

Dorothy Dix's Letter Box

Solving the Problem of the Too-Long Engagement—Can a Wife Ever Learn to Trust Again the Husband Who Has Been Unfaithful?—The Girl Who Doesn't Want To Be Called a Vamp.

Dear Dorothy Dix—I was engaged to be married to a splendid young man, but, unfortunately, circumstances arose which made him the sole support of his father, mother and sister. Our engagement dragged on for five years until I finally became terribly discouraged, and the only solution to the problem seemed for me to step out entirely and leave him to his people. Now I realize what he meant to me, and that I had better have continued the engagement, no matter how long I have to wait.

I have been so heartbroken that I have been staying at home in the evening in order to avoid the questions of my friends. My family urged me to get out and make new acquaintances and forget him, but I find that my old friends are married, or keeping company, which makes me feel like a third party. Then, where can a young girl go except to the movies without an escort?

I have a very good position, but of late I find myself star-gazing and drifting from my work to such an extent that I feel that I will have to resign from my job. Do you think it would be wise for me to throw myself at the mercy of my former fiancé, and ask him to forgive me, telling him that I realize my mistake, or to try and forget the past? REGRETFUL.

ANSWER:

If you are still as much in love with the young man as your letter implies, the only thing for you to do is to have a frank, heart-to-heart talk with him, and find out if he still cares for you, and desires to re-establish the old relations. Pride should never be permitted to ruin a life, or to stand between people who have a sincere affection for each other.

But before you ask your ex-sweetheart to take you back, you should have a very frank and honest session with your own soul, and be very sure that you love this man well enough to make any sacrifice for him. For, apparently, he has no more to offer you now than he had when you broke off with him. He still has his family burden on his back. Your wedding day will still be an interminably long time off, and there is nothing that is filled with more heart aches and anxiety; nothing that is more nervy wearing to a woman than to have a long drawn-out engagement that may end in a wedding only when she is an old woman, with all the fire, and passion, and romance of her youth outlived.

It seems to me that you have allowed yourself to get into a very morbid state of mind, and that what you need is to get into a very playful mood. Use a little wit and power. Quit star-gazing. Either make up with the man or have enough backbone to forget him. A woman like yourself, who has a profession, can always get work anywhere, and it will do you a world of good to leave the city in which you are living for a while and go to some distant place where you would have change of environment and association.

Try one or the other of these courses. Don't let yourself drift into a lackadaisical old maidhood. DOROTHY DIX.

Dear Miss Dix—Do you think a wife can ever learn to trust again a husband who has been unfaithful to her? My husband had an affair with another woman. He has given this other woman up, and is very repentant. I have forgiven him, but am very unhappy because my trust in him has been shattered. Do you think that I can ever get back my faith in him? A READER.

ANSWER:

Not in its entirety, my sorrowing sister. Something precious and beautiful has gone out of your relationship with your husband that nothing that he can do, nor that you can do, will ever bring back, any more than you could make whole again a crystal vase that had been shattered, or restore its freshness to the flower that has been dragged in the dust.

I do not mean by this that your husband will not deserve your trust. A burnt child dreads the fire, and many a man and woman get such a lesson from their wrongdoings that they are practically temptation-proof the balance of their lives. But while we forgive the sinner, we do not forget. In the back of your memory there will always be a scar. But it is up to you whether you will let this poison to your love heal, or whether you will keep it an open sore that will poison your whole life. You can do this by thinking about it continually, by your suspicions of every woman your husband meets, by watching him.

Don't do this. Wipe off the slate. Let your common sense teach you that a man who has slipped off the straight and narrow path once and gotten badly bruised is all the more apt to walk warily thereafter. Keep the faith that in your mind all the time and you will be happy. And remember this—nothing is more sure to drive a man into being untrue to his wife than the knowledge that she distrusts him. DOROTHY DIX.

Dear Dorothy Dix—I am 21, full of pep, and extremely attractive as far as face and figure are concerned. But here is my problem. Instead of attracting the quiet, serious-minded men whom I admire, the only attention I get is from the wild ones, who believe in always having a good time and never settling down.

I may look like a vamp, although I try not to, but at heart I am just an old-fashioned, home-loving girl, who wants a home of her own and two or three babies.

I have tried to act demure, and all that, but they take me for a vamp, nevertheless.

My looks are evidently against me, and I can't change them. What shall I do? MISUNDERSTOOD.

