

A Modern  
Matrimonial  
Problem**Dorothy Dix**Threshes Out  
Problem of  
Marriage  
Versus Career**Shall the Modern Business Girl  
Who Contemplates Matrimony Have  
a Job or a Husband—or Both?**

A business girl who was soon to have been married to a man with whom she was very much in love told me the other day that she had broken her engagement.

"Why?" I asked in surprise.

"Oh," she said, "because John told me that he expected me to keep on with my job after we were married. He is earning a fine salary with good prospects ahead. Plenty for us to live on comfortably and save something. But in spite of that, he wanted me to continue with my work at the office."

"And that isn't my idea of a husband, nor matrimony. The kind of a man I want is one I can lean on, not one I will have to bolster up. I want a husband who will at least try to protect me from the world, not one who will shove me out into it to fight my own way. And when I marry I want a home and children, and no woman can be a good housewife and a good mother and a good private secretary at one and the same time."

"So I thought that if all that marriage was to bring me was superimposing a domestic job on an office job, and a husband who was a taskmaster, that I had better pass it up. It didn't look good to me. I have seen too many poor, worn, bedraggled creatures who rushed away from the office to buy menses at the delicatessen store on the way home and open a can of something to make a synthetic dinner, and who got nervous prostration trying to combine dishwashing and cooking and cleaning and bed-making with bookkeeping or filing or selling or typewriting."

"And I have seen too many dirty-faced, unkempt, ill-mannered, neglected little children who were being raised on the streets while mother was off at work or pursuing a career. And I have seen too many men who married high-salaried women, who simply sat down after the ceremony and folded their hands, and let Sally do it."

"None of that for mine, thank you. When I marry I am going to get a man who believes in the ancient theory that a woman's place is the home, and that it is a man's business to go out alone and unaided and single-handed and bring home the bacon. And I am going to be free to give every ounce of vitality that is in me and every brain cell and every bit of energy I possess to making a home and rearing my children properly instead of giving the best that is in me to an employer who has a right to expect the best I've got in the shop because that is what he is paying me for."

That is one side of the problem about whether a woman should work outside of the home after she gets married. But there is also another side to it. Often, in these days of the high cost of living, a young man does not make enough salary for two to live upon, and then, unless the woman also continues to be a breadwinner, they must either forego marriage altogether or put it off until all the fire and passion of youth is gone and their romance has been worn by time to fatters.

In such instances for the woman to keep on with her job seems the lesser evil. Half a loaf is better than no bread, and a man and woman who love each other are happier in even a makeshift home than they would be living lonely and separate lives.

Every woman who loves her husband desires above everything else to help him, and if she can do this better by earning money than she can by cooking his dinner and darning his socks, why that is simply the modern improved way of a wife being a helpmeet. Men have always taken the work of women's hands, and there is no more discredit in accepting the labor that a wife does at a glass-topped mahogany desk than which she does at the wash-tub and the gas range. And it is a lot easier on the woman.

Also it must be borne in mind that not every woman is any more born with a talent for domesticity than she is for a career. There are women who can take degrees in chemistry in college, but who can never learn to cook; women who could run a bank, but could never manage a butcher's bill. Women who make invaluable office women heads, but who are utterly incapable of dealing with home economics. Surely common sense insists that it is the part of wisdom that these women do the work outside of the home for which nature fitted them, and which they do so effectively, and hire somebody to do competently inside of their homes the labor for which they are so ill-adapted.

Of course, there are two objections that always stare a woman in the face when she thinks of continuing with a gainful occupation after marriage. The first is the children. Certainly to bring up children properly takes all the time and attention that a mother can give, but even here she may be confronted with Hobson's choice. For the poor cannot always rear their children under ideal conditions, and it often happens that the extra money the mother can earn will mean more to them in giving them proper food, a decent environment to live in and educational advantages, than her personal attention would have done.

Likewise, there is a danger of the husband slumping when the wife puts her shoulder to the wheel. Statistics show that in the districts in which the women are wage earners the men are mainly loafers, so that every money-making wife runs the risk of having to support a parasitic husband.

These are all problems that face the business girl who is contemplating matrimony, and who is trying to decide whether it is better to have a job, or a husband, or both, and her conundrum is like that of the lady or the tiger. When she finds out the answer it is too late to do her any good.

DOROTHY DIX.

**CLUB NEWS****GRACE COUNTRY CLUB.**

A well-attended meeting of the Grace country club was held at the home of the Misses Anna and Agnes McKay on Nov. 8. The devotional parts of the meeting were taken by Miss Christine Weir and Miss Jessie McWilliam. An interesting reading was given by Miss Mabel Keith. The rest of the afternoon was spent in practicing for the pageant which the club is putting on at Mount Elgin on Nov. 21. Refreshments were served by the hostesses. The next meeting will be held on Nov. 22 at the home of Mrs. Walter Hutchison.

