

INTERESTING

A Feature Page of Interest to Everyone

INSTRUCTIVE

Dorothy Dix

Mothers, Stop Treating Your 17-Year-Old Daughters Like Children—Recognize the Fact Girls of Today are Going to Have Beaux Whether You Forbid It or Not—Open Your Doors to Boys and Keep Your Girl From Danger.

GET hundreds of letters from young girls that tell the same tale of woe and ask the same question. These correspondents, in effect, say this:

"I am 16 or 17 years old and my mother won't let me go to parties with boys or permit any boys to come to the house. She treats me as if I was only 5 years old and had no right to any pleasure or liberty. I feel that this is very cruel and unjust. Under the circumstances do you think it is any harm for me to meet boys on the sly and go out with them without my mother knowing it?"

A PROPER moralist would, no doubt, lecture these little girls on the wickedness of deceiving their mothers and tell them that they should always be implicitly obedient. As a matter of fact, a mother who takes this attitude toward her young daughter, and who tries to rule her with a rod of iron, is as silly and knows just as little of life as the girl possibly can, so my words today are not to daughter but to mother.

The first thing that I want to say to mothers is that in their dearly grown daughters it is a condition and not a theory that confronts them.

VERY likely it is better that a girl shouldn't have any beaux or any thought of a beau until she is a grown and mature woman. Very likely she should devote her mind to study instead of having her attention distracted by boys. Very likely it is best for her to spend her time in the home of her family and never go out anywhere except with papa or mamma. We won't waste time disputing those issues.

The point is that daughter is going to have beaux. Her mind is full of boys. She is going to indulge in the pleasures that other girls indulge in, and if you don't let her do it openly she is going to do it secretly. If you don't let her have boys come to the house she is going to meet them on the street corners.

Now, mother of Mary and Sally and Jennie, which do you prefer? Which do you consider the safer course?

OF COURSE, you will say that you have brought up your children to obey and that you are going to enforce discipline in your home. Possibly. But you are not a secret service agent who can trail Mary or Sally or Jennie every minute of the time, and you may be very sure that the second your back is turned and your watch relaxed your outwardly obedient little daughter is doing exactly as she pleases and doing it with twice the vim and zest simply because it is a stolen pleasure.

Nine-tenths of the trouble between parents and children arises out of the fact that fathers and mothers simply cannot realize that their children grow up and arrive at man's or woman's estate. Therefore, they cannot bring themselves to accord to their adult sons and daughters the liberty of action that is their right.

IN a mother's eyes a daughter remains an infant until she gets married. To a man his son is a boy even after he grows a beard. They do not recognize that this age is a forcing house in which children come to an early maturity.

The girl of 17 today is more sophisticated than her mother was at 23. She is more hard-boiled than her grandmother is at 63. Hence it is absurd to treat her as if she were a baby, and mothers would save themselves many heartaches if they would simply face the fact and deal with their daughters on a grown-up instead of a kindergarten plan.

THE universal wall of mothers is that their daughters don't confide in them; that they tell their secrets and go to strangers for advice. But it never seems to occur to the mother that the reason her daughter does not have heart-to-heart talks with her is because the girl knows that mother will treat her as if she were a little girl in pinafores, and will veto everything she wants to do.

There is small encouragement to tell your hopes and plans to a person who is going to knock every one of them and forbid you to do the thing you want to do and tell you how generally silly and foolish you are.

But all of that is by the way. The main point is that when a girl reaches the boy-crazy age you can't keep her from knowing boys and going out with them. You can't keep your daughters from doing the things that all the other girls are doing. She belongs to her generation.

IT DOESN'T matter whether you forbid her or not, nor how closely you watch her, she is going to meet boys and have her fling. Something stronger than all your power is urging her on. It is the call of youth. It is youth's insatiable demand for pleasure, and the question is whether you are going to meet the situation wisely or whether you are going to risk ruining your child's life trying to enforce your petty tyranny.

Don't deceive yourself for a minute into believing that you are more potent than the urge of nature. You are not. Sally is going to have her boy friends and go out with them whether you approve or not, and it is up to you to make her a decent little hypocrite or a frank, open-minded girl, who really does tell mother her secrets.

INASMUCH as the girl will have beaux, don't you think she will be a million times safer if you give her the protection and the background of a home by inviting the boys to the house and getting acquainted with them than if she meets them on a street corner and goes off with them to God knows where and comes home to lie to you about it?

And how are you to help her choose a husband if you do not even know the boys she knows? How are you to keep her from marrying the store clerk that she picked up at a soda-water counter because you wouldn't let her receive decent boys in a decent way in her own home?

Believe me, mothers, any girl who has to deceive her parents to get the enjoyment that belongs to her time of life stands on the very edge of the pit, and there is nothing more tragic on earth than that many and many a time it is her own father's and mother's hands that push her over the brink.

MANY a girl marries the first man who asks her to escape her mother's tyranny and to try to get a little freedom. Many a girl runs away from a dull home and goes to the bad in search of the pleasure that was always denied her by her parents.

See that these things do not happen to your daughter. Remember that 17 is a critical age and that if you don't want it to bolt you must drive with a light hand. DOROTHY DIX.

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Black and White Tide of Color Has Reached Peak

By HENRI BENDEL

THE rising tide of color has reached its peak and the logical result is that if you want to be distinctive you will forsake the excited reds and emphatic greens and come back to black and white.

