

SARAH CHILD
**All In
The Family**



Our second grader came home from the school library with a book titled "The Reading of Poetry".

Much impressed with her good taste I sat down with her in the big rocker and we took turns reading aloud.

"Oh, listen, to this" I exulted and swept quickly and lovingly through Frost's "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening". Without pause I leaped silently into "Lullaby for Peregrine" by Robert P. Tristram Coffin, which starts:

"Hush, new baby, bob-cats creep
Through woods three thousand dark miles deep
Behind thy cradle, and their eyes
Are many as the fireflies."

The alliteration, the beat, the images! Struck by the beauty I wanted to share it with her.

But, she had found her own beat, her own images. And she took her turn reading to me:

I eat my peas with honey,
I've done it all my life.
It makes the peas taste funny,
But it keeps them on my knife.
Our laughter caught the attention of her five-year-old brother and he perked up and asked for another.

She tried John Becker's "The Tale of the Skunk and Poor Jez."

Jezebel Jones smelled really punk
From having tried to catch a skunk.

Her sister Sue, the little brat, Had told the child it was a cat— And so it was.

"More, More" screamed the five-year-old. "I want to laugh so hard I fall out of the chair again."

She obliged with Jean Jaszi's "Fight"

Cat and I
We had a fight;
I hit,
Cat bit,
We quit.

"Not, funny enough" said the kindergarten critic, whereupon we were treated to two stanzas of Noyes' "Daddy Fell Into the Pond."

Everyone grumbled. The sky was grey
We had nothing to do and nothing to say.
We were nearing the end of a dismal day,
And there seemed to be nothing beyond,
THEN
Daddy fell into the pond.

And everyone's face grew merry and bright,
And Timothy danced for sheer delight.
"Give me the camera, quick, oh quick!
He's crawling out of the duckweed." click.

"Boy," said our second grader, "this book is REALLY good."

Which just goes to prove, I guess, that beauty is in the eye (and sometimes the ear) of the beholder.

Mental Health Commentary

By THE DE PAUL CLINIC

Q My nine-year-old son is a poor reader. His teacher says he has a visual perceptual problem and needs special help. What is a perceptual problem and where can I get help?

A More than 100 years ago, a physician described a condition he called "word blindness". This was one of the earliest descriptions of a reading problem due to brain dysfunction. We have fancier words to describe the condition he described, but the problem in the brain is the same.

Learning involves a complex series of events. Suppose a student most of us are hardly aware it is happening. We are more aware and concerned when it is not happening or when there are learning problems. Who reflects on the intricacies of the smoothly running television set? It is when it is malfunctioning that gives us pause to wonder. To run smoothly, the T-V set has many parts which must function together in a well timed sequence. In a sense, so is it with the brain which is infinitely more complex than any man created device.

Learning involves a complex series of events. Suppose a student who can read is given a written question—"What is the meaning of Wink?" (Know spelled backwards.) First, he needs vision to see the statement. From the eyes, impulses are sent to the brain where the image of the word is perceived. It then goes to the memory part of the brain where meaning is given to the statement. The first part of the statement is easy. But what does "wink" mean? Other mental manipulations are necessary to solve the problem.

Possible solutions are: it is a nonsense syllable, a foreign word or "know" spelled backwards. Suppose the decision maker decides that "wink" is "know" spelled backwards. This would be a function of what we call reasoning. The decision is then made to respond by speech, writing, or other forms of communication.

A spoken or written response requires a complex, timed sequence of mental and physical processes which result in the actual response. Each of these steps are committed to memory so are "learned".

Problems in learning due to the nature of the brain occur if there is a disturbance at any of these levels of brain function: perceiving, memory association, reasoning, decision making and responding.

If the problem is in perceiving, it is a "perceptual" problem. An example of a visual perceptual problem occurs when the eye sees the words correctly and the transmission to the brain is satisfactory, but the registration in the perceptual area of the brain is inaccurate or distorted. It follows, then that the input at the other levels of thinking, including the response, are distorted, too. The result is the reading problem due to a visual perceptual handicap. It may be inherited or acquired by an insult to the brain by infection or trauma in the pregnancy, at birth or in early life. Boys have these problems more often than girls.

