

INTERESTING

# A Feature Page of Interest to Everyone

INSTRUCTIVE

## Dorothy Dix

The American Cult of Girl-Worship, in Which Everyone Kow-tows to the Pampered Daughter of the Family is Unfair to the Other Children and Works Untold Harm to the Girl Herself.

A YOUTH complains to me of the partiality that his parents show to his sister. He says that he has to go shabby in order that sister may walk forth in silk attire, and that every time he asks for a new suit it is denied him because sister has to have a special party frock, or the latest thing in sports wear. He never can have the use of the automobile because sister monopolizes it, and he can't even go to college because it takes so much money to keep sister going with the right set.

The lad thinks this sort of fair, and that his father and mother are not giving him a square deal, and he wants to know why he isn't just as much entitled to good clothes and his share of the family car and income as sister is.

Of course, the boy's position is unassailable. Parents should not play favorites among their children. But it is one thing to have rights and another thing to be able to collect them, and I am afraid that he is going to have a hard time making his parents see that we should have, at least, a domestic democracy in which girls and boys are born free and equal, and are equally entitled to dip into the family purse.

For in this country the quaint custom of girl-worship obtains. Just as in China and Japan ancestor-worship prevails, and the pious prostrate themselves before the tablets of their ancestors and burn incense before them, so in America do we kowtow before our young girls and burn up our money in their honor.

IN THE average American family there is never the slightest question as to who is the most important member in it. It is Sally. Not is there any debate as to who has the divine right to the best of everything. It is Sally. Nor would any one think of rebelling against her tyrannies and impositions. Such an idea would be considered little less than blasphemous. Sally must have fine clothes no matter how poor the garments of the remainder of the family. Sally must have the best room in the house, and when she has company every one must gumshoe by the door so as not to disturb them. Sally's mother and father may be people of importance in the outside world, but at home they are groveling slaves who take their cue from Sally, and, in the slang of the day, let her tell them where they get in and off.

This cult of daughter worship pervades every branch of society. In poor homes you see the whole family sacrificed to Sally. Mother sits up half the night making Sally pretty frocks and furbies, or washing out her gossamer lingerie. Mother not only gets up and cooks the breakfast but brinks husky Sally hers on a tray. Mother's hands are sodden with dishwater and rough from the tube, so that Sally's may be soft and pink and manicured.

MOTHER never has a new frock, so that Sally may have a dozen, and father grows daily more bent and tired in order that Sally may go on trips or have an automobile, but keep up with girls richer than she is. The little brothers and sisters have only such crumbs as fall from Sally's table, and sometimes these are poor pickings, because mother cuts down on the table to pay Sally's bills.

Among better-off people it is Sally who changes the whole order of living when she comes home from school. It is Sally who cuts the family from its comfortable old home, among old friends and neighbors, and moves them onto a fashionable boulevard among the people who don't want to know them. It is Sally who corrects mother's grammar and father's manners until they are afraid to move or speak in her presence. It is Sally who drags them to Europe, where they are bored to death, and spend their time in the Vatican talking about the new bathroom with built-in tub that they have put in their home in Squeadunk.

BUT they never think of rebelling against Sally, or of refusing her demands, or of deposing her from the throne she has wished on herself. They just go on, fanatically beating their heads on the ground before her, and letting her walk all over them.

Why this blind adulation of Sally, nobody knows. Perhaps there is this much selfishness in it, that parents have a belief that the more of a goddess they can make a girl, the more desirable she becomes in the eyes of suitors. Alas, they know that fine feathers make fine birds, and they think that the more they doli a girl up, the better chance they have of marrying her off.

And, without doubt, in the mothers' minds, is the pitiful thought that life is hard on women, and that they want to give their girls as nearly a perfect girlhood as they can, so that they may have, at least, the memory of a little time that was carefree and full of pretty clothes and laughter and dancing.

BUT all of this worship of Sally isn't fair to the other children, and it works untold harm to Sally herself. For it gives her a false idea of herself and her own importance. It inflates her ego and cultivates selfishness in her and it is the poorest of all preparations for real life in which we must all live and take and make our share of the sacrifices.

