

# THE TIMES-STAR FEATURE PAGE

## Dorothy Dix

Shall She Marry the Young Man Who Hasn't a Steady Job?—Slacker Wives Should be Divorced as Readily as Lazy Husbands—Should a Girl Accept Favors From Suitors Who Don't Suit?

DEAR MISS DIX—I have been engaged to a young man for eighteen months whom I love and who loves me dearly. We are very anxious to marry and would do so, except that he has no steady job. He works on and off on two or three days a week, but I have a steady job as a stenographer.



DOROTHY DIX

Now, Miss Dix, my mother is a widow who has her own home and we could go to live with her. That would be just the same as having our own home, wouldn't it? Shall we marry and go to live with my mother? We are going to do just as you say.

M. E. T. W.

ANSWER: If you take my advice you will on no account get married until the young man has a regular work every day in the week, which will enable him to support a family.

It isn't necessary for a young couple to have riches before they marry, but it is absolutely necessary for them to have a decent assured living. It is eternally true that love dies out of the window when poverty comes in at the door, if the poverty is of that grinding kind that means hunger and cold and shabbiness and torturing fear of the future.

You can't think about the state of your heart when your stomach is crying out for food. You can't be tender and loving when you are worried to death to know where the next meal is coming from and where you are to find a roof to cover your head.

And no man who is worthy of a woman's love can be happy if he is dependent and grafting his living and that of his family off his wife's earnings. He will know that he is cutting a despicable figure in the eyes of every one who knows him, and his shame and his anger at himself will turn upon those who help him and make him hate them and revile them.

I have seen this happen a thousand times, my dear. Never yet have I seen a dependent son-in-law who treated his mother-in-law with even common politeness. Invariably he was like a snarling dog who bit the hand that fed it.

You say that your mother's home would be the same as your home if you married. That is not true. Your mother's home is her own home, and when you marry you forfeit your right to it. Your mother worked hard to earn her own home. It represents years of labor and self-sacrifice, and in her old age she should have the privilege of living in it in peace and quiet and comfort. She should not be forced to share it with the stranger who proposes to saddle on her and who may treat her badly. Nor should she be forced to support her children. Whatever income she possesses should go to buy her comforts and luxuries.

I urge you not to marry this young man, no matter how much you love him, until he can make a living for you. If he is worth having, he can do that; and if he wants you, he will hustle around and get a steady job. Don't let your mother and your husband and your children on your poor old mother.

DOROTHY DIX

DEAR DOROTHY DIX—What do you think of shiftless and slovenly wives? There are any number of steady, hard-working men who never cut off a clean table or sleep in a clean bed because their wives are too lazy to raise a hand. These women bring children into the world who are never cared for and who must carry the memory of their miserable, neglected childhood as long as they live. Poverty does not create dirt, but dirt and shiftlessness create poverty, and lazy women cause more misery in a family than drunkenness. If women were all good and clean men would be the same.

ROBERT F.

ANSWER:

I have long said, Robert, that what was sauce for the gander is sauce for the goose, and that inasmuch as the law compels a man to support his wife, it should compel the wife to make a clean and comfortable home for her husband. If nonsupport is a cause for divorce, as it is in many States, bad housekeeping should be also recognized as a cause for divorce.

It is just as much a woman's duty to make a comfortable home for her family as it is a man's duty to provide the raw materials out of which the home is made. The woman who fails to sweep her floors and make her beds and cook nourishing and palatable foods is just as criminal as the man who is too lazy to work or who drinks or gambles away the family income.

I think that every man who has a lazy or slovenly wife is absolutely justified in leaving her and that he should do so before there are any children born to be poisoned by her bad cooking or to be brought up on the street because it is more comfortable than their pigsty of a home.

If every young man would find out before he got married whether the girl to whom he was about to entrust his stomach and his future comfort and happiness was a good free-hand cook and expert with the broom about half of the domestic misery in the world would be saved and many a home kept intact that is now broken up, for the grounds in the coffee pot are the grounds of many a divorce.

