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Is Marriage Going Out of Date?

By WINIFRED BLACK

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THEY'RE worrying about the marriage statistics again, the people who have time to worry about such things.

They say marriage is going out of the fashion. Men are afraid to marry, they declare; wages are low; work is scarce, and women are extravagant.

"The modern woman doesn't want to keep house," says one eminent authority, "she wants to do the tango."

"The up-to-date girl doesn't care for babies," says another, "she cares for fads."

"No man can support a woman and pay the kind of grocery bills that come in at the end of the month nowadays," declares the president of a well known Frolics League.

"Raise the men's wages—and you'll keep the women out of the shops," announces the editor of a labor paper. "The men will marry and the girls won't have to work."

"The instincts of nature are eternal," so expounds the editorial writer in a large and influential paper, which lies before me at this moment. "There isn't a good girl in the world who would not rather be at work for her man and her baby than to have the highest salaried job in town—high wages for men, that the solution."

Every reason but the right one, gentlemen of the jury. The instincts of nature are eternal, Mr. Editorial Writer, and it is quite true, what you say, that there isn't a good girl in the world who would not rather be at work for her man and her baby than to have the highest salaried job in town. That is just exactly the reason the good girls of the world are no longer in such a hurry to be married.

The good girl of the world is in the world now. She isn't shut out of it in some nook and corner where you and many other men think she ought to be; and she's been finding out a whole lot of things about this "man" who would perhaps like to be "hers," and she isn't quite so crazy about him as she was—when she didn't know him quite so well.

She knows just how hard he works, and how hard he doesn't work, too. She knows just how clever he is, and how far, far from clever, he sometimes appears to be.

She observes his passion for cigarettes and his weird and, to her, abnormal and mysterious thirst at all hours of the day. She finds out that she can work longer and harder and go without luncheon better than he can, and he doesn't look to her quite as much like a knight in armor as he did before she knew him so well.



Winifred Black

And then, when she leaves the "highest salaried job in town" to marry "her man," she wants to know that he's really going to be "her man" after all, and not every other woman's "man" who chooses to angle for him.

And she wants to know that he's going to be fit to take the right kind of care of her and her baby before she gives that job up and settles down with him for life.

When little Mary Smith married 25 years ago, she didn't know where her husband was when he left her to sit alone at home in the evening.

Little Mary Smith who marries today does know. She's heard them talk about it at the office.

John Johnson told her about it himself, before he thought of asking her to marry him. And when Mr. Johnson goes away from home too often Mrs. Johnson is likely to slip on her hat and coat and run over to Sally Smith's and telephone some of the other girls who used to be in the office with her before she gave up her job for "her man," and go out for a perfectly good time of her own.

Staying at home and wishing "your man" would come home is a habit. The modern girl is entirely out of it, and she doesn't intend to get into it, if she can help it.

And the fact that she has a perfectly good job at a perfectly good salary is one of the things that is doing a great deal toward helping her to help it.

She's a good girl all right, is Mary Smith, the girl who works for a living, and she's normal, perfectly normal. Just as normal as the men who "can't understand her point of view."

That's the trouble with her—she is normal; and she has a chance to be—for the first time in the history of the world; and she doesn't intend to give up being normal and go back and be abnormal again for all the love making and love promising in the world.

She's out in the world, and she's going to stay out in it. You can't tie the veil over her head and hour longer—she's had it off too long. And she rather admires the feel of the fresh wind in her face.

She's normal, all right—that's why she wants a normal share in the doings of the normal world. The man and the babies are a part of her life, the best part, the noblest part, the happiest part, the truest part—but only a part—and that is what the matter with the marriage statistics.

Think it over—and see.

Secrets of Health and Happiness

When You Are "Grouchy," Look for Physical Cause

By Dr. LEONARD KEENE HIRSHBERG

A. B. M. A., M. D. (Johns Hopkins).

Copyright, 1914, by L. K. Hirshberg.

WHEN you are well you are light-hearted. You feel as light as a feather. You can tango and dip and hesitate and trip the light fantastic as boundingly as a feather.

