINTS.

When sewing stiff material, your work will be much easier if you run your needle through a small piece of soap from time to time.

To keep tables and benches spotlessly white, pour the contents of your starch bowl into your blue water on washing-day and keep aside for your scrubbing.

Children's socks will not shrink when they are first washed if a piece of cardboard is cut to their shape and placed inside while they are drying.



BEDTIME ~~~ STORY ~~~

WHEN KATIE KITTEN WENT TO PLAY.

(By Rhona H. Mould.)

Katie Kitten was a little kitten who lived with her Mummy and her Daddy, and they were called Mrs. Cat and Mr. Cat.

One day Katie Kitten was chasing a leaf down the path and out the gate when Mrs. Cat saw her.

"Katie Kitten, where are you going?" she called.

"Down the road to play," answered Katie.

"But, Katie Kitten," said her mother, "you can't go, for to-day I want to show you where to find food. It is time you learnt to hunt for yourself."

But Katie, who wasn't a very obedient little kitten, just waved her tail as she ran down the road.

"Why should I have to hunt for myself?" she said. "Daddy Cat will bring me food when he comes home."

So Katie Kitten went down the road to play.

As she was going along she met Mrs. Duck, with her ten little baby ducklings.

"Meow," said Katie Kitten.

"Quack, quack," said Mrs. Duck, and the ten baby ducklings just looked, because they weren't quite old enough to quack.

"Little ducklings, do come and play with me," said Katie Kitten, but the ten baby ducklings just shook their

heads.

"Oh, no, little kitten, we can't come with you," they said. "We haven't got time. To-day our mother is taking us to the pond to find food for ourselves. To-morrow we will play with you." And away they went.

So Katie Kitten went down the road a little bit farther, and there in a paddock she saw Mrs. Cow with her new red calf.

"Meow," said Katie Kitten.

"Moo," said Mrs. Cow, and the new red calf hid behind its mother, because it hadn't seen many little kittens before.

"Little Calf, do come and play with me," said Katie Kitten.

But the little calf just peeped round its mother's side and said: "Oh, no, little kitten. I can't play with you. I haven't got time. To-day my mother is going to take me across the paddocks to show me where the fresh green grass is, and I am going to learn what to eat. To-morrow I will play with you." And she set off across the paddock with her mother.

So Katie Kitten went down the road to play all by herself. She chased butterflies and listened to the birds singing in the trees, but she wasn't a bit happy, because it wasn't very nice playing all alone.

After a while the sun set, and it

was cold. Soon it began to get dark. Katie Kitten was tired and hungry, and just a little bit afraid of the dark, too, so she thought it was time to go home.

She set off back up the road as fast as she could, but her little legs were so tired and she was so hungry that she wished her Daddy had been there with a nice piece of meat or a saucer of milk.

Katie Kitten walked and walked ever so far, until at last she came to Mrs. Cow.

"Meow," said Katie Kitten.

"Moo," said Mrs. Cow, very softly, because her new red calf was nearly asleep.

"Please, Mrs. Cow, could you give me something to eat, because I'm so hungry?"

But Mrs. Cow said: "No, Katie Kitten, I'm very sorry, but I have nothing for you to eat. My new red calf has just eaten a big tea of fresh green grass and milk, and now she is going to sleep. Please do not wake her."

So Katie Kitten left Mrs. Cow and went up the road until she came to Mrs. Duck.

Mrs. Duck was sitting on the grass looking very big and round, because her ten little ducklings were asleep under her feathers.

"Meo," said Katie Kitten.

"Quack, quack," said Mrs. Duck, very softly, because she did not want to waken her ten little ducklings.

"Oh, please, Mrs. Duck, could you give me something to eat, because I'm so hungry?"

But Mrs. Duck said: "No, Katie Kitten, I am very sorry, but I have nothing for you to eat. My ten little ducklings have just eaten a big tea of insects from the pond, and now they are going to sleep. Please do not wake them."

So Katie Kitten set off up the road. She walked and walked ever so far, but she didn't seem to get any nearer home, and it was getting very dark.

Poor Katie was so afraid, and she began to cry, because she didn't think she would ever get home again.

Just then she heard someone calling: "Katie Kitten, Katie Kitten, where are you?" And there was Mr. Cat coming towards her.

Katie was so pleased to see him, when she was curled up in her little bed of hay after a nice tea of

milk and meat, she said: "Please, Mummy, will you take me to-morrow and show me where to find food? The new red calf knows where to find its food, and the ten little ducklings know where to find their food, so I must learn where to find my food, too."

Mrs. Cat purred, because she was so pleased to hear Katie Kitten say this, and she promised to take her the very next morning.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Miss Parsons on her Melbourne appointment we offer congratulations; and best wishes to Misses Joseph and Clark on their approaching marriages.

We welcome Miss McGee as an assistant at New Brighton.

APPRECIATION.

Since the appointment of three Government Advisors to Infant Schools and Kindergartens, we have felt more closely in touch with the general educational system.

We feel very fortunate in having Miss R. Macalister as advisor for our particular district, for already she has given us much sympathetic help and encouragement. We rejoice that our senior students are to have the privilege of being examined by her.

We wish to thank those Infant Mistresses, Misses Gillespie, Burn, Garneson, Aitken, Sapsford, and Sheen, who have so kindly consented to welcome our senior students for a week's observation of their methods.

To Miss Baster, at present in London, we extend our appreciation for her concern for our welfare. Though she is ostensibly "on holiday," we hear that she is investigating Nursery Schools, and is willing to mark the theory papers as usual!

To all those whose valuable services are at the disposal of our Students' Training Centre, whether as lecturers or examiners, we give our thanks. We welcome the following "newcomers" in this connection: Misses Willis, Dolton, James, and Messrs. Masterton and Coburn.

THANKS.

We thank all contributors to this our first magazine, and hope that it will prove an ever-widening source of interest and encouragement to its readers.