And I believe that if every man would let his wife know unmistakably that he expected her to do her part in the matrimonial partnership as efficiently as he did his that it would turn many a slacker wife into a real helpmeet.

For wives do not wish to lose their jobs any more than do any other women who have good paying positions, and they would make good on them if they had to. It is because husbands are too easy and let them get away with laziness and slovenliness that wives put it over on them.

DOROTHY DIX

DEAR MISS DIX—What shall be done with persistent suitors who do not suit? Some are too old and some too young, but all are willing to entertain me. Is it the part of kindness to admit them to my society or show? I accept no favors from them when I have nothing to return? I am not so sure I want to marry. I am trained to a profession and it seems that my useful work is there.

LADY OF THE SNOWS

ANSWER:

The average man is quite capable of looking after his own interests, so you have no cause to worry about any danger of hurting his hard-boiled heart.

Of course, it is a dishonorable thing for a woman to make a man believe that she intends to marry him when she has no idea whatever of doing so, and to let him spend his money upon her in the pursuit of a hopeless case.

Evidently you have not done that, so your conscience is clear.

I think that many women exaggerate men's sentimentality. Anyway, there are many men who do not desire to marry. They do not want to burden themselves with a family, and yet they like feminine society and to take a pretty and attractive woman around.

In such cases a woman makes ample return for any courtesies the man shows her by being pleasant and agreeable. Platonic friendship in the past has been a myth, but in these days of self-supporting women who do not themselves desire to marry it has become a pleasant reality.

DOROTHY DIX

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## Family Menus

**Breakfast.**  
Stewed Prunes.  
Wheat Cereal with Top Milk.  
Rolls and Butter.  
Scrambled Eggs.  
**Lunch.**  
Creamed Chipped Beef.  
Baked Potatoes.  
Cabbage and Apple Salad.  
Cookies.  
**Dinner.**  
Lamb Chops. Carrots and Peas.  
Mashed Potatoes.  
Whole Wheat Bread.  
Cottage Pudding with Chocolate Sauce.

## TODAY'S RECIPES.

**Raised Whole Wheat Bread**—Two cups milk, six tablespoons molasses, one and one-half teaspoons salt, one-half yeast cake, one-fourth cup lukewarm water, two and one-half cups whole wheat flour, white flour. Scald milk and add molasses and salt. When lukewarm add yeast cake dissolved in water, whole wheat flour and white flour to knead. Cover, let rise, shape into loaves, let rise again and bake in a hot oven.

**Cabbage and Apple Salad**—Chop cabbage fine and to every two cups of cabbage add one cup tart apple cut in small pieces. A small amount of chopped onion, half a cup of celery and a little sweet green pepper may be added if liked. Mix with mayonnaise and serve on lettuce or plain.

## TODAY'S RECIPES.

**Cream of Corn Soup**—One can corn, one quart whole milk, one ounce onion, two tablespoons butter, two table-

spoons butter, two tablespoons flour, salt, pepper. Scald milk with the onion. Remove onion and add corn which has been put through sieve. Bind with butter and flour cooked together. Season. Serve in bouillon cups with teaspoonful of whipped cream on top.

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## ADVENTURES OF the TWINS

by OLIVE ROBERTS BARTON

### THE TWINS HAVE A RIDE.

Where a minute or two before the big picture in the picture gallery was only a quiet dignified painting called "The Tipton Coach," now everything had changed.

Not only had the Twins and Mister Blue Cap walked right into the picture, behind the glass, but they had become acquainted with all the people in it as well.

There was Mister Blokins, the big fat landlord, and Miss Cranford, the beautiful young lady about to step into the coach and start on a journey, and last, but not least, Bill, the coachman, who wore a top-heavy beaver hat and a huge muffer.

The Twins wondered if it were not the heat from this wonderful muffer that made Bill's face so red.

"Would you like to come for a ride with me, children?" asked Miss Cranford sweetly. "If you were never on a coach, it may be interesting to go part way to Tipton. Bill can put you on the return coach at Mudport."