ANSWER:

"Tis a sad story, mates. Evidently you are one of those unfortunates who are afflicted with old-fashioned novelists used to call the fatal curse of beauty." The late Anna Held had the same trouble. She had a song about it, in which she deplored that she could not make her eyes behave.

My heartfelt sympathy goes out to you, and I should certainly like to help you if I could. You might wear a mask, or if this doesn't appeal to you, suppose you alter your mode of dress. Don't have your hair waved. Slick it back, and do it into a hard knot at the back. Cut out your necktie. Don't use a lipstick. Wear nice, thick, sensible clothes instead of aluring chiffons.

All of that should help along in taking you out of the vamp class. And if you would quit going to cabarets and jazz parties, and go to Sunday school, and prayer meeting, and join some circle of earnest thinkers, I feel reasonably sure that you will get away from the frivolous young men you deplore and meet some industrious and worthy young man who is out looking for a domestically-inclined wife.

But hear up anyway. There are worse sorrows than being beautiful! DOROTHY DIX.

Mr. and Mrs. Reddy Go To Their Old Home in the Green Forest

By THORNTON W. BURGESS.

Planning a new home and getting a new home were quite different matters, as Reddy Fox and Mrs. Reddy soon found out. Had it been spring or summer, getting that new home would have been merely a matter of doing a little work. They would have decided where they wanted that new home and then would have dug it. But now the ground was frozen. There could be no digging.

They made sure that their old home had been ruined. They poked their heads in at the front door and at the back door. The smell of smoke was still strong. There was no doubt that that home was ruined so far as they were concerned. In the first place there was that smell of smoke. But worse still was the knowledge that all those hunters knew where that home was. It wouldn't be safe to live there.

"It's no use," said Mrs. Reddy sadly. "We may as well give up all thought of using this old home any more. I wouldn't feel safe a minute in it. No sir, I wouldn't feel safe a minute."

So together they started off. When they reached the old home they found the doorway partly filled in with sand and leaves. The sand wasn't frozen. Mrs. Reddy set to work with her



"It might be worse," said she; "we can make it do."

don't know what we'll do, for we can't dig a new home with the ground frozen this way. I suppose we'll have to use an old house."

"I suppose we will," said Reddy meekly. "I suppose we can use the old one we had two years ago over on the edge of the Green Forest."

"We'll go look at it," declared Mrs. Reddy.

So together they started off. When they reached the old home they found the doorway partly filled in with sand and leaves. The sand wasn't frozen. Mrs. Reddy set to work with her

WOMEN and THE HOME

HOW TO BE TACTFUL FOURTH AT MADE-UP PARTY OF FOUR

Often a Difficult Situation Which Requires Tactful Handling.

ACCEPT A DUTY

By JULIA HOYT.

A party of four congenial people is, to my mind, almost the most enjoyable way of spending an evening. There is no element of chance in it, and it is nice to eliminate this sometimes exciting element and start out, sure of the kind of evening we are going to spend. But there are occasions when we find ourselves invited to make up a fourth under circumstances which may require tact to handle.

For example, suppose an intimate friend had planned to spend the evening with a man acknowledged to be her "beau." A friend of his, for some reason, has to be asked to interrupt the evening's tête-à-tête and your friend telephones and asks you please to make the fourth. You accept, perhaps not overjoyed at the invitation, knowing that it is up to you to entertain the gentleman who has turned the "party" into a "crowd."

Just for a Purpose.

The other two will probably try not to show that their evening has been interrupted and that it is up to you to make the interruption as slight as possible, or they may show it decidedly and leave you entirely to the other man's mercy. In any case, whether they make it evident or not, you know you were invited for the purpose of taking the man off their hands for the evening.

If they are kind and tactful they will at least start the evening by unobtrusively dropping some hints in conversation that will give you a lead as to what may interest Mr. X. But if they don't, it is up to you to find out. The talent of easily talking to a complete stranger is given to some and not to others. It may be that Mr. X. has it and the responsibility will be taken from your shoulders; you will only have to respond. On the other hand, it may be entirely up to you to find the subjects which will interest him.

Must Be Tactful.

In any case, in accepting an invitation such as the foregoing, you must make up your mind that you have knowingly accepted a certain responsibility and that even though, perhaps, you may find nothing in common with Mr. X. and in consequence find the evening rather difficult, you must not show it. Naturally, guests should never show boredom, but, on the other hand, when we are not invited to expressly entertain one person, we may have the privilege of transferring your attention from the man whom we do not find congenial to some other man for some part of the evening.

