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October's Children.

WHAT THEY ARE LIKE, AND WHY THEY SHOULD WEED.

People born in October—or, more accurately, between September 20th and October 20th—are charming, lovable, and capable, but Nature did not design them to go through life alone. They want someone to "balance the scales" for them; to supplement their deficiencies, to control their weaknesses.

They are by nature—and perhaps they would not be so lovable if they were not—unstable. They are up in the clouds one day, and down in the depths the next; gay and gloomy in turn, and neither for long. They are either all one thing or all the other—creatures of extremes, of moods and tenets.

They are almost morbidly sensitive. An unkind word or a look will wound them. They love praise, even flattery. Give them either, and they will do their utmost to deserve it. If you fail to appreciate them, they will "freeze up." You can do nothing with them; they will become moody and disagreeable.

In fact, they are very much like spoilt children.

Very Sweet and Lovable.

And you can scarcely help spoiling them; for they are normally very sweet and lovable. They "have a way with them" which it is not at all easy to resist. Let them see that you love them, and they will spare no effort to deserve and return your love; for if they are a little wrong-headed, they have large hearts.

But don't try to oppose or restrain them; you will rouse the worst in them and do no good. They respond gladly to coaxing and caresses; they kick vigorously against coercion.

They are full of good and generous impulses; but often lack the strength of character to give full effect to them. They are seldom happy long, for they are usually craving for something they haven't got, or can't get. But they don't worry about the future. To-day is enough for them. To-morrow can take care of itself.

They mind their own business, and don't interfere unasked in yours. They cling like leeches to their convictions and their friends though the former

may be wrong, and the latter unworthy. And they are usually "straight as a gun," with a positive hatred of humbug and pretence and false-dealing. They are demons for work if once they take to it; and unless they are checked (a delicate and risky proceeding), are apt to take far too much out of themselves.

Socially they are as a rule very popular; and rightly so, for they are very bright, genial, and entertaining, just the kind of people you like to have about you; and if they are extravagant, they spend their money more to give others pleasure than themselves.

Most Careful How They Marry. They have, too, more than their share of brains, and make a success of life if they choose work suited to their tastes and abilities. They are especially likely to succeed as artists, writers, and musicians, as lawyers or public speakers.

One of their chief passions is for Nature; and for this reason they are happy in a country life, surrounded by the beauties and peace of mountain and meadow, river and wood.

October women are, with few ex-

ceptions, dowered with exceptional fascinations, which almost amounts to magnetism. They are "bundles of affection"—warm-hearted, impulsive and loyal. They take to domestic life as a duck to water; are excellent housekeepers and devoted, self-sacrificing wives and mothers. The man fortunate enough to marry one of them is to be envied.

And the men are no less desirable; for they have the same qualities of heart and loyalty. They are loving and chivalrous; good husbands and fathers. And, if suitably mated and encouraged, they can scarcely fail to succeed in life.

But with so many amiable weaknesses it is of the highest importance that the October-born should be very careful in the choice of their life-partners; for if marriage can "make," it can also mar them. The wife or husband they should seek is someone whose qualities supplement theirs to make the "scales" (the sign under which they are born) level—someone of strong character, well-balanced, unemotional; and who will give them the love and appreciation, and also the patience they need.

These desirable partners they will find among those born between January 20th and February 20th, and between August 20th and September 20th. They are the natural mates of the children of October, and marriage with them will give the greatest possible prospect of mutual happiness.

—Answers.

Going Strong at Ninety.

A few weeks ago a youthful old lady of one hundred and two summers took her first trip in an aeroplane, and "enjoyed it immensely."

When one considers how much of the world's work has been done by men long past the allotted span, one can treat with contempt the foolish dictum that regards all men over two-score as fit only for the lethal chamber. Lord Salisbury's next birthday will be his ninety-eight, but he remains as keen and active as many men half his age. Lord Strathcona, who lived to be over ninety, was a worker to the end, and his cousin, Lord Mount Stephen, was ninety-one last June.

Sir Clifford Allbutt, who was president of the British Medical Association at their last annual meeting, possesses, in spite of his eighty-four years, the energy of a young man; while Thomas Edison, greatest of living inventors, said in a recent interview, "At seventy-five I expect to wear loud waistcoats with fancy buttons, also spats. At eighty I expect to learn how to play bridge, whist, and talk foolishly to women. At eighty-five I expect to wear a dress-suit every evening at dinner, and at ninety—well, I never plan more than twenty years ahead!" Edison is now seventy-three, but it is quite evident that he still has the heart of a boy.

