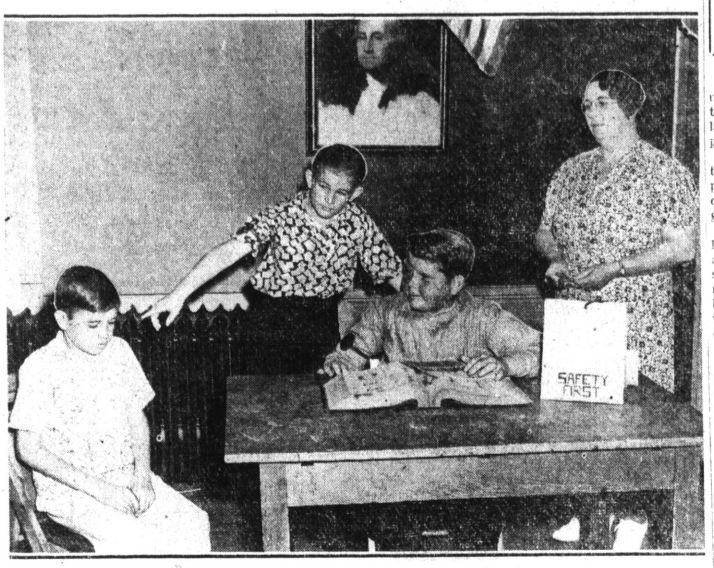
SCHOOL PUPILS MAINTAIN TRAFFIC COURT



"COURT'S IN SESSION!" . . . "Judge" Dick Sprout critically observes the demeanor of "Defendant" Bert Kuhn as "Prosecutor" Ralph Lewis points an accusing finger at the culprit accused of "cutting in too fast" in rounding a corner at Lomita Elementary school. Mrs. Ethel O. Langley, teacher-sponsor of the unique "traffic court" watches the proceedings.

—Torrance Herald Photo.

Every noon—when there have been "arrests"—there's a "traffic court" session at the Lomita Elementary school's auditorium.

Instituted by Mrs. Ethel O. Langley, A6 teacher, with the approval of Miss Harriet Michealis, principal, this student-project is proving to be successful in teaching Lomita youngsters to use care on the playground and in crossing streets to and from school.

Husky Dick Sprout is the "judge" of the daily sessions and he dispenses "justice" with a firm yet merciful hand. Penalties range from restricted playground activities to writing "I will be more careful" 15 or 20 times on a blackboard. "Judge" Sprout has two young assistants who take turns in serving as prosecutor-clerk-bailiff.

When the school "traffic court" was first instituted, boys and girls vied with each other to become "defendants." They wanted to undergo the experience of sitting in the witness chair and hearing their alleged misdeeds aired, Mrs. Langley said this week. At the present time, however, the novelty has worn off and the project is looked upon with a better understanding of its purpose.

As result of this understanding and the fact that an appearance before the "court" takes up the youngsters' noon playtime, the A6 class, which serves as patrolmen, have found only a few offenders. While "Judge" Sprout pronounces the sentences, he does so after consultation with Mrs. Langley so that the penalties are not too severe.

Buys Gardena Furniture Store

JACK G. KOCH
. . . enters Gardena field

Purchase of the Forbes Furniture Company, well-known Gardena store located on Gardena boulevard in the heart of that city's business district, by Jack G. Koch, owner and manager of the Star Furniture Company of this city, was announced this week. Koch said he intended to operate the concern, only furniture store in Gardena, under its original name.

He plans to add considerable stock to its inventory, having made some exceptionally good purchases within recent weeks. Mrs. Hugh Henry of this city, will manage the store, assisted by Logan Mulhall. Koch says he will offer Gardena Valley residents the finest line of moderate-priced furniture that is possible to secure.

Bar Girls Exceed Co-eds

TULARE (U.P.)—There are more bar girls than co-eds in the United States, Ethel Hubler, national temperance leader, told local audiences here. There are three girls working in liquor establishments throughout the country, she said, for every one registered in American colleges.

INDICTED . . . William G. Bonelli, Los Angeles member of the California board of equalization, indicted by grand jury on bribery charges in investigation of alleged "shakedowns" of liquor licensees.

An average American is the one who can't afford to be without a new model car, neither can he afford to own one.

—Greensboro (Ga.) Herald-Journal

A total of $2,495,781 was paid out by the state in unemployment benefits during September.

Let's Talk It Over . . . This Thing of School Marks

By Arthur Dean, Sc. D.

REWARDS

Dr. Arthur Dean in this article says too much value is placed by parents on their children's school marks. He favors a system of stimulating learning without expectation of academic rewards . . . Do you agree?

Parents place greater value on marks than they should. I'd like to argue for a system of stimulating learning without the expectation of academic rewards.

School marks are an abomination. But children cry for them, parents demand them, and teachers probably die if they couldn't give them.

Is there no way of stimulating learning without the expectation of academic rewards? Is the satisfaction of doing a thing well not sufficient in itself without being "rewarded" by a parent with a five-dollar bill, a bicycle, or an automobile?

CHILDREN ARE SALESMEN

Pupils who are, continually marked soon become self-conscious and calculating. They don't say what springs naturally from their own experience and ideas, but from what seems likely to obtain a good mark. They quite naturally and wisely play upon the idiosyncracies of the teacher, quoting her book if she has written one, her favorite authority if she hasn't. There is a certain stimulus to hypocrisy in such dealings, a tendency toward intellectual dishonesty that it is unfortunate to encourage. The pupil becomes a salesman. He sells to the teacher as little knowledge as possible for a high mark as he can get.

