

Great Work in 'Shaping Young Idea' Done in Her School by Mrs. Lieber

City Woman Makes Thorough Study of Psychology and Applies Her Knowledge to Benefit Youngsters.

This is the second of a series which tells the stories of Indianapolis women who have accomplished something in life, who have forced their way to prominence by their own initiative and ambition.

BY BEATRICE BURGAN

Times Woman's Page Editor

"A WOMAN is not a success as a wife unless she grows mentally with her husband," decided Mrs. Richard Lieber early in her married life. This conviction, together with early welfare activities with her mother, Mrs. Phillip Rappaport, guided her into studies and experiences which resulted in founding of the Claire Ann Shover Nursery school, the only institution of its kind in Indianapolis and one of about 103 in the United States.

Only recently the management of the school was transferred to the Indianapolis branch of the American Association of University Women, but she will continue as honorary consultant.

After her children were grown and her husband was building Indiana's extensive park and game preserve system, as director of the state department of conservation, Mrs. Lieber was giving her services to protect futures of individuals.

"The influences were many, mostly personal" recalls Mrs. Lieber. "The scientific and psychological elements in the training of my children always interested me. When one of them in infancy was stricken with infantile paralysis, I realized, in aiding his physical convalescence, how important it was not to permit my overanxious care to make him a dependent, helpless child."

Miss Burgan "Sustained psychological treatment enabled him to grow into a strong, self-reliant individual."

"Without Mr. Lieber's encouragement of my study, I never should have advanced to the idea of establishing my school," reminisces Mrs. Lieber. "I started to keep abreast of the times simply to make myself an interesting companion to him."

"When my interests broadened, he encouraged my ambitions and approved my decision to open the school."

It was that experience with her own child and activities with her mother in juvenile court that urged her to take up child psychology in a serious way.

Followed in Mother's Path

She followed the footsteps of her mother, who was the first woman to serve as a volunteer probation officer for the juvenile court, started in 1917 by Judge James Collins.

As she worked with sympathetic understanding to re-adjust delinquent children, her discerning nature was noting their psychological processes. She was laying the groundwork for later studies.

As Mrs. Lieber diverted interest of a child in her nursery school from some undesirable inclination, convictions drawn from this early experiences were reflected. She didn't accept psychologists' theories blindly. She decided from her personal contacts that a child is not born with morals; he learns them from education.

Studied at Columbia

She went to Columbia university to study and met Dr. Frank Maxfield, who encouraged her to found a school. She returned from the university and private study with Dr. Maxfield to engage in probation work.

In addition to the encouragement of Dr. Maxfield, Mrs. Lieber was inspired to found her school by a bequest of a friend, Miss Claire Ann Shover, who willed her \$1,000 to use in the interest of children.

"She was a mother who never became a mother," is Mrs. Lieber's tribute to her friend, who was interested in child education.

She rented a house at 3265 North New Jersey street, and under the supervision of a representative from the famous Merrill Palmer school of Detroit, she selected the most modern equipment.

Teaches Child Responsibility

With the idea of making the preschool child happy and independent, she encouraged expression of individual personalities.

"You must teach a child to stand on his own feet mentally as well as physically," she explains. "Parents too often forget that a child is an individual; they are too likely to be dominated by possessiveness and an insistence upon expression of their own will."

In Mrs. Lieber's school, which she directed until transfer to the association, the child learns to adapt himself to a group. He becomes independent, learning to put on his own galoshes, to hang up his toothbrush, and to wash his glass after a drink of milk.

He learns rhythm music and cooperation. He comes to do the right thing often because it is expected of him. He sees other children eating their spinach, and no one notices his own dalliance over his dish.

He soon follows their behavior. Often such a child will go home and refuse to eat, with an anxious mother pleading and coaxing.

Knows Need of Health

As Mrs. Lieber planned the children's meals and arranged a regular program for rest and sleep, she followed the knowledge that a healthy body is necessary for a harmonious mental adjustment.

"Delinquency can be prevented in the normal person to a great extent if a child has the proper training in early years," contends Mrs. Lieber. "The difference in a child destroying a neighbor's flowers at 3 and stealing a pistol at 13 is only a matter of degree. He must be taught temperance by education."

At various times during the six-year period of the school's existence, Mrs. Lieber traveled to Europe for study and observation at universities and schools similar to her own.

