

(continued from previous page)

What possible advantage can there be, for instance, in making our girls wear stiff starched white collars that chafe their necks and render free movement difficult? And, by the way, that keep their already-too-busy mothers busier than ever in the laundry. And again, must 14-year-old school girls wear gloves? And if so, why? Does it really make little ladies of them? Or little snobs? And those stockings. Are they really necessary, except in cold weather?

When the tendency in other spheres of life is, and has been for some considerable time, towards simplification and freedom in dress surely it is time we inaugurated a reform in school uniform.

AND apart from the actual wearing of the school uniform, there are the other restrictions placed on the behaviour of the school girl. She must, for instance, on no account wear any jewellery. Her hair must be cut one inch above her collar, or it must be plaited or tied back with black or navy blue ribbon. If she wears a blazer, it must be buttoned up. She must not carry her school bag hanging from her shoulder. Now I would have thought that that was the logical way to carry a heavy school bag. If there are workmen working on the school grounds the girls must not speak to them. And they must not, oh, definitely they must not speak to boys in the street!

Again the question of good psychology comes up. Is it good psychology to forbid girls to speak to boys? And what purpose does the restriction serve? It seems to me that a healthier attitude would be to allow the sexes to mix freely, in fact to encourage them to do so, and to give them at the same time the necessary sex knowledge that would enable them to meet understandingly and without embarrassment. Repression never, in my opinion, solves a problem. It merely pushes it under the surface. Young people who are denied natural expression in the way of self adornment, freedom of movement, and association with the opposite sex, almost inevitably resort to clandestine behaviour or become the victims of inhibitions.

PERHAPS I am wrong, and if I am, I am quite willing to be corrected, but it seems to me that our handling of the young is based on the customs and knowledge of the subject that obtained in England a good many years ago, and that we have not allowed ourselves to advance with the times, or to benefit by the discoveries made in the field of psychology in recent years.

It would seem that while we struggled on the one hand for democracy and freedom of thought we are inclined on the other hand to regiment our children, at least in the matter of clothing and general behaviour. A certain amount of responsibility is good for the young. In this country, although we send our young people to work at what would be considered an early age in North America, we tend to look upon them as big children rather than young adults. Perhaps it is time we overhauled our ideas on child psychology.

STANLEY MAXTED, the Canadian broadcaster and well-known BBC commentator, is taking part in a new play, "Born Yesterday," which is to open in London shortly. Maxted will be remembered for the unforgettable reports he sent, as BBC war correspondent, from Arnhem and the Far East. Now he is to "tread the boards" for the first time in his life.

Everyone will be saying:—

"Everything I Ever Hoped to See in a Motion Picture"

**BETWEEN
LOVE AND
HATRED
THERE IS A
LINE AS
SHARP AS
A RAZOR'S
EDGE...**

20th
CENTURY-FOX
presents

**TYRONE POWER
GENE TIERNEY
JOHN PAYNE
Anne BAXTER
Clifton WEBB
Herbert MARSHALL**

Darryl F. Zanuck's
production of
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S

**The
Razor's
Edge**

Produced by
DARRYL F. ZANUCK - Directed by
EDMUND GOULDING

**So intense and
so profound...
it rises above
all other love
stories!**

**SOON TO BE PRESENTED FOR A DISTINGUISHED "EXTENDED SEASON" AT THE
PLAZA, AUCK. — KING'S, W'GTON — STATE, CH'CH**