

CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP SECTION

OBEDIENCE

By ARTHUR MEE

WE LEARN to rule by learning to obey. One of the wisest of the sayings of one of the wisest men was that we learn to command Nature by learning to obey her, and the progress of the world has proved it true. If we would have power, we must first obey.

Of all the things we learn, this is the first; we could not live at all without obedience. We owe our safety, our happiness, our lives to obedience of ourselves or others.

We must not think that obedience is something to be ashamed of. Nothing can exist without it; it is the only law by which a house or a business or a state can be maintained. It runs through the life of a nation. We must obey those in authority in our homes and schools, and they obey the laws passed for us all.

Obedience is simply the way in which we recognize that knowledge is power. If a hundred men want to go to a certain place, and one man knows the way, the ninety-nine follow him. It is the quickest way of getting there; the ninety-nine are obedient.

It is said that a telegraph operator once saved the lives of many men by being obedient to his orders and sending a message through, regardless of the hazard.

There was a boy who was told by his father to go to a certain place at noon and wait for him until he came. The boy went to the place at noon. The father forgot the appointment, and as the boy did not come home, he went back and found the little man still waiting for him at the place at midnight. The boy

believed in his father and trusted him. He was obedient. He lived to be a great man, because he early learned obedience.

There was a nobleman who was talking with the king, when an insect bit him. The nobleman did not flinch and made no sign. It was the duty of the nobleman to listen obediently to the king. He could endure the sting of an insect in order to be obedient.

To know the right thing and to do, to love truth and to obey it, to control our lives so that in all things others may have faith in us—these will bring to us power, and, through obedience, lead us to command.

In the Bible we find numerous references to obedience. In the Book of Kings, we read: "If thou wilt walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, then I will lengthen thy days."

In the Psalms we find these: "Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in His commandments." And again, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do His commandments."

St. Luke wrote: "Blessed are they that heareth the word of God, and keep it."

And one of the Proverbs states that "Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son."

One should begin to learn obedience from the time he is born. We should learn it as children. One must be obedient throughout an entire lifetime. Shame and sorrow come from disobedience. Prisons are filled with people

(Please turn to page 220.)

OBEDIENCE

(Continued from page 213)

who did not obey the laws of the land.

If early in life one learns to obey, it will not be a difficult task to be obedient in later life. But the child who is permitted to have his own way, to be disobedient to those in authority, is learning to do that which will bring sorrow and suffering to himself and others.

Boys and girls, make this your rule and never break it: I will always obey my parents and my teachers, and those who have rightful authority.

 SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

1. Are you obedient?
2. Must your parents obey the laws?
3. Must the president of the Philippines obey the laws?
4. Must the president of the United States obey the laws?
5. Why is obedience necessary?
6. When should one learn to be obedient?
7. Read the rule in the last paragraph of this article. Then memorize it.
8. Why will disobedience bring sorrow?
9. What is a criminal?

VEGETABLES

(Continued from page 217)

with browned flour. Pour the gravy over the onions, set in the oven for two minutes, and serve.

Rice Croquettes

Put three-fourths of a cup of milk in a sauce-pan over the fire with a generous tablespoonful of butter, a heaping teaspoonful of sugar, and when it comes to a boil, add a cup and a half of boiled rice, some powdered cinnamon or nutmeg (if desired), and salt to taste. Mix well; then let it come to a boil. Add a beaten egg, remove from the fire, turn into a plate to get cold, form into cylinders, and fry in hot butter.

Ways of Cooking Cabbages

Select firm; crisp heads of cabbage. Boil the cabbage briskly in plenty of water, keeping it closely covered. Or if possible, remove the hard core, and then steam it. This will avoid the odor of cooking. When perfectly tender, chop in a wooden bowl. Have a white sauce ready of milk well thickened with cornstarch and flavored with nutmeg. Into this stir the chopped soft cabbage. Beat it vigorously until it becomes pulpy. Add a lump of butter the size of

a small egg. Serve it hot with any roast meat or poultry.

Cabbage is delicious when cooked with butter and flour. Put the cabbage in a frying pan. Add a heaping tablespoonful of butter and a level tablespoonful of flour. Cook it until tender.

Boiled Beets

Wash and cook the beets in hot, salted water from two to three hours, according to age and size. When done, throw at once into cold water to loosen the skins. Peel them quickly and slice them thin. Pour over them a sauce made of three tablespoonfuls of scalding vinegar, a tablespoonful of butter, and a little pepper and salt. Serve hot.

Stuffed Green Peppers

Cut the tops off the sweet green peppers and carefully remove the seeds. Chop together very fine two peppers, one small onion, and one large peeled tomato. Add an equal amount of stale bread crumbs, one teaspoonful of salt, and sufficient melted butter to moisten the mixture. Fill the peppers with the mixture, replace the tops, and bake for half an hour in a moderate oven.