What to do about a child with this problem? First, understand him as well as his problem. Too many of these children feel so pressurized they hate school and themselves. Get an evaluation of the child for your sake and his school's use. There are many such services in this area including this clinic.

Questions on children's mental health should be mailed to: Mental Health Commentary, Courier-Journal, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, 14604.

Courier-Journal

DeSpirito To Sing at Annunciation

Romolo DeSpirito, widely acclaimed local baritone, will be guest soloist at the Midnight Mass Christmas Eve at the Church of the Annunciation, 1754 Norton St.

Msgr. Albert L. Simonetti, pastor, announced that DeSpirito will sing "O Holy Night" before Mass, "The Lord's Prayer" during Mass and "Panis Angelicus" at Communion time.

Father Francis Lioi, assistant pastor, will accompany DeSpirito on the organ.

The parish's girls' choir will sing carols beginning at 11:30 p.m. and a folk group also will perform.

Blackfriars Ready New Year's Musical

"Park," a light and modern musical with four people, will be presented by Rochester's Blackfriars Friday, Saturday and Sunday, December 29, 30 and New Year's Eve in Xerox Square Auditorium. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m.

"Park," with book and lyrics by Paul Cherry and music by Lance Mulcahy, is the story of two young people and two middle-aged people who meet in a park. The production is directed by Richard Mancini.

Business In the Diocese

James H. Bryant has been named WXXI/Channel 21's director of development. Bryant, of 8 Winding Brook Drive, Fairport, has been coordinating and managing the public television's capital funds drive since last Spring.

The Board of Directors of Marine Midland Bank-Rochester has elected Martin F. Birmingham executive vice president of the bank as a director.

An alumnus of both the Graduate School of Credit and Financial Management at Dartmouth College and the Executive Management Program at Columbia University, Birmingham joined Marine Midland in 1954.

Birmingham is a member of the Genesee State Park Commission and the Community Chest Corporation. He is a trustee and member of the Executive Committee of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery and is an administrative board member of the Building and Planning Committee at St. Ann's Home.

Birmingham, his wife, the former Ann Louise Bayer, and four children live at 21 Brookwood Road, Pittsford.

Deaths

B. F. McAniff

A Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated Friday, Dec. 15, for Bernard F. McAniff, at St. Margaret Mary's Church. Mr. McAniff died Tuesday, Dec. 12.

A former member of the staff of Knauf and Knauf, certified public accountants, Mr. McAniff also was a graduate of Aquinas Institute and St. Michael's College of the University of Toronto.

He was a member of St. Margaret Mary's Men's Club and a former member of the parish choir.

Surviving him are his wife, Marcella Kinsella McAniff; two daughters, Katherine and Sheila McAniff; a son, Bernard F.; two brothers, Msgr. James C. McAniff, pastor of St. Mary's Church and Msgr. Edward J. McAniff, retired pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church; and a sister, Mrs. Francis R. Dollard.

Wednesday, December 20, 1972

COURIER WANT ADS

"Everything Under The Sun"

BUSINESS SERVICES

PAINTING: Interior Excellent workmanship insured; quality paint. Ray Weber, 342-9066.

PERMANENTS GIVEN at home by experienced hairdresser — call 458-4585.

HOME INTERIOR remodeling—Kitchens, powder rooms, bathrooms, recreation room, porch enclosures. Expert carpenter, free estimates, 288-4747.

EXPERT Sewing Machine repair on all Makes and models. Free estimates. All work guaranteed. Call 288-2100.

PAINTING, Exterior & Interior. Wall papering. Joe Jalbert, 482-2823.

TILE: FROM complete bathroom remodeling to small repairs. Reasonable 338-1550.

FLOOR sanding, refinishing. Dependable service since 1921. Reasonable. Cy Callemeyn, 865-1353, 458-6685.