In spite of the fact that you know that you have been invited for the express purpose of entertaining Mr. X., you should not make it embarrassingly obvious to the other two that you are leaving them alone and devoting your attention exclusively to Mr. X. solely for that purpose. In other words, whether it is true or not, you should make them feel that you are talking to him because you are interested and want to, and naturally if they show signs of wanting to make the conversation general, co-operate.

In other words a rule which holds good for the guest in any situation as well as for the host or hostess—is to use tact and make everyone with you feel that you are at ease and happy in the situation, whatever it may be.

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GIVE SERVICE OF PRAISE AT CRONYN MEMORIAL

The service of praise which is being given tonight in the Cronyn Memorial church under the direction of Clarence E. Gilmour promises to be exceptionally fine. The choir, which will be heard in many attractive choral numbers, will be assisted by Douglas Fetherston, violinist. An address on "The Music of the Church" by the Rev. A. L. G. Clarke will be a feature of the evening's program.

black paws. She soon had the leaves and the sand out. She went on down. Presently she poked her head out.

"It might be worse," said she. "We can make it do. The back door has got to be opened up. The back hall is full of rubbish. We've got to get that out. I wouldn't for a minute consider living in a house without a back door. If it hadn't been for the back door in our ruined home over there in the Old Pasture neither of us would be alive now. Any fox who gets caught in a place with only one way out doesn't deserve to escape. Now get busy, Reddy Fox, and clear out that back hall."

Reddy was so meek and humble that he was ready to do anything. He didn't even grumble as he went to work. It really wasn't very much of a job after all. It didn't take them a great while to get the old house fixed up well enough for them to live in. Then they sat down to talk things over.

"No more chickens for us," said Mrs. Reddy decidedly. "We've got to keep away from all henhouses for a long time. We can't afford to be hunted again the way we were hunted yesterday. It is a wonder that both of us are here now. Another hunt like that and we would have to leave this part of the country altogether. As it is, we've got to make the best of the bad matter. Now promise me, Reddy, that you will keep away from the chickens."

"I promise," replied Reddy. "I've learned my lesson. I'll starve before I'll go near a henhouse again."

Mrs. Reddy looked at him long and sharply. Then, satisfied that he really meant what he said, she gave a little sigh of relief.

The next story: "Lightfoot Uses His Ears."

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PERSONALS

Mrs. A. M. Heaman, Dufferin avenue, is visiting in Toronto.

Miss Mae Lurie of Cleveland, Ohio, is a guest with Mr. and Mrs. L. Goldstick.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hopper of Detroit will be guests with Mrs. Harry Lewis for New Year's.

Mrs. Mayer entertained recently at a bridge luncheon at the Kennels. Covers were laid for twenty guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Grant of Toronto, will be a guest with Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Stevens, Wellington street.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Chapman were weekend-end guests with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Austin, of King street west, in Chatham.

Mr. Ernest White of Toronto will spend Christmas with his parents, Frank White, M.P., and Mrs. White, King street east.

Mrs. E. Walters of this city was a much feted guest in St. Thomas while she was visiting with Mrs. John Clifton, Curtis street, last week.

Mr. Arnold Wheeler of Akron, Ohio, will be a guest with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Wheeler, Waterloo street, for Christmas.

Miss Marion Woods of Exeter will be a guest with Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Gladman, St. George street north, during the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Boughner are giving a dance at the Kennels on Jan. 8 to introduce their debutante daughter, Miss Helen Boughner.

Mr. Delmar Lewis, who is attending Osgoode hall in Toronto, will be a guest with his mother, Mrs. Harry Lewis, for the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. McLean, Westminster hospital, are entertaining at the dinner hour on New Year's Eve, prior to the L. O. O. E. "snow ball."

Miss Helen Benson was the hostess of a delightful bridge on Saturday afternoon, when she entertained at her home on Wellington street north.

Mr. Walter Thompson of Osgoode hall, Toronto, will be a Christmas guest with Mr. and Mrs. Richmond street north.

Mrs. J. L. Stephenson and daughters, Irene and Betty, of Longwood, are visiting with Mrs. Stephenson's mother, Mrs. McNair, McKinnon place.

Mr. Ernest Little was the host of a delightful dinner party held at the Highland Golf club on Saturday night. Covers were laid for sixteen guests.

Fred Heaman, who is attending the London Central collegiate, will spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Heaman, in Exeter.

