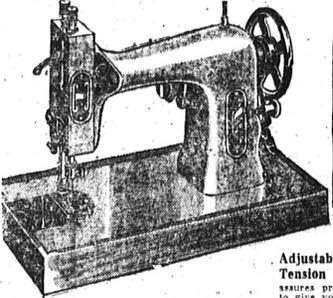


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## Planning With Children For Return To Learning Is Now a Family Affair

Parents of all the children are confronted with a stimulating challenge this year, to match the enthusiasm of the youngsters themselves in planning for the start of another new school term which is scheduled to begin in just a few short weeks.

The challenge is the natural outgrowth of the persistent program of emphasis over the past ten or fifteen years, on the importance of education, as a matter of self interest and duty to the nation.

This, together with the progress educators have made in converting school time activities from routine drudgery to exciting adventure, has made a profound impression on all age groups.

### Making Own Plans

Whereas once upon a time the approach of a new term was greeted with petulant reluctance, and occasionally with open defiance from youth impatient to get out on their own in the adult world, boys and girls now show not only a sincere eagerness for more schooling; they actually begin making plans for the new term before the old one has ended.

Involved in the planning of teen agers and the college bound — whose numbers mount to record peaks this year — are serious thoughts of careers, as well as the accumulation of new wardrobes and needed school supplies.

Beginners and grade schoolers, happily infected by the new trend, and stimulated by a world of exciting new subjects being taught in exciting new ways, also are looking forward to the new term.

### Family Life Resurgent

Resurgence of family life during the past 15 years, with its annually mounting birth-rates means enrollments will surge forward at all age levels everywhere again this year. More than 3,000,000 beginners start school anew annually now. Fewer children drop out. A flood tide of teen agers reaches the high school age this year. Far more want to go to college than can be taken care of.

School authorities are now putting the finishing touches on their plans to receive and instruct the youngsters. Their task is not an easy one. New school construction fails to keep pace with demand for classrooms. Need for more new teachers taxes the number graduating into the profession.

Thus, a combination of circumstances, in addition to the welcome eagerness of the children themselves for more learning, conspire to multiply the challenge for parents, which is at one and the same time a personal and a family and a community problem.

And all this calls for a family conference right now—in which the children should participate—so that their aspirations, and the responsibilities parents must undertake for getting them ready to go back to school, may be merged before time speeds by to destroy the opportunity for careful, thoughtful preparation.

### Help for Parents

This special section is planned to help parents and children alike to a wealth of information both will need in planning to get ready for the return to learning.

First on the agenda is probably the last thing the youngsters themselves would think of—their physical conditions. What better time than now, before school starts, for the annual check-up by the family physician, for a visit to the dentist, for an examination of the eyes or fitting of new glasses.

Then there are back to school wardrobes to be replenished, and here parents are in for a pleasant surprise. The children themselves, all over the country, are taking the initiative in leading a reform movement that means a shift from the sloppy fads of the past to neatness and good grooming. This trend is being hailed

by parents and educators alike for the fact that it is in keeping with the objectives of education instead of contrary to them.

Selecting school clothes for the children now, instead of waiting until the last minute rush sets in, is in the full spirit of the new approach to family life which grants children the right of participation in making decisions affecting them. The children are available now to go along for fittings and to have a voice in selection.

The need for school time supplies such as school bags, note books, pens and pencils—all really more than classroom needs, can be best filled most efficiently now rather than waiting until later.

### Stock Taking Time

Because children grow so rapidly, the time to check on brother's and sister's own room is before, not after school starts. Part of their learning is having well equipped rooms of their own for study as well as sleeping, and also to take care of.

School children need adequate restful beds, a desk at which to work in privacy, cabinets and shelves for their personal possessions, and a decor that will make them proud when their school mates visit for a gab fest or to spend the night.

This is a stock taking time for parents, for the start of a new school year is the resumption of the normal careers of children.



SCHOOL CHILDREN'S LUNCH TIME APPETITES . . . can be sharpened by letting them take part in filling their own lunch boxes from surprise pre-planned sandwiches and salads that mother has packed in Polyethylene bags marked for specific days and stored in the freezer. Vapocan wax board containers are useful. Working surfaces to resist childish skirmishes are recommended. This serving cart is Daystromite topped to resist scratches.



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