



ket spread over him. Aware of the difficulties with which most parents achieve a similar period of rest for one child, the success of such a project where twenty-two normal, healthy, squirmy, youngsters are concerned seems almost a miracle. Group ethics, however, seems to turn the trick—and with very little to do.

After relaxation the older children fold their blankets and cots and stow them away, then lend a hand to the younger ones who are not yet so efficient—and another free period has arrived.

And by free period is meant FREE.

Nothing, unless it be anti-social or dangerous, is banned. Noise is never shushed, tumbled disorder never frowned upon, motives and plans never questioned, needs never anticipated, problems never solved unless help is sought by the child—then he is given only the assistance he asks for, never the entire solution.

The toys with which the children play are of the most simple and inexpensive type imaginable. Empty spools gaily enameled, a blocloc train, building blocks—not the commercial kind, but odds and ends of light lumber in many different sizes and shapes—squares, rectangles, cylinders, triangles, pyramids, flat slabs. There are easels, too, for the budding artist, with troughs for holding water and brushes and paints, not to mention dolls (home made) and doll furniture and story books and modeling clay. Even the piano is not denied to the child with a yearn for sound and rhythm in his soul.

The playthings are kept upon low shelves, easily within the reach of even the smallest child—and each is free to help himself to whatever he will. Perhaps it is because there are enough for everyone that the children do not all decide upon the same thing at the same time, but one has the feeling that it is some principle in nursery school technique more important and profound than that!

Some of the children play in groups,

some alone. No one seems to notice what any one else does so long as he does not encroach upon the rights of others. The free period is followed by the business of putting everything back into place and the washing of hands for lunch.

At lunch the children are grouped at tables to fit their size and age. The four year olds use both fork and spoon—and surprisingly well—and are allowed to pour their own milk. An adult sits at each table and is served exactly as the rest, even to the extent of having but a spoon to eat with if seated among the younger children. And why not? Children have been inconvenienced at grown up tables since civilization began.

Servings are small, but a child may reserve himself at the tea cart as many times as he wishes just so long as his plate is cleared when he finishes. A child is never hurried, but if he dallies with his food and is unfinished when the lunch period is over, the irregularity is quietly brought to his attention by some such remark as, "Lunch time is over now. Too bad you didn't get through in time to eat your dessert!"

The children are encouraged to serve themselves from the tea cart in order to "get the wiggle out of them" so that they will not cut short their meal because of restiveness. The diet, of course, is scientifically planned, and is under the supervision of Miss Laura Miller.

After lunch comes another opportunity for achievement, that of undressing, putting on sleepers, and otherwise preparing for the afternoon nap. And undressing oneself at two and a half IS an achievement. One requiring as much concentration, coordination, and patience as a "birdie" or ball room dancing when one is big and wise—and as deserving of the respect and awe of one's fellowmen!

The novice is apt to come away from a day spent in observation at the University of Oklahoma nursery school with a decidedly changed perspective in so far as children are concerned. Here is a child's world with a child's problems recognized and accepted with sincerity and dignity. Here is a world in which a child may truly try his strength and test his skill without bringing down a cyclone of either praise or blame upon his head. Here is a world in which a child knows what to expect and upon which he may depend.

The school is only one year old. Those in charge make no cure-all claims or sweeping prophecies—they are too busy making a wholesome, stimulating, happy, HERE and NOW for the twenty-two lucky youngsters in their charge.

Children of the Nursery School and their birthdays follow:

George Wiley, February 25, 1934; Jennie Hawkins, January 23, 1934; Bert Flood, August 30, 1933; Carol Jenson, August 14, 1933; Alec Titkoff, May 25, 1933; Deonne Drake, April 19, 1933; Mary Dixon, March 6, 1933; Johnnie Keith,

January 23, 1933; Virginia Sloan, January 25, 1933; Mary Ellen Casey, October 31, 1932.

Beverly Heck, July 22, 1932; Charlene Caldwell, July 28, 1932; Jimmie Marrs, April 18, 1932; Paul Keen, March 28, 1932; John Ellis, March 28, 1932; Donna Ruth Frank, March 24, 1932; Sally Sears, January 14, 1932; Judith Halperin, September 1, 1931; Bennie Shultz, June 9, 1931; Frank Girard Tappan, January 16, 1931; Mark Melton, November 2, 1930.

Professorial Quips

(SOONERLAND TOPICS)

WHEN informed of the Supreme Court's decision declaring the AAA unconstitutional by a 6 to 3 vote: "It's not surprising. It's what one expects when six corporation lawyers get together with two Jews and a college professor."—Dr. Cortez Ewing, Government.

After listening to four speakers at a banquet in his honor tell of his long and faithful service to the University and to mankind over a period of 35 years: "I'm glad all of this is taffy—not epi-taffy."—Dr. Roy Gittinger, Dean of Administration.

"After 17 years, I'm finally going to get my soldiers' bonus. Now, they're starting to work on the Townsend plan and I'll be about ready for it in another 17 years."—Dr. A. B. Thomas, History.

"I long to see the day when some Big Six coach, instead of telling how good all the other teams in the conference are, steps up and predicts that his own team is by far the best and will win the championship, hands down. Who, me? I said I'd like to see it, not do it."—John Jacobs, Track Coach.

Beset by newspaper reporters during the recent stir over the cancellation of "Waiting for Lefty" and "Till the Day I Die" because they were branded as "red" and propaganda plays: "We've been trying for several years to get publicity for our Playhouse shows. This is the first time we've ever made the right-hand column page one."—Rupel J. Jones, Playhouse Director.

"Getting football players is like buying so much horse flesh. The highest bidder gets the pick of the string."—Dr. Guy Y. Williams, Chemistry.

"Isn't it true that Dr. Townsend set two hundred dollars a month as the figure for his old age pension plan so that no one could come along and set a higher goal and take all his members away from him?"—H. H. Herbert, Journalism.