Mr. George A. Hager of Marquette, Mich., recently visited with his grandmother, Mrs. A. J. Topley, and his aunt, Mrs. Rowland Munro, Waterloo street.

Miss Jean Charlton of Toronto is a guest with her friend, Miss Marjorie Smith, at the home of the latter's aunt, Mrs. Chas. A. Moorehead, on William street.

A pleasant surprise party was recently given for Thomas Monger by his friends, who gathered at the home of his parents, on Adelaide street.

Jack Heaman, who is attending Ridley college in St. Catharines, will spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Heaman, Dufferin avenue.

Hume Cronyn, Jun., who is attending Ridley college in St. Catharines, will spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hume Cronyn, Dundas street.

Miss Tank of Port Rowen and Miss Gustin of Harrisville, Mich., are guests with Dr. and Mrs. J. G. Gunn.

CLUB NEWS

PUPILS GIVE RECITAL.

The recital given last Saturday morning by the pupils of the Institution of Musical Art, presented the following students: Annie Shannon, Lois Fry, Helen Holtz, Nellie Colquhoun, Tom Conley, Keith Coates, Eleanor Wilson, Margaret Ross, Bruce Richardson, Marion Pickering, Marjorie Lewis, Marjorie Little, Violet Anderson, and Frank Kunz. The teachers represented were Misses Dorothy L. Munroe, Mildred Chantler, Alberta Tory, Irene Burns, Hazel Taylor, and Gladys Sharpe.

HADASSAH CHAPTER.

The regular meeting of the Hadassah chapter took the form of a social evening held last night in the Horton street synagogue.

TRAFALGAR GIFT SALE.

The Trafalgar chapter, I. C. D. E., is holding a Christmas gift sale and sale of home cooking at "Players' Craft," Queen's avenue, tomorrow afternoon. Afternoon tea will also be a feature of the event, of which Mrs. John Laughton and Mrs. E. Lackie are the conveners.

FOREST CITY LODGE.

The members of Loyal True Blue lodge, London, met at the home of Mrs. Bragg, Rectory street, for their regular social evening. The time was spent in music and dancing, followed by supper. These socials are being arranged in aid of the children in the True Blue orphanage, Richmond Hill.

"Y" CLUBS MEET.

The members of the Optimistic club and Merry Maids held a joint meeting last week at the Y. W. C. A. to hear Miss Lillian McVicar, on her tour from India, give an address. Miss McVicar, who was a former school friend of Miss Sophie Porter, referred to the privileges of the Canadian girls in contrast to those of the girls of India, and made an earnest plea for the prayers of Canadians for advancement of Christianity in India.

ILDERTON PRESBYTERIAN.

The December meeting of the Ilderont Presbyterian church was held at the home of Mrs. Manley Higgs, with a large attendance. Mrs. Wesley Needham presided over the meeting and Mrs. B. Kennedy read a selection from the study book. Mrs. Fenwick presided at the organ, and during the meeting the following officers were re-elected: Honorary president, Mrs. B. Kennedy; president, Mrs. Galloway; vice-president, Mrs. Manley Higgs; secretary, Miss Mary M. Rae; treasurer, Mrs. John R. Calvert; messenger secretary, Mrs. F. J. Paisley. The meeting was closed with a prayer by Mrs. Theodore McKee, after which a dainty lunch was served by the hostesses.

VICTORIA MOTHERS' CLUB.

Rev. W. Leslie Armitage will address the Victoria mothers' club at the regular meeting to be held in the school tomorrow night. There will be special Christmas music and a grocery shower will be held for needy families of the district.

Facts About Optometry

NO. NINETEEN.

Besides headaches, what other annoyances are caused by far-sight? Many conditions can be so caused. If a person's nervous system is upset by the strain to which the eyes are subjected, nervousness may arise, or various other troubles. A far-sighted person sees to well in the distance? Yes, and if young he may be able to read perfectly, and still be far-sighted to a considerable degree. How does the Optometrist detect this condition in children? See next article for answer. Continued Wednesday.

London Optical Co.
Richmond Street
Dominion Savings Building
A. M. DAMBER, Optometrist

Vaseline

A Splendid First Aid Remedy for Colds, Cuts, Burns, Wounds, Etc.

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Vaseline
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ENGAGEMENTS

A charge of 75 cents for one insertion, and 1.00 for two insertions, made for notices under this heading. Orders for insertion of engagements must bear the name and address of sender, and will not be taken over the telephone.