BROKEN WINDOWS? We replace glass in regular, storm, picture, Thermopane, patio doors & Anderson windows. For low cost "on the spot" glass replacement with our MOBILE GLASS SHOPS. Call the GLASSMAN. We also make tops for furniture and desks, 328-6130.

PAINTING and paper hanging, free estimates, quality work. Dan Burgmaster, 663-0827.

CARPENTER WORK porch steps, small jobs, remodeling, paneling, wind damage repairs. Free estimates. Robert Bulluck, 865-2448.

ODD JOBS: Storm windows removed, washing walls, floor waxing, cleaning gutters etc. 436-4421.

WANT DAY work for five days a week full time. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 546-1664.

HOME INTERIOR remodeling—Kitchens, powder rooms, bathrooms, recreation room, porch enclosures. Expert carpenter, free estimates, 288-4747.

WINDOW SHADES: Beautiful new decorator shades or crisp new regular shades would make "that room" really come alive for the holidays (made locally — no delay). Call us at 235-6462 and we'll come. Edgett Window Shade Shop.

PIANO TUNING — experienced tuner, reasonable. Jerry Gallagher, 482-4061.

INSTRUCTIONS

PSYCHOLOGY of handwriting classes — RIT. Call 482-2823 for details.

TUTORING all subjects. Qualified teachers. PROFESSIONAL TUTORING SERVICE. 244-9155, 271-7707.

SPECIAL MISCELLANEOUS

HOME for aged. Room, board. Elderly lady Private home, companionship, transportation provided. 247-2640.

STUD service: Golden Retriever, champion stock. Ancestry of nineteen champions. Beautiful dog, golden red Robert Bulluck, 865-2448.

FOR SALE

HIGHLAND PARK: 3 Bedroom Cape Cod; fenced yard, busline; please! No real estate dealers; principals only; \$27,500. 275-9364.

FOR RENT

WEST AVE. Three lower rooms; clean, 225-1974

MERCHANDISE

EXPERT SEWING MACHINE REPAIR, 30 years experience on all makes and models. Free estimates. Brand names, new and re-conditioned \$19.95. Call Mr. Needle Sewing Center, 288-2100.

GIGANTIC WAREHOUSE SALE. Brand new Necchi zig-zag sewing machines that do everything from button holes to fancy stitches. 20 year guarantee. One year free operating instructions \$37.50 portable or \$59.95 with cabinet. Cash or payments arranged. Call Mr. Needle Sewing Center — your authorized Necchi and Pfaff dealer. 288-2100.

WANTED

COOK: Live-in. Apt. plus salary. References. St. Patrick's Rectory, Seneca Falls, N.Y. (715) 568-5203.

PRIVATE COIN Collector wants coins of any kind, top prices; 464-6246.

LIVE IN female companion for middle-aged widow. New apartment. Share work and expenses. Call evenings: 544-1590 or 663-4726.

RETIRED LADY, live-in, help me with my meals. No Laundry or cleaning. Lovely private bedroom, remuneration, days off. Mrs. C. B. Martin, 104 High Street, Newark, N.Y.

WANTED—Homeworkers and addressers for our company. Over \$150.00 weekly income possible. Begin immediately. Send \$1.00 for complete setup to: Gen'l Specialty Corporation, 22 Detroit Ave., Troy, N.Y. 12180.

OLD SLATE bed pool table. Wood must be in good condition or easily restored. The older the better. 267-3353, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HELP WANTED

SALESMAN FOR Carpet Store, experienced, good salary, commission, benefits. Apply Rochester Linoleum and Carpet Center, 931 East Ridge Road, Rochester, New York 14621, 716-338-1500.

RADIO - TV

SERVICING TV Stereo-Transistor foreign and U.S. Free estimates. "Commercial" 288-2371

EXPERT COLOR TV Service: All work guaranteed. 20% reduction for service calls during Dec. Call Chuck MacKay at ALMAC TV: 671-7045.

ENTERTAINMENT

JOE CIMINO: Orchestra for music that pleases, dinners, parties; 865-1260.

FREDDY BECK Orchestra: finest in music. Weddings, Parties; 458-8719.

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