She studied with Dr. Alfred Adler at the University of Vienna and visited established habit clinics and nursery schools in England and Switzerland.

Daughter Is Intern

While Mrs. Lieber was educated at girls' schools with no plan for a career, she encouraged her own daughter's ambitions for a profession. Her only daughter, Mrs. Norman Baker, now of Fergus Falls, Minn., was the first woman intern at the Robert Long hospital, after studying at the Indiana university school of medicine.

Mrs. Lieber has been the center of a very vital family life. She devoted herself to her three children until they were ready for college. Then she began her career.

Besides affiliation with the school, she is an active board member of the Children's museum and has served on the sex education committee of the state board of health.

Adopts" Her Grandchildren

This summer she has spent most of her time at the Lieber cabin in Brown county, close to the state

City Woman Maintains Her Interest in School



Mrs. Lieber and one of her pupils.



Mrs. Richard Lieber

Manners and Morals

BY JANE JORDAN

What's wrong with your life? If you are having a hard time figuring out your problems, ask Jane Jordan to help you. Sign an address card name if you like, but write your letter today.

Dear Jane Jordan—I am 21 years old and have a baby 2 years old. Every day I feel more miserable than the day before. There is only one thing that is making my marriage hold together and that is my baby. I love him better than life, and I couldn't support him and myself alone. I have no parents, so you see I have to be the mainsail.

As someone else has put it, "Is not living together without charm or delight more indecent than the most immoral ecstasy?" I put this question up to our readers in the hope of getting some interesting answers. Get out your pencils again!

Answer—I agree with you that it isn't so much what happens to an individual that matters as his attitude toward it. For example, some of the world's most outstanding personalities have resulted from the most tragic marriages.

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Dear Jane Jordan—I've known my boy friend more than a year. I used to run around with a crowd in West Indianapolis that has the reputation of being tough, but I've broken away from them entirely this summer.

Last night the boy friend got fresh, just to see if the things he'd heard about me were true or not. They were not. He said I'd gone way up in his estimation. He then asked me to go with him next Sunday.

What I want to know is if I go with him again after what has happened? I cried myself to sleep last night, because I really like him so much.

Answer—Give him one more chance to prove that he is sincere. If he is not weep no more my lady. He isn't worth it.

Sororities

Opening social meeting of Chi Beta Kappa sorority will be held tonight at the home of Mrs. Harvey Clark of the Spink Arms. She will be assisted by Mrs. Charles Arnold.

Mrs. Helen Ramey, 313 West Thirty-first street, will be hostess Thursday night for a meeting of Rho Delta Tau sorority.

You want things to happen to you without the slightest effort on your part to make them happen. Your whole attitude is one of defeat, and, unless you replace it with one of courage, you are licked for sure.

You have muffed the love problem, and you begin by assuring me that you can't solve the economic one. You can't think of anything to do to fill your life. From your viewpoint the only possible solution is to be rescued by some fairy prince a la Hans Christian Andersen.

You want things to happen to you without the slightest effort on your part to make them happen. Your whole attitude is one of defeat, and, unless you replace it with one of courage, you are licked for sure.

You can start with something, no matter how small, to fill your time. If you can't do anything else, you can worry about some one who is worse off than you are. Whatever you do, you must rid yourself of passive attitude toward your problems.

A resourceful woman always will worm her way out of the most discouraging difficulties. She will seize upon the first thing at hand and work at it. For example, I know one mother who gave birth in middle age to a crippled child. In her zeal to develop the shriveled muscles of the crippled by rubbing, she learned so much about massage that she became an accomplished physical therapist, supporting herself and her child after the father was disabled.

I do not mean that you need to give up hope of finding love to fill the emptiness of your life. I only mean that the cards are all against you as long as you are convinced thoroughly that there is absolutely nothing you can do for yourself.

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Everything about it is new. But, more important still, everything about it is simple and graceful—designed to make the most of lovely feminine curves.

Note how the full sleeves fairly melt away from the dropped shoulder lines, and how the sweeping fullness is introduced low in the skirt. They are such simple details that any beginner will find them easy to handle.

Size 16 requires 5½ yards of 36-inch all-over lace, 1 yard ribbon. Width about 3½ yards. Send for our new fall fashion book. It contains the latest, easy-to-make fashions for every occasion.

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