

1948

"Father's Day, 1948," apparently written by Sonora
Dodd

Unidentified

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FATHER'S DAY

1948

You ask, Mr. Bennett, of the inspiration of Father's Day. I would say that Father's Day really had its nativity back in 1898, when our home was bereaved and father so courageously assumed the father-mother role. Years after, when I was a mother and the devotion of our son's father was so evident, the idea of a special day for fathers became an obsession.

"Everybody works but father" and "Father, dear Father, come home with me now" were popular ditties. The pendulum had swung too far in the wrong direction.

I sought out Dr. Conrad Blum, pastor of our church, and questioned him as to the feasibility of such a day. He exclaimed, with earnestness and enthusiasm, "Why not! Why not! It was Father's Day when Abraham left Ur of Chaldeas. It was Father's Day when Noah built the Ark. It was Father's Day when Christ chose the twelve. So, why not a very special day in which to pay tribute to this intrepid legion?"

FOUNDING OF THE DAY

We then drafted a petition setting forth the purpose of the day, naming the third Sunday of June as Father's Day, with the rose as the day's symbol.

Spokane's Mayor, N. C. Pratt, and Washington's Governor, Marion E. Hay, gave our efforts formal endorsement. And on June 6, 1910, at the Y.M.C.A. in Spokane the Ministerial Alliance of the city adopted the resolution, and on the third Sunday of June many churches of Spokane paid reverent tribute to Father.

[The page contains extremely faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper. The text is arranged in several paragraphs and is difficult to decipher due to its low contrast and the paper's texture.]