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Mrs. Dodge's Spanking Service

WLBZ Radio

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Announcer: The following material was recorded on August 31, 1956 for use on Monitor.

Mincher: Readers of the Boothbay Register published in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, were surprised to read the following advertisement in the paper. I quote, “Old fashioned mother will spank children. Your home or mine. Many satisfied clients. All service confidential.” It was signed Mrs. Frances Dodge, Box 108, East Boothbay. Seeming an interesting story, Monitor arranged this interview with Mrs. Dodge, who we find is possessed of plenty of experience in her line of work. The advertisement has brought her into contact with many people, young and old alike, as they say. We thought that you might like to know her theory on the matter at hand.

Mincher: Mrs. Dodge, what’s your theory on spanking?

Dodge: Half the trouble with the world today is that children don’t get the spankings they need. Mothers bring their youngsters up according to a book. When the book fails, they come to me.

Mincher: How did you get started in this unusual line of work, that is, spanking someone’s children other than your own?

Dodge: My first experience came, spanking somebody else’s child, when a young mother was taken sick and I was asked to care for her daughter. The child was hard to manage. Her folks had never laid a hand on her. After two days, I resorted to the method I used on my own children. That child straightened right out. We became fast friends and her own mother hardly knew her when she came back home.

Mincher: [Laughing] How do the victims react to you, personally, after the uh, treatment,

Dodge: Usually very good. I give them a lolly pop or some candy or maybe ice cream. Sometimes I find one whose mother has let it go too far, but usually we become fast friends and there’s no animosity.

Mincher: You have a family of your own, don’t you?

Dodge: I have four children and seven grandchildren.
Mincher: Well, how about rates?

Dodge: I get usually a dollar for an easy spanking, but sometimes I get two, and maybe three.

Mincher: I can understand that. Some people, Mrs. Dodge, don’t believe in spanking. In a brief debate with such a person, what would you say in defense of it?

Dodge: A child who gets a spanking becomes a better child in the end.

Mincher: Well, those sound like wise words, no matter which way you take them. Mrs. Dodge isn’t equipped at the present time with transportation so that she can pursue this unusual occupation nationwide, but that day might come. Until then, it might be well for those of Monitor’s listeners who might have need of such services as we have been describing here, to watch their local newspapers or perhaps listen to their local radio stations for an advertisement which might describe a pursuit such as this, and perhaps concluding with the words, “Have hair brush, will travel.” Now, this is Bill Mincher of WLBZ in Bangor, Maine, speaking to you from East Boothbay, Maine, and returning you to Monitor at Radio Central.

[transcript ends]

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