For evening, white and black is the correct formula—the body of the frock in white and the black introduced as an accent.

For day, black and white is the correct order, and I prophesy that one of your desires in the way of a fall costume will materialize in a black-satin or crepe, with collars and cuffs, or vest of bertha of white.

TREND IS REACTION

By this, I do not mean color is passé certainly not. But an orgy of color, such as we have witnessed for the past year, invariably ushers in a decided feeling for black and white.

While evening clothes have always been popular with New York women—more so, I believe, than with European women, or women in the other cities of our own country.

At any gathering of social importance in New York, white is usually the choice of the majority of the well-dressed women. But there is a sameness about the all-white frock, which makes many women avoid it.

But when you add black, with just the right military, you achieve an individuality as well as an elegance that no other combination can give.

Photographed today are three imports which I consider ideal for late summer evening gowns, all in the white and black combination.

Youthful and picturesque, indeed, is the model of white chiffon with the black and irregular bertha of chantilly lace as fine as a cobweb.

As a change from the sleeveless frock, an elbow sleeve is achieved by the lace cape—and the effect of sheer lace over a satin skin is too flattering to be overlooked.

Another very attractive feature is the girlish which is very near to the normal silhouette.

Here again, the lace forms a sleeve effect, and softens the lines of the body in the most delightfully feminine fashion.

A pleasing variation of the black and white mode is shown in the fringed short skirt is given even a shorter appearance by the wide lace sash and the low wide belt which sits snugly



White chiffon with skirt and bertha of fine Chantilly lace
Dance frock of silver crepe and lame fringe over black net
Cire lace and flat silk cut in short, smart silhouette

Fashion Fancies

A PRACTICAL SUMMER COAT OF CRETONE AND FLANNEL



By MARIE BELMONT

Isn't this an adorable coat for little daughter? And it's so practical for summer wear.

It is of heavy cretone in a natural background with flowers of blue and green. The collar and little turn-back cuffs are of snowy white flannel.

Big sister might also have a coat just like this one she wishes.

Flapper Fanny Says



The world owes you a living. But it pays on the installment plan.

A Thought

Better it is that thou shouldst not vow, than that thou shouldst vow and not pay—Eccl. 5:4.

ALL unnecessary vows are folly, because they suppose a pre-cognition of the future which has not been given us.—Johnson.

BEHIND THE SCREEN

BY GENE COHN

STYLES in "vamps," which have undergone little change since Theda Bara did her face-out, may now be announced as officially altered.

Lya de Putti, who gave the sexual touch to several major German films, is back to us as the style-setter. It was a film, "Variety," now flashing its extraordinary quality across the American circuit, that sent the American agents scurrying to Germany with dotted lines to sign on.

The advance guard of floundered had seen Miss de Putti's work in Europe. What she gives the screen in "Variety" is a study from which is happily missing any note of the diabolical as injected in vampire roles of other vintage. Flesh is there, and that much discussed "sex appeal," but without the artificial adornments to which the American public has become accustomed. Fine features are subordinated to simple biological attraction, and so a touch hurdle on the way to greater sincerity is achieved.

SIMPLY AS POSSIBLE

Study of her German film showed particularly how much can be achieved with comparatively little facial contortion. Yet, with a minimum of "regimentation," the story is told.

Some weeks have passed since the carnal fire-dances and alluring make-up drew groups of curious ones about the Paramount Astoria plant where Griffith was making "The Sorrows of Satan." And, despite the more restrained type of entertainment in which she is now engaged, Miss de Putti continues to work in a mood as close to restraint as she was allowed, considering the nature of the story. The theme of "Variety" was extremely simple and as old as Sodom and Gomorrah.

More recently she has gone to the

four tablespoons chopped green pepper, two tablespoons flour, one teaspoon salt, two cups milk, two tablespoons chopped pimiento, one-half cup canned mushrooms, six slices buttered toast or patty shells. Melt butter, add green pepper and cook until pepper is soft, then add flour mixed with salt. Stir until blended, add milk, stir until smooth. Add chicken, pimiento and mushrooms cut in pieces. Serve on toast or in patty shells and garnish with parsley. A can of tuna fish or any other cooked and flaked fish may be used in place of chicken.

Jellie Waldorf Salad—Two tablespoons granulated gelatine, one-third cup cold water, one cup boiling water, four tablespoons lemon juice, one-fourth cup sugar, one and one-half cups diced apples, one-fourth teaspoon salt, one cup diced celery, one cup mayonnaise, one-half cup chopped nuts. Soak the gelatine in the cold water for five minutes. Add the boiling water and stir until the gelatine is dissolved. Add the lemon juice and sugar. Cool and add the apples, salt and celery. Pour into mold and set in a cold place for one hour or more. Unmold on to a

Comopolitan Studio here to appear in the Richard Kane production of "The Day of the Devil," for which film Lohar Mendes was brought from Europe.

OUR NEW VAMP

And since this makes three strenuous straight running, with more as fast as she can finish, it seems now assured that the movie fans must prepare to accept her as the latest thing in vamps.

Miss de Putti speaks little English. She has with her at all times an interpreter, Miss Greta Rauch. During the filming of pictures the director, and as descriptions are translated to her.

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