There is something exhilarating about good health. Your spirit is light and your head is as free of care as an X-ray globe is of air.

If you are pessimistic, heavy, heady, leaden footed or loaded down with trouble, an honest, searching examination will disclose the fact that the world is treating you no worse than it is treating George Green and John Jones.

Your physical make-up is at fault, not the universe. If you have pins and needles tingling your spine, a pain in your neck, aches and twinges in your anatomy, you are apt to rail at people and things.

Many of these ballast-like torments weigh you down. They keep you from the buoyancy round about you. You grow sensitive. You dread the joke which is on you. You think, when people mock you, that misery is yours.

Don't you believe it. Those around you who taunt your complaints, your knock-knees, your humpback, your excess obese baggage, mean no more than they would mean if they said sweet things to you.

Human nature is so endowed that people speak scandal and do not mean it deeply. They mock you, and are not even aware that you exist. They speak well about you, praise you, advance your stock of "ego" 100 per cent.

Yet they have no deep feelings in the matter. It is all a matter of their light-heartedness against your foolish heavy-headedness.

When a boy shoots a bean at a silk top hat it is buoyancy. When men skirt "Hill Whiskers" at some aged and all-falfa-covered deacon it shocks the neighbors, but it is a sign of health and vigor.

Of course this can be carried a bit to extremes. To tie a tin can on a dog's tail is unfair. To put a man's whiskers or break a tin hat is not playing the game according to the rules.

But, within the limits of the conservation of another's health and resources it is a sign of vigor, stamina and good physique to imitate the wind through a man's whiskers or laugh at a fellowman in silk hat and evening clothes.

Why, then, are people sensitive about mockery, practical jokes, or fun poked at their weaknesses? Why does a foolish, puritanical, clinical professor grow mad when he is dubbed an expert who "went a-shearing and came home short?"

Simply because their nature is not buoyant. They are heavy-sided, top-heavy, unhealthful.

You will not leave us in the dust. The maddest man, he knows not why. He asks he was not made to die; And thou hast made him; Thou art just.



DR. HIRSHBERG

Answers to Health Questions

Miss N. L., Indianapolis—My hair is turning gray, yet I am only 27 years old. What shall I do?

Apply a proper oil to your hair twice a day and resorcin ointment to the scalp every other day. Sulphur and ammoniated mercury ointments half and half once a week. Take 20 drops of tincture of iron in water three times a day through a tube.

F. B. L., Pottstown, Pa.—I work in an office and do not exercise. What is good for falling hair and dandruff?

Wash your hair with hazel nut snow or rose water cream. Do not use water. Clean your combs and hairbrushes with scalding hot water and ammonia. Use 5 grains of salicylic acid, 10 grains of resorcin to an ounce of castor oil as remedy every other night.

G. K., Toronto, Canada—I have noises in my ear only when at work. The noises are not there when I go walking. I'm deaf in one ear.

Suppose you try dropping 10 drops of glycerine in that ear twice in 24 hours while you are at work. Also have an aural surgeon examine it.

Dr. Hirshberg will answer questions for readers of this paper on medical, hygienic and sanitation subjects that are of general interest. He will not undertake to prescribe or offer advice for individual cases. Where the subject is not of general interest letters will be answered personally if a stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed. Address all inquiries to Dr. L. K. Hirshberg, care of this office.

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WANTED A GENERAL SERVANT—Apply to MRS. MARK PIKE, 184 Pica-sant Street—ap27,31

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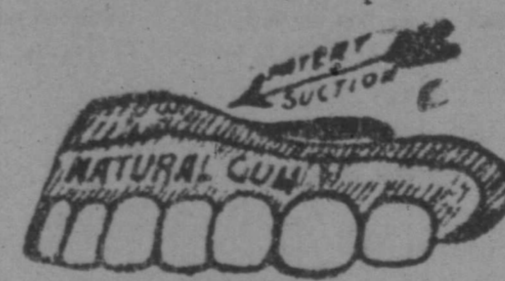
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