RADIO MILLINERY.

Here's one of the newest novel sets ever to be seen. It was built in the crown of the woman's hat and is fitted with the usual head set. It is the simplest as crystal set, and was constructed by an amateur builder and exhibited at a recent London radio show.

In having a private view of some of her recent paintings, two of which have been secured for Alma college, Mrs. Frank Ashplant, Waterloo street, lent her home for a bridge on Friday afternoon last. Eleven tables were in play for this delightful function, which was arranged by three members of the Hugh Niven chapter, I. O. O. E. Mrs. Frank Ashplant, Mrs. Emerson Nichols and Mrs. W. A. Martin. The chapter members have pledged themselves to raise \$10 each for the national educational war memorial fund, and the bridge last week was one of the schemes hit upon for raising this money. So successful was the event that over the \$20 was raised. Several guests who could not spend the afternoon at the function came in for tea.

The Hunt club was the scene of one of the largest bridge parties of the season this afternoon, arranged by the ladies' executive of the club in aid of furnishings for the ladies' rooms. Forty tables were in play. Mrs. Ronald Harris, Mrs. Donald McLean, Mrs. Ernest Williams, Mrs. Gordon Hunt, Miss Helen Baker, Mrs. B. Manning, Mrs. Marion Beck, Mrs. W. C. Ellis, Mrs. Ray Lawson, Mrs. Farncomb, Mrs. G. Quintin Warner, Miss Audrey Farncomb, Miss Jo Belton and Mrs. Little, acting as hostesses. Those who arranged tables included Mrs. Ashplant, Miss Helen Baker, Mrs. Archie Becker, Miss Jo Belton, Mrs. Arthur Brickenham, Miss Helen Boughner, Mrs. Claude Brown, Mrs. Chadwick, Mrs. W. C. Ellis, Mrs. Sherwood Fox, Miss Helen Gibbons, Mrs. Gilean, Mrs. Marshall Graydon, Mrs. Green (St. Thomas), Miss Helen Harris, Miss M. Harris, Mrs. Bert Hunt, Mrs. Gordon Hunt, Mrs. H. B. Hunter, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Sterling, Mrs. Towers, Mrs. Leslie Turner, Mrs. John Weld, Miss Katherine White, Mrs. Ted White, Mrs. C. A. Whitman and Mrs. Yeates. Mrs. Harry Blackburn, Mrs. Fred Farncomb, Mrs. George Gunn and Mrs. Munro arranged tables at home in aid of the club furnishings.

Mrs. Claude Brown, Mrs. Chadwick, Mrs. W. C. Ellis, Mrs. Sherwood Fox, Miss Helen Gibbons, Mrs. Gilean, Mrs. Marshall Graydon, Mrs. Green (St. Thomas), Miss Helen Harris, Miss M. Harris, Mrs. Bert Hunt, Mrs. Gordon Hunt, Mrs. H. B. Hunter, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Sterling, Mrs. Towers, Mrs. Leslie Turner, Mrs. John Weld, Miss Katherine White, Mrs. Ted White, Mrs. C. A. Whitman and Mrs. Yeates. Mrs. Harry Blackburn, Mrs. Fred Farncomb, Mrs. George Gunn and Mrs. Munro arranged tables at home in aid of the club furnishings.

CATHOLIC BAZAAR NETS OVER \$5,000

Sisters of Sacred Heart Convent Benefit From Successful Undertaking.

The great Christmas bazaar held recently in St. Peter's hall in the interests of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart convent, netted \$5,028, according to a report submitted at yesterday afternoon's meeting of the Catholic women's league.

