The First Born
By W. E. Hill

"John, I think you'll have to go up
and lie down near to baby a while—
that always quiets him. Clara can't
do a thing with him." "Something is
bound to happen in the best regulated
nursery's about the time the dinner
guests have assembled.

"Mabel! MABEL!" Just a panic-stricken
young father who has
held his first born not
wisely but too long,
summoning aid.

"He has your eyes, Luise." "O, NO, his eyes are blue, nut brown.
Gertrude. He has his father's eyes." Nothing makes parents crumber
than to have a caller mistake the color of their child's eyes, so be care-
ful. When in doubt say something like, "O, what a large child," or
better yet, say, after a long stare at the baby, "It's such a relief to find
a few people who don't believe in eugenics these days!"

"I don't know where he could have heard it!" The first bad word
has been heard to issue from Junior's lips, and the household is
in great turmoil.

"What a pretty doorway that is, Victor! would you say it was
Spanish or Italian?" The prospective father of a bouncing boy is
waiting in the hospital reception room for the glad tidings. His
mother (grandma, she'll be in a few minutes) is trying to keep him
cheered up by talking gaily of this and of that.

"I tell you, a son is a great responsibility!" Very young fathers are pretty well bowled
over by the first baby. They decide to be
more dignified, smoke long black cigars and
all that. Here is one telling the old boys at
the club how it feels to be the father of a
two-day old boy.

"Hurry, doctor, HURRY!" What happens the first time an only child swallows the
top of a cold cream tube, a button, or any foreign matter not included in the daily diet.

"He notices everything. See how he's drawn two eyes in
the face? And just the right number of feet? Genius in
the first child is watched for eagerly."