

chiatrist. (*American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, July)

We frequently hear the statement that "our century has discovered the child," but Dr. Peller holds that to a certain extent at least we have invented today's child.

"His playfulness, his cheeriness, his imagination, in short, his childishness is overrated," Dr. Peller said. "All the instances where he is showing apprehension, like an adult, and reasonably tries to act like one, are ignored.

"We surround him with pink and white dresses, with saucers and wall-papers with funny drawings and carefully hide all the cruel things of life.

"Why? Partly solicitude, fully justified for the immature. There are other unconscious motives."

The adult who pretends and tries to insure that childhood is entirely gay and carefree is using the child as a means of escape from the unbearable cruelties of his own life just as games and movies with a happy ending are used and just as kings in an older day turned to court jesters when the burden of the crown became too heavy.

"America's number one movie star is a child, and adolescents come next. Is this due to their supreme art or to the fact that they are children and thus more capable than any adult dramatic genius of lifting us out of this dull and oppressing world?" Dr. Peller asked.

We have no right to use our children for such purposes when it means hindering their development.

Children's fears can be relieved without shielding them from reality by teaching them to anticipate reasonably what will happen next. It is the unknown that is most alarming.

Science News Letter, August 12, 1939

AERONAUTICS

Pick-Up Airmail Service To Include Air Express

ALL-AMERICAN Aviation, Inc., the airline now operating an experimental airmail pick-up service to small towns along two routes, is undertaking carriage of air express, Richard C. duPont, president, announced.

Packages up to 35 pounds in weight can be delivered and parcels weighing as much as 20 pounds can be taken on board in flight.

The planes do not stop at intermediate points, merely taking on and discharging mail and express by means of a grappling system invented by Dr. Lytle S. Adams, Irwin, Pa., dentist.

Science News Letter, August 12, 1939

MEDICINE

Mayo Clinic And Foundation Organized To Carry on Work

Son and Sons-in-Law of Founders Are on Staff; Foundation Constantly Trains Men for Clinic

THE DEATH of Dr. William J. Mayo, following by just two months the death of his brother, Dr. Charles H. Mayo, leaves the Mayo Clinic and the Mayo Foundation well organized to carry on the healing and educational work of the famous brothers who built up the institutions from the practice of their country doctor father, Dr. William Worrall Mayo.

A son of Dr. Charles, Dr. Charles William Mayo, and two sons-in-law of Dr. Will, Drs. D. C. Balfour and Waltman Walters, are active members of the staffs of the institutions. Dr. Walters and young Dr. Mayo are on the surgical staff of the clinic and Dr. Balfour is director of the Mayo Foundation. This latter is a research and teaching institution, part of the University of Minnesota. While patients are treated at the Clinic and affiliated hospitals, it is at the Foundation that young doctors and surgeons are trained to staff the Clinic and similar institutions elsewhere, and it is from the Foundation that come new methods of fighting sickness and death.

When the Mayo brothers endowed this Foundation, they arranged for its affiliation with the University because they felt that "foundations which depend on self-continuing bodies of trustees may do well for the first and second generations but there is the hazard that in later periods new trustees who are unfamiliar with the spirit and ideals of the founders may through lack of understanding defeat their purpose."

"The fund which we had built up and which had grown far beyond our expectations had come from the sick," Dr. William J. Mayo wrote to the University of Minnesota, "and we believed that it ought to return to the sick in the form of advanced medical education, which would develop better-trained physicians, and to research to reduce the amount of sickness. My brother and I came to the conclusion that this purpose could be best accomplished through the state university."

The continuation of the Mayo Clinic seems as well assured as that of the Mayo

Foundation. For several years before their deaths, the Mayo brothers had retired from active participation in the direction of the Clinic, feeling that this should be left to younger men who would not be hampered by the tendency to conservatism and clinging to tradition that is likely to come with advancing years. Dr. J. C. Masson was made chief of the surgical staff in 1936.

The two Mayo brothers continued to see a few patients in their offices and to make rounds in the hospitals occasionally. The majority of the thousands of patients coming to the Clinic in recent years, however, have been treated by other members of the staff. It is safe to say that more thousands will continue to find these same staff physicians and surgeons carrying on the battle against disease and suffering that Dr. William Worrall Mayo started more than half a century ago on the now world-famous corner of First Street and Second Avenue Southwest in the country town medical center of Rochester, Minn.

Science News Letter, August 12, 1939

Motion picture cameras attached to captive balloons are being used to study traffic speeds and behavior of drivers.

American farms are producing materials that go into more than 230 non-food manufactured items.

BOOKS

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