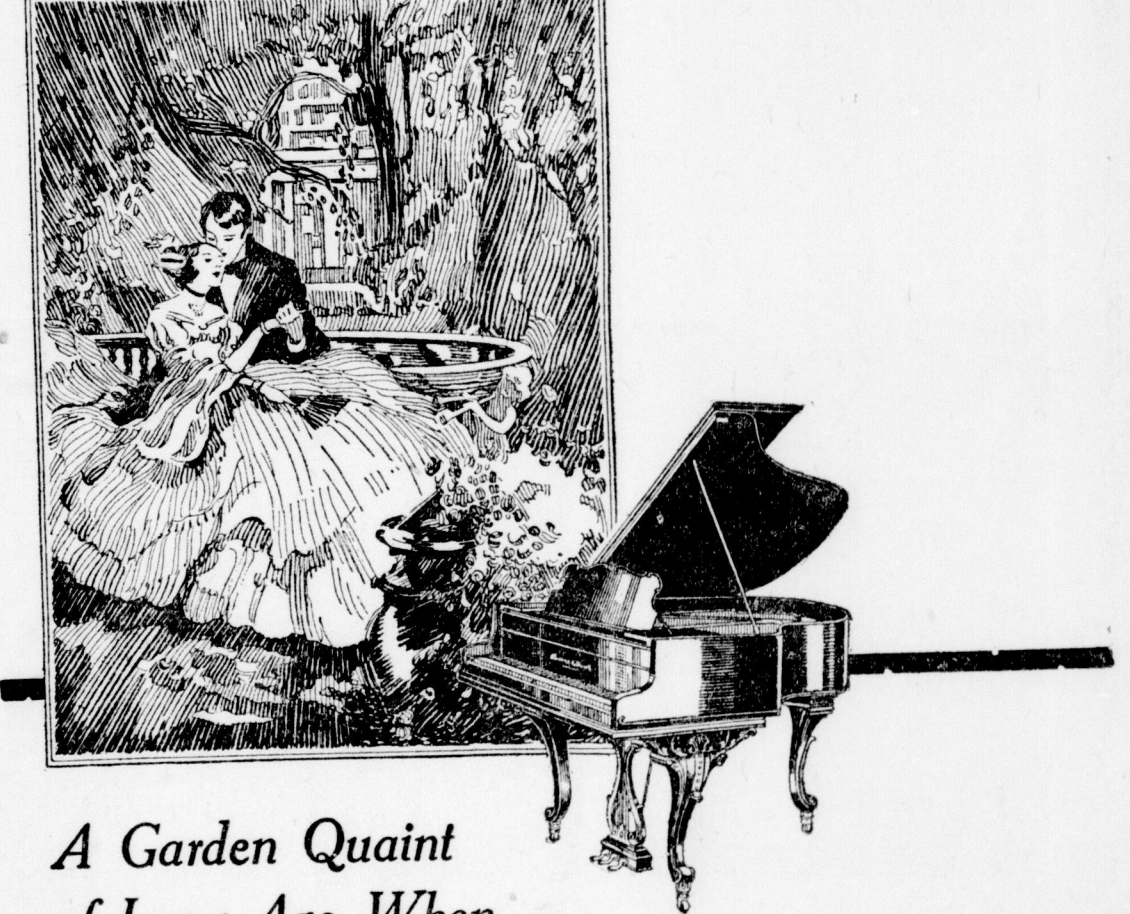
The meeting was marked by a very large attendance. Mrs. R. M. Burns, the president, in the chair. A nominating committee to bring in a slate of officers at the next meeting was appointed as follows: Mrs. B. C. McCann, Mrs. J. Moore, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Frie, Mrs. Groom, and Mrs. Holmes.

That much assistance has been rendered to needy families during the past month was reported by Mrs. W. Hoy. The members have decided to send Christmas treats to the patients at St. Joseph's hospital.

A resolution of condolence was tendered the Pelton family in the loss of their mother, a league member. And a letter from the Sisters of the Sacred Heart convent for contributions from the bazaar was read.

LOCAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Mrs. John Ross, president of the local council of women, is calling a meeting of that organization for early in the new year. The annual meeting will not be held until March.



A Garden Quaint of Long Ago, When Phantom Fingers Play—

THINK how many times it would be one of the richest pleasures you would ask, to be able to hear one of your favorite pieces, played by one of your favorite pianists. "In the Gloaming," perhaps, or that beautiful composition of Bartlett's "A Dream."

As the old strains come forth, time slips back to a garden of days gone by. Flowers in summer grandeur fringe a winding path. Your Mason & Risch Welte-Mignon Reproducing Piano paints a picture of a girl who waited there. How clearly her every feature stands out in your memory!

But your enjoyment of the Mason & Risch Welte-Mignon is by no means confined to the simpler things. The famous compositions of the ages, played by internationally known pianists, are at your disposal. The genius of Paderewski, DePachmann, Hofmann and hundreds of others is transported to your home in the famous Mason & Risch Welte-Mignon. It was the first reproducer pronounced perfection by great artists, and it is still so regarded.

The world's master pianists will gladly play for you on the Mason & Risch Welte-Mignon any time you call at our sales rooms.

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