The pupils are salesmen. They sell just enough to get by for just as high marks as they can.

The fault is not with the children. After all, they are human. If a father wants to give his boy an automobile when he gets all A's on his report card, the boy would be a fool not to accept the bargain.

POOR SORT OF LEARNING

The fault is not with the teachers. Several well known school systems have abolished marks. What a howl the parents put up!

No, the fault is with all of us who want to get a material reward for a thing.

Even the radio programs are affected by this spirit of squeezing every reward possible out of a thing. At one time a sponsored program of music was sufficient. Now the listeners expect a present for listening to the musical program.

I say good marks on the report card are reward enough without dad's reaching into his pocket. I go further and say that if learning must be stimulated by marks, it is a poor sort of learning.

P. S. If I were in your place I would send for my free leaflet, "How To Study." It is decidedly helpful in its suggestions.

FOR FATHERS ONLY

"Dear Dr. Dean:

"My father wonders why I don't love him. My mother told me of his once expressing the opinion that I didn't care anything about him. He was perfectly right. He no doubt considers that he has been a very good father in every respect—hard working, honest, sober and respectable. I suppose these things ought to count in our affections, but somehow they don't. If it were a contest between one who gave a child material things only, and one who gave sympathy, understanding and gentleness, I feel quite sure the latter would win.

"As far back as I can recall, I cannot remember my father as doing anything but scolding, criticizing, punishing or ridiculing me. His coming home at night always cast a shadow over my happiness as a child, and I dreaded Sundays. Even to this day, when I am twenty years old, I feel secretly happy whenever he is to be away for an evening. One cannot take a seventeen or eighteen-year-old girl and yell and swear at her, and threaten to give her a beating (all for some minor offense) and expect her to feel anything but hatred toward you.

"Now that I don't hate my father—probably because I no longer fear him—but far from loving him, I don't even like him. During late years, he would create scenes such as this, and then feel sorry afterward and bring me home a box of candy, thinking this would make everything all right. During the past two years or so, I have noticed a change for the better in him, and I wonder if perhaps he has seen the result of his former actions. But the trouble is, that it is too late for me to feel any affection or even liking for him no matter how I try to convince myself that I ought to.

"Sometimes he tries to be affectionate, and puts his arm around me, etc., and he complains that I always shrink away Somehow, I can't stand his touch ing me. His caresses are indescribably distasteful to me, and he wonders why I don't like them.

When you have occasion to talk with and advise fathers of little children, tell them to be gentle, not stern, understanding instead of critical and scolding. Make them love you while they are still little, and then you probably will retain their love until they are grown, for it is in those impressionable early years that the pattern of parent-child relationships are formed.

"Memories"

The Arthur Dean Service has been established for the express purpose of answering personal letters from Dr. Dean's readers concerning their problems. Address him care of P. O. Box 150, Times Square station, New York, N. Y., and enclose a stamped (3c) self-addressed envelope.

(Released By The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Old Fine Is Revived Against Cunningham

When he was found guilty last Sept. 17 of driving while intoxicated and fined $50, Bob Cunningham, 37, of 2467 Sonoma avenue, asked for time in which to pay that penalty. Tuesday when he was arrested for intoxication at the old warehouse on 213th street he had not paid that fine so City Judge Robert Lessing re-assessed the $50 charge and suspended a 30-day jail sentence for intoxication on condition he is not re-arrested for two years. Cunningham was given his liberty to arrange for payment of the driving while intoxicated fine.

Llama Rivals Mary's Lamb

ST. LOUIS (U.P.)—Mary had her lamb, but Gene Nichols, attendant at the municipal zoo here, has his llama. Nichols has cared for the llama since shortly after it was born, raising it on a bottle. Now it follows him patiently wherever he goes.

Seeks Divorce on Cruelty Charge

Listing Torrance real estate as separate community property, suit for divorce was filed this week in Los Angeles county superior court by Clifford O. Wright, against Pauline J. Wright. The couple were married in Illinois in 1925. Wright charges cruelty.

Signor Benito Mussolini keeps getting stiller and stiller. Pretty soon he will be as silent as Mr. Garner.

—Detroit Free Press

Give your college son or daughter a subscription to The Herald.

Paragraphics

A halfback sensation with one of the football colleges weighs a scant 145 pounds, and they say you can't tell him from the students.

—Senator Souper, N.A.N.A.

Napoleon's army is said to have fought on its stomach, and perhaps this is an idea for modern armies trying to get away from air bombs.

—Rochester Democrat & Chronicle

A scientist says the onion's chief characteristic is supplied by vitamin A. Maybe so, but smells like L to us.

—Thomaston (Ga.) Times

Motor Taxes Reach Enormous Figure

Taxes now paid annually by motorists in the United States exceed the total taxes paid each year by everybody in the entire country in the horse-and-buggy days.

This year automotive taxes will total about $1,600,000,000, or one-quarter of a billion dollars more than the annual total tax collections in the United States four decades ago.

Statistics show the electrical industry is the largest user of copper. It is believed journalism takes the most brass.

—Joplin (Mo.) Globe