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Dorothy Dix's Letter Box

Shall She Continue to Receive Attentions From a Wealthy Chinese Student?—Will a College Education Make a Gulf Between a Man and His Fiance?—Is It Wrong to Kiss Boys?

Dear Dorothy Dix—I have been keeping company lately with a young Chinese man whom I met at college. He is very wealthy, and has all kinds of cars and I have always had a good time with him. We are not engaged. In fact, he has not asked me to marry him, but my mother objects to him on account of his nationality.

I would like your advice on this matter. ALISON.

Answer: My dear Alison, I have been much in China, and I am a great admirer of the Chinese nation. I have never met more brilliant, cultivated, fascinating gentlemen anywhere than I have in Peking and Shanghai. But "East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet" matrimonially speaking, and I cannot conceive of any fate more terrible for a Canadian girl than to marry any Oriental. This is entirely without reference to the man himself, or his wealth, or his social status.

If you marry a Chinese man, you will become, by law, a Chinese woman, subject to the laws and traditions that bind Chinese women. A Chinaman's first wife is picked out for him by his parents, and it is not likely that a wealthy and aristocratic Chinaman's father and mother would select a foreigner for that exalted position, so you would probably start out as a secondary wife, or concubine. At any rate, your husband would have many wives, and if you failed to have sons, your position would be a most unenviable one.

You are used to going about, to having a good time, to all sorts of amusements. The life of Chinese women is from our standpoint, one of incredible dullness. They live shut up in the women's quarters with absolutely nothing to do but gossip—and how would you even gossip in a language that you probably never would be able to master? And you would have precious little other society, for there is small intercourse between the foreigners and Chinese in China.

And worst of all, my dear, the Chinese man's mental attitude toward women is entirely different to that of the American man, and he can no more change that than he can change his skin. For untold centuries the Chinese have looked down on women as inferior beings. Women have been their slaves and their playthings, of no more value than the meanest animal. No viceroy of education and culture can change this, and it would be practically impossible for a Chinaman to give to his wife the tenderness and consideration and the deference that a Canadian woman demands of her husband, and without which life is cinders and ashes and dust to her.

International marriages are rarely happy. Those between Orientals and Occidentals always bring misery on the woman.

DOROTHY DIX.

Dear Miss Dix—I am a young man, just in my twenties. I have a very kind uncle who offers to finance me if I wish to get a university education, which would take from four to eight years, depending on the course. If I became highly educated, would this place a barrier between my fiancée who has only a public school education, and myself? SELFISH.

Answer:

It would depend on the girl. If she has an alert mind and is ambitious, she could keep in conversational distance with you by reading and improving herself, and generally widening her mental horizon. But if she is one of the girls who does not read at all or who only reads foolish, trashy novels to amuse herself, I think that you would find that you had a very little in common with her by the time you were graduated from the university, and that she would be very dull company for you.

On the other hand, in deciding this question you have to take your own type of mind into consideration. There are many men who do not care for intelligence in their wives. They prefer women who are ignorant and before whom they can pose as wisecracks. They like the kind of a woman who takes all of her opinions from her husband and who asks him what he thinks and what she shall do on all occasions. They like wives who are perpetual incense burners and who gasp with awe every time their husbands speak.

If you belong to this complacent, self-conceited class of men, you will find it no drawback to your wife that she isn't your mental equal.

But if you want companionship in a wife, a wife who talks your language and who is interested in just the things that you are interested in, you had better stay on the same plane as your sweetheart, or else wait until you get through school and then select the kind of woman who appeals to you then.

Consider this: That eight years spent in study at a university will make of you an entirely different man. You will be brought under every sort of cultural influence. You will be polished and refined. You will form new habits, different associations, which will set you higher ideals. How can you possibly tell now what sort of a wife you will want, then?

DOROTHY DIX.

Dear Dorothy Dix—Is it wrong to kiss boys? What is a soul kiss?

THELMA AND ELAINE.

