POOR DOCUMENT

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THE TIMES-STAR FEATURE PAGE

Dorothy Dix

The Foolish Young Girl Who Joy-Rides With a Married Man—Shall He Marry a Poor Girl Whom He Loves or Sell Out to a Wealthy Older Woman — How to Deal With a Mother Who Has the Drink Habit.

DEAR MISS DIX—Do you think I am unreasonable in asking my daughter to stop riding home from the office every evening alone with a married man, when she could come on a jitney and get home an hour earlier? The man is of excellent character so far as I know, but he has a wife and a young child, and I am afraid this may cause a misunderstanding between him and his wife. They now seem to be very happy and congenial.

WORRIED MOTHER.

DOROTHY DIX.

ANSWER:

You are not only not unreasonable in trying to stop your daughter from her joyrides with this married man, but you would fail utterly in your duty to her if you did not try to protect her from her folly.

"For though she be chaste as ice and pure as snow" there are certain things that no girl can do without ruining her good name, and automobiling with a married man is one of the headliners among them. Your daughter and the man may be merely platonic friends. They may while away the time by discussing the weather and the stock market and the President's foreign policy, but no one will believe it. Appearances are against them, and tongues will wag.

And nobody has the right to blame the gossips, because the married man who shows attentions to a girl seldom bodes her any good, and the girl who accepts them is generally no better than she should be. Furthermore, unless the man's wife is entirely devoid of jealousy, and has a far more trusting disposition than many wives are blessed with in this suspicious day and age, she is sure to get green-eyed, and then your daughter will find herself involved in a messy and unsavory scandal. So unless your daughter is wildly in love with the man, she is idiotic to take this risk, nor should she be willing to be the instrument of breaking up a happy home.

Perhaps she will say that so long as she is innocent, and does nothing wrong, she will not heed what people say of her, but there is where she makes a mistake. Innocent or guilty, Mrs. Grundy will break her, unless she conforms to the convention. Once a girl's name is slimed over with scandal, it never can be washed clean again. People will always remember that she was talked about, and they will forget that nothing was ever proved against her.

If a girl is a cold-hearted adventuress, who has no pity for a sister woman, and who is willing to break up a home and orphan little children in order to get the man she wants, you can see why she has a love affair with a married man. The game is worth the candle to her.

But it is incomprehensible why any girl who is not a hearth robber is willing to jeopardize her good name, her peace and happiness by a flirtation with a married man. She risks so much for so little, and she so surely loses out in the end.

Perhaps you can make your daughter see that she is starting on a road that is bound to lead to her undoing, and she will turn back before she has gone too far.

DOROTHY DIX.

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DEAR MISS DIX—I am a young man of 24, full of life and love for a young lady about my age, who is beautiful and loves me, and would make a good wife. But she is poor. On the others hand, a lady who is very wealthy, but much older than myself, wants to marry me. What shall I do?

A. D.

ANSWER:

Well, A. D., I think that the young man who marries an old woman for her money sells himself cheaply, no matter how much money he gets.

The best years of your life are just before you. They should be full of love, of companionship, of playing about with one who likes to do the things he does. What price for these?

What money will pay you for being an old woman's slave? For having to put up with her crotchets and whims? For spending your evenings listening to her moans and groans over her rheumatism? For, make no mistake, when an old woman buys a young husband, she regards him in the light of a hired boy to do her bidding, and she has sense enough to hold on to her purse, which is the only hold she has on him. I have seen many an old woman dole out nickels to her young husband, and make him ask her every time he took out a car or went downtown by himself.

And did you ever know the young husband of an old woman who amounted to anything? Never. It kills initiative and ambition for a man to marry for money—or perhaps a man has no initiative or ambition who would do such a thing. Anyway, the young husbands of rich old wives pass their time in waiting for their elderly spouses to die, which is the most demoralizing and disappointing occupation in which any man ever engages.

So my advice to you is to marry the young girl you love, and roll up your sleeves and go to work and make your own fortune. You will be a thousand times happier than you will if you sell out to an old woman.

DOROTHY DIX.

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DEAR MISS DIX—We are a family of six boys and one girl, all of excellent character, but we have the misfortune to have a mother who is a drunkard. Can you picture our horror when we come home for supper after work to find a mother under the influence of drink, using foul and degraded language. Uncleanliness reigns in our house. There is never a meal that is fit to eat, and we fear the environment is injuring the morals of our youngest brother. What shall we do?

EX-SERVICE MAN.

ANSWER:

Consult a physician, and see if you cannot have your mother placed in some institution, where her bad habit may be broken. Undoubtedly she has lost the power to brace up and cure herself, and needs outside help. You are quite right in thinking that her example will have an injurious effect on your young brother. It will also be blighting to your sister's prospects, as no young man will care to visit in a home presided over by a drunken woman.