It is these pampered daughters who rush to the divorce courts when they find out that their husbands refuse to be the slaves to them that their mothers and fathers were.

Girl worship is a poor religion. Let's organize a missionary crusade against it!

DOROTHY DIX

## Twice-A-Day

Removing Dull Film Essential for Clear Teeth, Healthy Gums

The FILM ON TEETH to Which Many Serious Tooth and Gum Disorders are Ascribed

THERE is a film that forms on teeth, according to present-day dental findings, which does not yield to ordinary means of brushing, yet which invites serious tooth and gum disorders. This film can easily be felt by running one's tongue across the teeth; a slippery sort of coating.

Film absorbs discolorations from food, smoking, etc. That is why, according to leading dental opinion, teeth look dingy and "off color."

Film clings to teeth, gets into crevices and stays. It invites and breeds the germs of decay. And that is why it is judged so grave a danger to the teeth by authorities.

Film is the basis of tartar. And tartar, with germs, is the chief cause of pyorrhea. That is why regular film removal is urged as probably first in correct gum protection.

Most dental authorities urgently advise thorough film removal at least twice each day. That is, every morning and every night.

For that purpose, obtain Pepsodent, the special film-removing dentifrice which leading dental authorities favor. Different from any other tooth paste.

Pepsodent curdles the film, then removes it; then polishes the teeth in gentle safety to enamel. It combats the acids of decay and caries.



firm the gums. It multiplies the alkalinity of the saliva. And meets, thus, in all ways, the exactments of modern dental science.

On dental advice, people are adopting this new way of tooth cleansing. Obtain Pepsodent, the quality dentifrice, at drug stores. Two months' supply at a moderate price—or send coupon for 10-day tube. Use twice every day. See your dentist twice each year. Make both a habit.

**FREE Pepsodent**  
Send one 10- Day Tube to  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Only one tube to a family 25460

## Hard Luck All Round



## BEHIND THE SCREEN



Lya de Putti.

By GENE COHN  
LYA DE PUTTI, the spectacular young siren from Berlin, is about to be put through the popularity mill by the domos of filmdom.

Which is to say that they will present her in so-called "sympathetic roles."

Disturbing as it may be to one who hears constant references to "art" and "betterment" in the movies, the idea of "selling" an artist to the public and "making her sympathetic" still obtains.

Thus the lovely Lya made her first imprint upon the American audiences through a German made picture, "Variety." In this she captured the illusive quality, referred to as sex appeal, in a fashion never before seen in the pictures.

With none of the usual vampire agonies or makeups, she became a most human and believable siren. Somehow the gods of the movie machine seem quickly to forget what happened to such an actress, for instance, as Poli Negri. She came from Europe under much the same circumstances. She had played with Emil Jennings, and, being recognized as an artist, was given a fat contract.

She, too, was ground through the star system mill and has done little worth mentioning since. I believe some eleventh hour effort at resuscitation is now under way.

The story of how artists have been slain by movie stories and robes is no new one. There is the case of Renee Adoree, an artist acclaimed by 75 per cent of the critical press. Her work in "The Big Parade" needs no introduction. In "Fin Gods" she walked completely away with a picture starring Tom Meighan.

Yet she continues to be used on ordinary program stuff. I asked about the plans for her at the studio recently and was told: "Yes, we know all the critics like her. But she's so hard to get pictures for."

Which seemed to me a terrible admission for a concern that boasts a huge scenario department.

When money talks it usually says "I have won."

## Menus for the Family

MENU HINT.  
Breakfast.

Baked Apples with Top Milk.  
Whole Wheat Mush with Peach Syrup.  
Toast Crisp Bacon. Coffee or Cocoa. Luncheon.

Vegetable Soup. Saltnes.  
Cabbage Salad.  
Spanish Cream. Oatmeal Cookies.  
Tea.  
Dinner.