Answer:

Yes, it is wrong to kiss boys when it isn't common, and it is common when it isn't wrong. If a kiss wasn't wrong; if it wasn't dangerous; if it wasn't playing with passion, as a child plays with fire, there would be no kisses, and the boys who take you to the movies wouldn't exact a kiss in payment for the thirty cents they have spent on you.

You don't observe brothers insisting on their sisters kissing them good-night when they have taken them out.

There is no such thing as a soul kiss, except the one that your mother gives you. All kisses from men, outside of your own family, are of the earth, earthy and of the flesh, fleshy. Beware of them.

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Danny and Nanny Have a Night Home and a Day Home

By THORNTON W. BURGESS.

Danny and Nanny Mouse were back in the great man-bird with the broken wing. It was so good to be there that for two or three days they were perfectly happy. Trader the Wood Rat came over to see them every night. Sometimes there were other visitors, but none save Trader that dared climb up in that man-bird. Once they saw Yowler the Rob Cat staring at it with eyes filled with curiosity and suspicion. He walked around it twice, but he was careful to keep at a distance.

But one morning, after having been out all night, they were awakened by strange noises. They heard the voices of men. They peeped out. Their friend the aviator had returned, and with him were other men. They came straight to the great man-bird and began looking it over very carefully. Danny and Nanny watched their chance, and when no one was looking climbed out and hid in the grass, where they could watch what went on.

Those men went to work on the great man-bird. They began taking it apart. Danny and Nanny watched until they



It was moonlight then, and they saw at once that the great man-bird was alone. They were sure that those men were going to stay right there. They didn't dare

WOMEN and THE HOME

LORD ROBERTS CHAPTER RETURNS ITS OFFICERS

Mrs. E. H. Johnston Receives Acclamation for Regency of Chapter.



MRS. E. H. JOHNSTON, who is again regent of the Lord Roberts Chapter, I. O. D. E., having received an acclamation at a meeting of the chapter yesterday afternoon.

go back to their nest in the great man-bird. "There is only one thing to do," said Danny, "and that is to go back to that other home of ours under the stump. Perhaps these two-legged creatures will go away after a while."

So Danny and Nanny went back to the home under the stump on the edge of the garden. They were thankful to have a home to go to, but at the same time they couldn't bear to think of giving up their home in the great man-bird. All day, whenever they were awake, they heard voices of men and the noise of hammering. But when night came and darkness settled down with a suddenness with which it always falls in the Sunny South, all noise ceased.

Finally Danny and Nanny ventured to go back where they could see the great man-bird. It was moonlight then, and they saw at once that the great man-bird was alone. There was no one about. Little by little they crept nearer. Finally they ventured up into it. Their nest in the little cupboard was undisturbed. As soon as they found this out they went out to get enough to eat, and then came back to spend the night there. They hoped those two-legged creatures had gone for good.

But the next morning they heard them coming again. So once more they scrambled back to their home under the stump. So it was that Danny and Nanny for several days lived in two homes. In the daytime they lived in the home under the stump on the edge of the garden. The nights they spent in their home in the great man-bird. Somehow they just couldn't keep away from it. They had made that nest in the little cupboard "way back on the Green Meadows up North, and so that great man-bird seemed more like home to them than any home they could make in this strange land of the Sunny South. Every night Trader the Wood Rat visited them and took a lively interest in looking at everything that had been done to that man-bird during the day.

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The next story: "Trader Has a Busy Night."

EALING OPENS HOMES FOR PRAYER MEETINGS

Men and Women of Different Denominations Gather Regularly For Worship.

A number of the men and women of Ealing district have been holding an interesting series of prayer meetings at their homes during the winter. These meetings are non-denominational, those attending being members of different churches. They meet together regularly for prayer at each others homes and once a week hold a social gathering.

Last night was the occasion of one of these social gatherings held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Williams, May street. About 35 were present, enjoying an evening of games and music. The program included vocal numbers by Miss Pichel Acheson, David Higgins and Mrs. Harry Higgins, and violin numbers by Kenneth Miller and Jack Williams. At the close of the evening refreshments were served.

PEMBER'S HAIR GOODS For Ladies and Gents.