"Titan, greatest of portrait painters, lived to be ninety-nine years old, and painted his last picture at that age. Sokety painted a picture for the Royal Academy when he was ninety-four; while Madame Rosa Bonheur was 70 when she painted her famous picture, "Horses Tramping Out Wheat."

Goethe was over eighty when he wrote the second part of "Faust," and Disraeli and Chateaubriand were both making love at seventy.

Prophet of the Sword.

FACTS ABOUT LIFE AND TEACHING OF MOHAMMED.

The prophet Mohammed was born in the city of Mecca in the year 569. During the ninety years that followed the prophet's death, his followers established their faith by the sword, eastward through Persia to India, westward through Egypt along the entire northern coast of Africa, northward to the gates of Constantinople, with all Syria in their hands. In the year 710, they invaded Spain and established the Moslem Caliphate that endured until the end of the fifteenth century. They threatened, indeed, to conquer the whole of western Europe, and were only stayed when Charles Martel defeated the Arabs at Tours in France just one hundred years after Mohammed's death.

The story of the early Moslem conquests is unique in human history. The faith (or, if you will, the fanaticism) that inspired the conquering armies has an extraordinary interest. The faith of Mohammed has still over a hundred million adherents. They were driven from Spain centuries ago. The power of the Turk in Europe has now been destroyed. But Islamism remains the religion of the Arab; the subtle Egyptian, the Afghan, and the fighting Pathan, and of large sections of the most intelligent Indians and of the Persians. Across two continents from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the daily summons to prayer comes from the minarets of the Moslem mosques: "God is great! God is great! There is no God but God. Mohammed is the prophet of God. Come to prayer! Come to prayer! God is great! God is great! There is no God but God!" Mohammed was a successful merchant until he was nearly forty. Then he began to preach, and his preaching cost him friendship and income. For thirteen years he endured persecution and misrepresentation in his native Mecca, and in 622 he made his final "hijrah," or flight, to Medina, where he spent the rest of his

life, where he died, and where he was buried.

It is established that Mohammed learned much of the doctrine that he taught from the Nestorian Christians living in Arabia. By the sixth century the Christian Church in the east had broken into a number of contending heretical sects. Of these the Arians and Nestorians are the most interesting. Both sects (with subtle theological differences) rejected the doctrine of the Trinity, and regarded our Lord not as God but as a God-inspired teacher.

The Moslems believe in one God, "single, immutable, omniscient, omnipotent, all merciful, eternal. They believe that the Koran is the divine revelation of the mind and will of God. They believe in the Resurrection and the Final Judgment. They believe that God has sent six great prophets to guide men in the way they should go—Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and last, and greatest, Mohammed. Their religious practice demands prayer, almsgiving, fasting, and pilgrimage.

Mohammed insisted on the importance of bodily cleanliness as emblem of purity of soul, and his in-

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junctions to kindness are exalted and poetical.

Deal not unjustly with others, and ye shall not be dealt with unjustly.

If there be any debtor under a difficulty of paying his debt, let his creditor wait until it be easy for him to do it; but if he remit it in alms, it will be better for him.

It may be suggested that the practice of the Moslem has often been in striking contrast with the teaching of Mohammed. But, alas, it can with equal justice be pointed out that the practice of the Christians is in sad contrast with the teaching of Christ.

It was in 622, the year after his arrival in Medina, that Mohammed began to preach the gospel of the sword. He and his followers attacked a caravan belonging to his Mecca enemies, and this small affair marked the beginning of his temporal power, and of his acceptance of the fact that the world must be roughly compelled to accept his comfortable doctrines. Islamism became the fighting man's religion.

Napoleon declared that he preferred it to Christianity. Its chivalry and comradeship attracted the fighter as much as the promise of heaven to the soldier who fell in battle for

his faith. The heaven was far more alluring than the mystic hereafter of the Christian, where there is no marriage or giving in marriage, and the natural instincts of the fighting man found justification in the example of the prophet, who, with a general simplicity of life, was a great lover of women and the husband of many wives.

Mohammed was a man of middle height, with a large head. Semitic nose, a full-lipped mouth, and a long beard. His voice was musical, and he was an eloquent speaker. He was markedly kindly, consistently practicing what he preached. He was original, bold, with abnormal intelligence, and an amazing memory. He was unquestionably a genuine mystic, and it is certain that he implicitly believed that he was the appointed prophet of God, and that the words of the Koran were dictated to him by God.

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