

1910

## Newspaper Clipping, c. 1910

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# MUCH INTEREST IN FATHER'S DAY

Mrs. J. B. Dodd Receives Many Letters From Ministers, Women and Editors.

## GOVERNOR HAY WRITES

Originator Aims to Make Observance National in 1911—Takes Short Vacation.

Mrs. J. B. Dodd, the originator of the Father's day movement, observed in many churches June 19, has been the recipient of letters from all parts of the country requesting information about the movement. Many letters of praise have been sent by women from cities and suburban districts east and west. She has also received requests from magazine writers and distributing associations for pictures and statements about the purpose of the movement and making it a national holiday.

One of the letters she prizes most highly is that from Governor M. E. Hay. The letter follows:

"State of Washington,  
"Executive Department,  
"Olympia, June 27, 1910.

"Mrs. John B. Dodd,  
"610 Sharp avenue,  
"Spokane, Wash.

"My Dear Mrs. Dodd:

"I was very much pleased to receive your communication of June 22. I had read in the papers of the movement you originated relative to Fathers' day, and had often wondered if you were the Mrs. John B. Dodd I knew, and am much pleased to learn that you are. It is certainly very pleasing to have old friends take so prominent a part in the various movements looking to the improvement of society.

"Now, as to this Fathers' day movement: Ever since I read about it in the papers, I have rather anticipated that sooner or later this office would be asked to take cognizance of it. While, of course, I do not disapprove of the movement in any way, still I felt that Mothers' day is the more important of the two and that we fathers can scratch along some way or other without having such a flattering mention made of us. We men are somewhat bashful and might feel much embarrassed were we to receive so much public adulation.

"Yours very respectfully,

"M. E. HAY,

"Governor."

Other letters were received by the chamber of commerce, and one young woman from New Jersey requested information concerning business advantages here, stating that she contemplated engaging in business in a live western city and believed she would like Spokane from what she had heard of it.

Mrs. Dodd started the movement early in June and brought the matter to the attention of the ministers in such a way that they adopted a resolution indorsing the movement and requesting ministers of all denominations in the city to preach on some representative topic, which most of them did June 19.

Many of the letters received have been from ministers asking the purpose and more about the movement. Mrs. Dodd said: "I hope to have the day observed in churches of all denominations in every state in the union next June, as the papers are giving liberal notices to the movement. The purpose is to have a day set apart for respecting the fathers. The thought was presented to have Mothers' day and Fathers' day combined as parents' day, but, considering the number of days in the year, I thought at least one day might be dedicated to each parent. There is so much to be said on the topic that ministers by observing the day separately have to condense their sermons and mention only briefly the many important things to be said. It has been suggested to me that double interest could be added to each day aside from the natural tributes if we put into execution some noble charity which might brighten the lives of many who have been less fortunate in having good homes and parents and we might do this in the name of mother and father. I feel that no greater tribute could be paid our parents than to do some good thing in their name on the third Sunday in June aside from wearing a white rose for the deceased father and a colored one for the living one."

Mrs. Dodd will leave the city today for a couple of weeks' vacation in the country

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