DOROTHY DIX.

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Your Birthday

DECEMBER 12—You are sympathetic, kind, helpful, and generous. You are proud and self-confident and capable of accomplishing most of the things you attempt. You are truthful, just, and loving, and very persistent. You seldom worry about anything, and are very happy and cheerful as a rule.

Your birth-stone is the turquoise, which means prosperity.

Your flower is holly.

Your lucky color is pink.

DECEMBER 13—You don't fear anything, and you decide and act quickly and impulsively. You have many friends, and will always help them in any way possible. The love of your friends means a great deal to you; you value their good opinion. Your home life will be very happy if you keep jealousy out of it.

Your birth-stone is the turquoise, which means prosperity.

Your flower is holly.

Your lucky color is pink.

A Thought

Let none of you imagine evil in your heart against his neighbor.—Zech. 8:17.

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EARTH has not a spectacle more glorious or more fair to show than this—love tolerating intolerance; charity covering as with a veil even the sin of the lack of charity.—F. W. Robertson.

STAR RECORDS.

BERLIN, Dec. 11—With the naked eye it is possible to see only about 7,000 stars, but from 20,000 photographs of the heavens taken during the last 30 years, the correct positions of 50,000,000 stars have been ascertained. Enormous as this number is, the powerful telescopes in use today have led to the discovery of more than 100,000,000!

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ADVENTURES of the TWINS

by OLIVE ROBERTS BARTON

BOB THE SAILOR TELLS A STORY.

"What is your name?" Nick asked the big sailorman who had rowed himself and Nancy out to the whaling vessel.

"My name's Bob Merry, mate," said the sailor kindly. "Now what would you young 'uns like to see first?"

"Oh, everything, I guess,' said Nancy. "Everything, eh!" said Bob good-naturedly. "You want to see everything first!"

"Will you please show us where they put the whales when they catch them," said Nick.

"Put the whales when they catch them!" repeated Bob in astonishment. "Say, young 'un. What do you think whales is? Minnies? To be packed up, a dozen in a tin-box,, and carried around in lunch boxes?"

The Twins laughed. "No, I know they are too big for that,' said Nick. "But they have to put them somewhere when they catch them, don't they?"

"Shiver my timbers!" cried Bob with glee. "Just listen, now. Why, mate; if you'd put one o' them there big boys on this boat, we'd all make a visit to Davy Jones at the bottom o' the sea, so we would. No, sir! There's no room on this boat for a whale or even a little whale. They're too big!"

The Twins looked puzzled, so Bob said, "Now see here, young 'uns, you come along and I'll tell you all about it.'

So he took them to the side of the big ship, where a heavy row boat stood near the rail. In it were some long sharp things that looked like huge fish hooks on broom handles.. In the centre of the boat was a sort of tub with a neat coil of heavy rope—yards and yards long.

"The harpooner and three other men go out in this boat when they sight a whale,' said Bob. "The harpooner is the man who throws one of these long sharp knives with hooks on 'em. They are called harpoons.

"The others row until they get near to the whale, then the harpooner throws his harpoon at the whale .It has a rope on the end of it.

The harpoon is really a knife with a hook on the back, as you can see, so that when it goes into the whale the hook can't be pulled out again. Of course, the whale tries to get away, and lashes around something terrible, but he can't, because the rope and hook hold him. After a while he gets tired and dies, and the men in the boat pull him along after them, on top of the water, until he comes right alongside the vessel. But they don't haul him on board. No sirree! He's too big! They tie him with ropes and let him float there until they are ready to get the blubber off him."

"What is blubber?" asked Nancy.

"Fat—just fat," said Bob. "A whale's nearly all blubber. Thats' what they hunt him for—the blubber. It makes fine oil when it is boiled down. But come, I'll show you all over the ship."

The Twins did not need to be coaxed, you may be sure. They had never been so interested about anything in their lives before.

To Be Continued.

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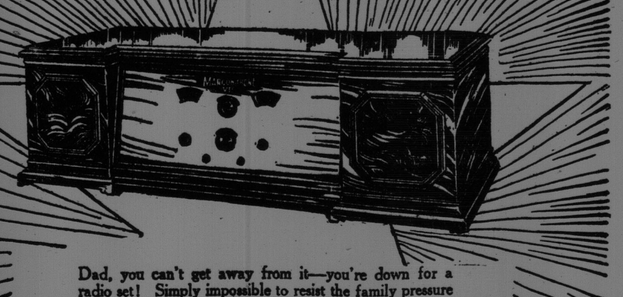
Christmas



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