"Oh, we'd love to go!" said Nancy quickly. "Only I haven't a coat or hat along."

"Oh, that's all right," said Miss Cranford. "Hetty, my maid, has all sorts of extra wraps with her. You'll not be cold. Come on, Hetty, bring the bags and things and climb into the coach. We must be starting at once."

Bill, the coachman, looked at the town clock. "Yes, it's high time we started if we want to get to Mudport before the London Coach reaches there. Climb right in, everybody."

"May we sit on top?" asked Nick. "Yes, let's all sit on top," said Miss Cranford. "All but Hetty, who must stay inside to watch the bags."

Once an old lady got on, with a big white goose in a basket. But the lid came off and the goose flew away, and Bill had to stop the coach and let the old lady out.

Nobody seemed to notice Mister Blue Cap. Being a fairy he managed to keep out of sight some way. But he was there just the same.

Nancy was quite warm and comfortable in one of Miss Cranford's shawls, and Bill, the coachman, said he was entirely too warm in his muffer, and passed it back to Nick.

The coach rolled along through lovely country roads with hedges on each side. They passed through pretty villages, and busy towns, and at last they reached Mudport.

"I'm sorry," said Miss Cranford, "but it is getting late, and I think you'd better get off here, children, and go back on that coach standing there. It is the London Coach and I know the driver. He will take care of you. Keep the wraps—Mister Blokins will send them to me. And here are two shillings for your fares. Goodbye!"

"Good-bye!" said the Twins, climbing down. "And thank you very much for the ride."

To Be Continued.

## Your Birthday

DECEMBER 10—You are rather excitable and imaginative, but impetuous still, very energetic and capable. You possess marked abilities for real hard work. You are quick to understand others, and to sympathize. You are kind and affectionate at home, and should have a very happy, long life. Your birth-stone is the turquoise, which means prosperity. Your flower is holly. Your lucky color is pink.

## A Thought

Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly than to divide the spoil with the proud.—Prov. 16:19.

HUMILITY is the solid foundation of all the virtues.—Confucius.

## Poached Eggs

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## News Notes From Movie Land

By JACK JUNGMEYER

THE Gish sisters, Lillian and Dorothy, afford an interesting dual example of how the screen may fashion the true ego into a quite different dramatic identity by constant reiteration of selected roles.

Lillian, whose prevailing roles present her as the serious, candid, tragedy-haunted heroine, is actually more cautious, tactful and expedient than her sister. Dorothy, frank, blunt, outspoken, earnest, is usually presented in films as frivolous, fickle, superficial.

This curious diversity between the real and the affected in Lillian and Dorothy has been crystallized over a period of years by outside and more or less uncontrollable factors which shape movie careers, and also by that strange human yearning to seem something else than we are.

Dorothy, inclined to be very soberly serious, has wanted to seem gay, blithe, roguish, imperious. She proceeds more from emotional impulse. And if she has latterly felt that this is the wrong tack, that it is holding her back from her most effective expression, her reputation for screen bawler has held her closely to the established role.

Lillian, more the artist, more intellectual and calculating, has managed to convey the more profound emotional effect, while realizing that artistry is essentially artificial—a matter of distortion and legitimate dramatic preparation. She approaches her characterizations with extreme care and thoughtful preparation. Her feelings are well bridled by her keen intellect.

Lillian's keen perception held her directed toward her goal. Dorothy's goal was perhaps never quite so clearly defined, and she has floundered more in approaching it.

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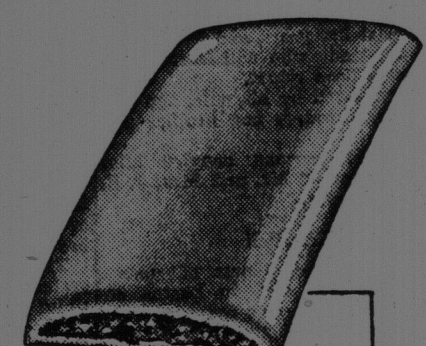
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