**TO INSTRUCT GUIDERS.**

Mrs. Stanley Wallace of Walkerville, district commissioner for girl guides for Kent and Essex, will come to London on Friday next to begin a training course for girl guide leaders in London. The course will be held every two weeks, covering four different week-ends.

**CAMPBELL BECHER CHAPTER.**

At the regular meeting of the Campbell Becher chapter, I. O. D. E., held yesterday at the home of Mrs. H. C. Elford, Maitland street, plans were made for a Sunday evening concert to be held in the Grand opera

house on Nov. 23, the R. C. R. band to be in attendance.

Final arrangements were also made for the bridge and euchre to be held at Smallman's today and for the New Year's dance at the Masonic temple.

Mrs. J. Murray presented the report of the provincial convention held recently in the city. Mrs. Donald McLean's appeal to the chapters for their support in the getting of a new Y. W. C. A. building for London was presented to the meeting.

Special guests at the meeting were Mrs. Richard Clegg of Wingham and Mrs. Woods. The tea hostesses were Mrs. J. E. Richards and Mrs. W. Baines.

**HEARTSEASE CLUB.**

The Heartsease club held its regular meeting last night, the time being spent in music and cards. Prizes were won by C. Shibley, Mrs. D. Collier and Mrs. N. Biebee. At the close of the evening refreshments were served under the direction of Mrs. C. Shibley, Mrs. J. Stedding, Mrs. J. Morgan, Mrs. N. Biebee, Mrs. Jean Tagg and Mrs. L. Lacey.

**BLONDE FOR OPERA PUMPS.**

New York, Nov. 13.—Blonde satin opera pumps are the vogue for evening wear and blonde kid pumps, extremely plain and without straps, are the smartest foot covering seen on the avenue.

**WOMEN and THE HOME****THE SEA HAWK**

By RAFAEL SABATINI

**CHAPTER XXXI. (continued)**

There fell a long silence. At length Sir Oliver spoke in a small voice.

"Not a doubt but you gave him no more than he was seeking. You are right, Master Leigh; the van was the last place in which to look for him, unless he came deliberately to seek steel that he might escape a rope. Best so, no doubt. Best so, God rest him!"

"No doubt they took you because of that," Sir Oliver pursued, as if communing with himself. "Being in ignorance perhaps of his desert, deeming him a saint and martyr, they resolved to avenge him upon you, and dragged you hither for that purpose."

"Well, well, Master Leigh, I make no doubt that knowing yourself for a rascal you have all your life been preparing your neck for a noose; so this will come as no surprise to you."

The skipper stirred uneasily and groaned.

"Lord, how my head aches!" he complained.

"There is a sure remedy for that," Sir Oliver comforted him. "And you'll swing in better company than you deserve, for I am to be hanged in the morning, too. You've earned it as fully as have I, Master Leigh. Yet I am sorry for you—sorry you should suffer where I had not so intended."

Master Leigh sucked in a shuddering breath and was silent for awhile.

Then he repeated an earlier question.

"Do you believe in God, Sir Oliver?"

"There is no God but God, and Mohammed is his Prophet," was the answer, and from his tone Master Leigh knew he was not sure that he did not mock.

"That's a heathen creed," said he in fear and loathing.

"Nay, now, it's a creed by which men live. They perform as they preach, which is more than can be said of any Christians I have ever met."

"How can you talk so upon the eve of death?" cried Leigh in protest.

"Faith," said Sir Oliver, "it's considered the season of truth about all other things."

"Then you don't believe in God?"

"On the contrary, I do."

"But not in the real God," the skipper insisted.

"There can be no God but the real God—it matters little what men call Him."

"Then if ye believe, are ye not afraid?"

"Of what?"

"Of hell, damnation and eternal fire," roared the skipper, voicing his own belated terrors.

"I have not fulfilled the destiny which in His omniscience He marked out for me," replied Sir Oliver. "My life hath been as He designed it, since naught may exist or happen save by His will. Shall I then fear damnation for having been as God fashioned me?"

"Tis the heathen Moslem creed!" Master Leigh protested.

"Tis a comforting one," said Sir Oliver, "and it should comfort such a sinner as thou."

But Master Leigh refused to be comforted. "Oh!" he groaned miserably. "I would that I did not believe in God!"

"Your disbelief could no more abolish Him than can your fear create Him," replied Sir Oliver.

"But, your mood being what it is, were it not best you prayed?"

"Will not you pray with me?"

"Go that rascal in his sudden fit of the hereafter."

"I shall do better," said Sir Oliver at last. "I shall pray for you—to Sir John Killgrew—that your life be spared."

"Sure, he'll never heed you!" said Master Leigh with a catch in his breath.

"He shall. His honor is concerned in it. The terms of my surrender were that none else aboard the galley should suffer any hurt."

