

Honor Florida School

St. Landry, La. — A Treasury Department award has been conferred upon the pupils of St. Anthony's School, here, for raising a total of \$100,000 in a three-week war bond and stamp campaign.

The first suggestion of a fountain pen made its appearance more than 500 years ago. It was a combination of a quill pen, which fitted in a metal container, and a small bottle of ink. A metal cap covered the pen, and the set was carried in the pocket.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY



DORSET, ENGLAND, WAS FIRST VISITED BY MODERN TIMES BY CAPTAIN HOBBS IN THE 17th CENTURY. They set up a mission house which lasted 38 years.



Although there have been more POPES called JOHN than any other SINGLE NAME NO PONTIFF HAS TAKEN THIS TITLE NOW FOR OVER 500 YEARS.

Lauds Catholic Service Nurses

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — Catholic army and navy nurses were called an important and essential part of the war effort by the Rev. Edward J. Griffin, a priest and chief chaplain at Patterson Field, Dayton, O., at the ninth annual Communion breakfast here of the Catholic Nurses League.

Of the Catholic nurses, Father Griffin said: "They help the wounded and dying. Their words of comfort and help when the chaplain is not available. The chaplain knows they are where he wants them to be. Their duties are hard but they bring with them consolation and comfort."

Publicly Honored

Lachine, Que. — Rev. Sister Marie-Aline, of the Sisters of St. Anne, who has been teaching kindergarten classes at St. Agnes school for some 45 years, has been honored by the Quebec Department of Public Instruction with an honor diploma and a silver medal of the Order of Scolastic Merit.

used, always will be a shelter of uncertain safety. A storm may tumble it down any day, no matter how strong and expensive its upper structure may be. It is the same with a man's character, when it is not solidly founded on an obedience for which the foundation was laid down in infancy. Both mother and child are headed for future grief, if the latter is not curbed in his violent tantrums at a babe.

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TIMELY ETERNALS

By Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynhoven

Editor-in-Chief, Catholic Action of the South

THE BABY-CRY EXPERT

A friend visited us. We were sitting on the veranda. Two babies, in different homes in the neighborhood, were crying. It seemed to annoy our visitor. We asked him to forget about this natural static and relax, because, after all, babies are expected to cry.



He replied irritably: "I have no fault to find with the poor little creature — but their mothers get on my nerves." The story of a pathetic little song came to mind: A father was in a Pullman car one night, with a baby that kept everyone awake with its crying. A grouchy old man, at last, had enough of it, got up, went to the man and gave him a piece of his mind for disturbing everybody instead of bringing the mother along to take care of the brat. The embarrassed and harassed father, with a convulsive sob, told the protector that the little one's mother did come along, but she was in a coffin, up ahead, in the baggage car.

After I narrated this touching episode, my friend conceded that there can be exceptions, but he insisted that, as a rule, one can pretty nearly tell the quality and character of a mother by the cry of her baby. Then he proceeded to explain by pointing to one of the houses from which the infantile plaints resounded.

"Now, that woman is either lazy or stingy. There is something physically wrong with her child, and she will not take the trouble of bringing it to a child specialist to find out, or she shuns the expense of calling in the doctor. Judging by the violent, ill-tempered, lusty squeals coming from the other house, I should say that the mother is a soft, foolish, characterless creature who lets herself be controlled by a mere infant."

There are three cries that any mother can easily distinguish. First, the cry of hunger. It is entirely unpardonable on the part of a mother to let her baby lie there, plaintively begging for nourishment, and not do something about giving it some kind of satisfaction. Hunger is a natural, physical craving that can make even grown people act crazy. Bottle babies are the ones who mostly suffer from this maltreatment. No two normal babies can be fed on the same formula; one may have a greater appetite than the other. Common sense tells us that pediatricians may prescribe a certain time and a certain amount of feed,

but rational mother, instinct should, nevertheless, move in and take charge — not, it is true, by going unilaterally against the doctor's orders but by striking a happy medium in the matter of somewhat satisfying the natural, reasonable wants of the hungry infant. Regularity in feeding time is to be highly recommended; but, after all, the little cherub is not watching the clock; on many an occasion, its little "tummy" is indicating the time. Very often, the baby who upsets the rule book by getting hungry ahead of schedule can be easily calmed by a little lullaby, a snack of some sort. Hence, a scientific mother often may be an unnatural mother, and even cruel.

The cry of discomfort or pain or fear is genuine and not forced. A mother should do everything to remove the cause at once, rather than to stand on hard-boiled theory that, when a baby has been properly attended to, and it wants to cry, let it cry. The infant in misery has good reason for cutting up, and a good mother should not rest until she finds out what is really wrong and then sets about to eliminate the cause of the disturbance.

The cry of distress can be easily distinguished from the walls of ill temper emitted by a little tyrant who, for good reason, is not permitted to have his way. The mother who gives in to his tantrums, is one of the world's most distressing failures.

NO SPECIAL AGE The foundation of obedience, the idea that one cannot expect one's notions to rule all the time; the principle that everybody in this world is subject, in some way or other, to the will of others, should be instilled from babyhood. If there is anything wrong with our civilization, the trouble can be largely traced to the lack of self-control and the unwillingness to submit to authority and to obey the fundamental rules of an orderly society. A normal infant, without reasoning power, will react to intelligently imposed punishment by the same process as it appreciates soft-spoken words and smiling benevolence. There is no special age for the inception of child training. Right after birth is the moment.

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