Stuffed Peppers.  
Baked Sweet Potatoes.  
Whole Wheat Bread.  
Sucotash. Tomato and Egg Salad.  
Peach Cobbler. Hard Sauce.  
Tea and Milk.

TODAY'S RECIPES.

Spanish Cream One tablespoon gelatin, two cups milk, one-third cup sugar, two eggs, one-eighth teaspoon salt, one teaspoon vanilla. Dissolve gelatin in milk by soaking a few minutes. Place in double boiler, adding sugar and salt. Separate eggs, beating whites stiff and adding yolks to mixture in double boiler. Cook until it thickens slightly and coats the spoon. Remove from fire and add beaten whites. Pour in wet molds and chill before serving.

Stuffed Peppers — One-quarter cup rice, one large tomato, one small onion, bacon, six peppers (green). Cook rice and onion in boiling salted water, adding tomato when rice is almost done, also small bits of bacon. Pack into peppers, placing a small slice of bacon on top of each pepper case. Cook in moderate oven for 45 minutes, basting often with the water surrounding the peppers. The bacon will be brown and crisp when removed from oven.

Tomato and Egg Salad—Boil two eggs until hard boiled. Chop tomatoes and eggs, adding a few stuffed olives and thoroughly mix with mayonnaise. Serve on lettuce.

Fashion Fancies.



Many of the new Paris frocks do interesting things with their skirts. We see amusing little flat pleated skirts that cross over at the front, and we see skirts tiered or partly tiered.

## SEE SAWING BROADWAY

IT IS one of the many paradoxes of the city that New York, which tears down its landmarks and erases without hesitation its historic spots, also celebrates, upon the slightest provocation, the birthdates of its many traditions.

Thus, passing along one street I note the historic "Spanish flats" surrendering to the wrecking crew, while Broadway makes ready for a pageant, and the waterfront flies banners in celebration of the completion of the Erie Canal by which the Hudson and Buffalo became linked and water commerce to the west was opened to the port of Manhattan.

IN THEIR time, the "Spanish flats" were the last word in American luxury. New York always has set the luxury pace, even back in 1882, when the Spanish consul to New York erected the first fashionable flat dwellings America had seen. They were in the upper Fifties overlooking Central Park and were built at the then colossal cost of \$7,000,000. Today the land on which they stand is worth several times that amount.

JUST back of Greenwich Village a little city of 20,000 persons or more is thrust overnight into the streets, while business places and dwelling places are torn down to make way for a subway extension.

Whole blocks will vanish within a few weeks and one of the most colorful sectors of "Little Italy" will pass, that subway trains may roar and rattle their way below the ground.

For weeks the streets have been alive with chatter as the former children of Naples and Sicily protested and frantically went about in search of new tenements. Pushcarts have crowded the street, piled high with furniture, babies and provisions.

The activities have been communal. Family groups unite to help another group get moved. Four and five families are moved during the night after Giuseppe has finished his day's toil. None can afford a mover's van. The cost of a single hour is more than most of the pushcart criers make in a day.

Merchants go about with frowns looks upon their faces. Businesses that have taken them years to build are wiped out as though by fire. There's nothing to do about it but wring their hands and look about for a spot to start all over.

But Manhattan is too big, too busy to think about such things. The cry for speed and service is heard above all other sounds of the city.

Twenty thousand people — a very comfortably sized little city — must start life anew, just as though a hurricane had swept across their path and, by some miracle, left lives and possessions intact.

GILBERT SWAN.

## A Thought

Neglect not the gift that is in thee — I. Tim. 4:14.

TALENT is something, but tact is everything. — W. P. Sargill.

SOME people are like dictionaries. They know a lot of words but they can't say anything.

## Warms More Air Than Heaters Twice Its Size

What you see when looking at the wonderful IDEAL VECTO Warm Air Heater is its stylish jacket of pearl-lustrous, porcelain enamel. The heat-fins are inside. Open the airtight door—study the mass of ribs or pleats—which arrest and rub every particle of heat into the fast-flowing stream of gently warmed air, sent to all rooms.

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