J. B. KNIGHT

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MODERN DEBUTANTE DIFFERS FROM GIRL OF DECADE AGO

Sub-Deb of Today Often Goes Unchaperoned to Cabarets.

NO ONE IS SURPRISED

Men Do Not Take Modern Girls Seriously or Respect Them.

By JULIA HOYT.

I suppose that in all ages the older generation has discussed the morals of the younger with the same wagging of heads and pessimistic predictions of calamity. At any rate, the present age seems to have a particularly violent epidemic of such discussion. One hesitates to add to the clamor.

Undoubtedly customs have changed enormously in a very short space of time—in fact, since the war. I am not of the older generation, and I certainly do not condemn all these changes. But I am amazed when I think of the rules of conduct for a debutante even of my day and then observe the girl of the present day. Imagine a few years ago a debutante or even a girl who had been out a year or so going alone with a man to a cabaret or supper-place. Imagine her going there even correctly chaperoned!

I remember well the excitement caused by going one night to a supper place to see Maurice dance. I was properly chaperoned, sat quietly at the table, saw Maurice dance, and left. It was then considered ordinary thing and I was well reprimanded by my mother. Now debs, and even sub-debs, go frequently to these places, often unchaperoned, and dance all night—quite unapologetically by anyone. No one now sees anything extraordinary in it. Probably there isn't; it is all in the way one looks at it.

Not Fitting for Youth.

But it certainly does not fit in with one's idea of the very young girl—young in every sense of the word. It seems as though that type of girl does not exist these days or at any rate is extremely rare. There are still a few left, I know, but they do not lead the life of their more sophisticated sisters.

It is impossible for a girl to be really youthful, mentally and physically, when at the age of 17 or 18 she mixes with every type of man and woman, and sees men she knows under conditions and in society that some years ago she hardly knew existed. The girl of today discusses quite frankly all social questions, and is thoroughly informed regarding all sorts of people and behavior.

This is quite all right and necessary when she is old enough to be



GUESTS IN CITY TODAY.

Lady Elizabeth and Lady Mary Ryn, daughters of the Earl and Countess of Stratford, who are spending the day with Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Smith, South London.

capable of making necessary distinctions. But is this possible at such an early age? Is not the result simply that the young girl of today has no illusions, very few standards, and takes questions that used to be considered serious as rather unimportant and something of a joke?

Merely a Phase.

I am not talking now of the girl who is earning her living, but merely of the girl whose life consists entirely of amusement and hectic excitement—and there are many such. These girls are using the newly-found independence of thought and action in what seems to me the wrong way. Probably it is merely

Makes Breath-Holding Record.

The record for breath control belongs to a student of the Medical School of California University, who, in July, 1915, voluntarily held his breath for 10 minutes 10 seconds. He was under observation the whole time.

a phase through which we are passing, and out of it will come something interesting. But at the same moment the debutante is losing the charm of youth (short-lived at best), and is finding nothing to take its place. Is there not something unattractive in a very young girl drinking her cocktail (or cocktails)—and anything else that may be offered to her during the evening? People of other countries look upon it with amazement, and, I must confess, so do I. They don't need them any more than we did, but for some reason they feel they are not up-to-date, not smart, if they do not do it.

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CLUB NEWS

HOLDS SOCIAL.

The social given in St. Michael's Parish Hall under the auspices of the St. Michael's Mothers' Unit was a successful affair of last evening. Cards were played early in the evening followed by music and refreshments. Mrs. Russell Myers and Mrs. F. N. Corcoran were conveners of the affair, assisted by several members of the unit.

CAMPBELL BECHER CHAPTER. The annual reports of the year's work will feature the next meeting of the Campbell Becher Chapter, I. O. D. E., to be held at the home of Mrs. C. B. King, Dufferin avenue. The election of officers for 1924 will also take place, and nominations will be made for London councillors on the national and provincial chapters next year.

TO PRESENT CAMP SCENES. The executive of the Campers' Association is meeting tomorrow evening at "Lenmore" to make arrangements for the presentation of scenes of camp life, which is to be given shortly.