"But I killed Master Lionel."

"True, but that was the scum of a crime that preceded my making terms. Sir John pledged me his word, and Sir John will keep it to him when I have made it clear to him that honor demands it."

A great burden was lifted from the skipper's mind; that great shadow of the fear of death that had overhung him. With it, it is greatly to be feared that his desperate penitence also departed. At least he talked no more of damnation, nor took any further thought for Sir Oliver's opinions and beliefs concerning the hereafter.

He may rightly have supposed that Sir Oliver's creed was Sir Oliver's affair, and that should it happen to be wrong, he was scarcely himself a qualified person to correct it. As for himself, the making of his soul could wait until another day, when the necessity for it should be more imminent.

Upon that he lay down and attempted to compose himself to sleep, though the pain in his head proved a difficulty. Finding slumber impossible, after a while he would have talked again; but by that time his companion's regular breathing warned him that Sir Oliver had fallen asleep during the silence.

Now this was utterly at a loss to understand how one who had lived Sir Oliver's life, been a renegade and a heathen, should be able to sleep tranquilly in the knowledge that at dawn he was to hang. Considering matters, he was profoundly touched to reflect that in such a sea-son Sir Oliver could have found room in his mind to think of him and his fate and to undertake to contrive that he should be saved from the rope.

He was the more touched when he bethought him of the extent to which he had himself been responsible for all that happened to Sir Oliver.

Out of the consideration of heroism, a certain heroism came to be begotten in him, and he felt to pondering how, in his turn, he might perhaps serve Sir Oliver by a frank confession of all that he knew of the influences that had gone to make Sir Oliver what he was. This resolve uplifted him, and, oddly enough, it uplifted him all the more when he reflected that perhaps he would be jeopardizing his own neck by the confession upon which he had determined.

So through that endless night he sat nursing his aching head and heart-broken by the first purpose he had ever

conceived of a truly good and altruistic deed. Yet fate, it seemed, was bent upon frustrating that purpose of his. For when at dawn they came to hale Sir Oliver to his doom they paid no heed to Jasper Leigh's demands that he, too, should be taken before Sir John.

"These beant included in our orders," said a seaman shortly.

"Maybe not," retorted Master Leigh, "because Sir John little knows what it is in my power to tell him. Take me here with him, I say, that he may hear from me the truth of certain matters ere it be too late."

"Be still," the seaman bade him, and struck him heavily across the face, so that he reeled and collapsed into a corner. "These turs will come soon. Just now our business be with this other heathen."

"Naught that you can say would avail," Sir Oliver assured him quietly. "But I thank you for the thought that marks you for my friend. My hands are bound, Jasper. Were it otherwise I would beg leave to clasp your own. Fare you well!"

Sir Oliver was led out into the golden sunlight, which almost blinded him after his long confinement in that dark cabin. They were, he gathered, to conduct him to a trial to be held. But in the waist their progress was arrested by an officer, who bade them wait.

Sir Oliver sat down upon a coil of rope, his guard about him, an object of curious inspection to the rude seamen. They thronged the forecabin and the hatchways to stare at this formidable corsair, who once had been a Cornish gentleman, and who had become a renegade Moslem and a terror to Christians.

If the devil chafed him he gave no outward sign of it. If his hard, light eyes glanced left and thither it was upon no idle quest. He was seeking Rosamund, hoping for a last sight of her before they launched him upon his last dread voyage.

But Rosamund was not to be seen. She was in the cabin at the time, and she was there for this hour past, and it was to her that the present delay was due.

(To be Continued.)

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HOLD DISTRICT W.M.S. IN WELLINGTON CHURCH

Invitation Announced at Regular Meeting of Society Held Yesterday.

The executive of the Wellington street Methodist church has extended an invitation to the London district W. M. S. to hold their annual convention next year in the Wellington street Methodist church. Announcement that this invitation has been accepted was made at the regular monthly meeting of the W. M. S. of Wellington street Methodist church, held in the Sunday school room yesterday afternoon.

The devotional period was taken by Mrs. (Rev.) J. W. Watt and Mrs. H. Maule, and Mrs. R. Booth and Mrs. H. Woollett led in prayer. Mrs. Jackson gave a delightful solo, and Mrs. J. H. Aldie gave a few chapters from the study book on China. A report of much interest was given by Mrs. Fred Morris on the W. M. S. convention held recently in Colborne street Methodist church, and after the officers took their places Rev. G. Watt led in prayer.

A letter was read from the W. M. S. of Memorial Methodist church, inviting the ladies of Wellington street church to hold their next meeting with them on Dec. 11, when the visitors will provide the program. Mary Tagg gave a short talk on "Stewardship," after which the business part of the meeting closed and a social half hour was enjoyed, when afternoon tea was served. The committee in charge included Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Johnston, and Mrs. Wonnacott.

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