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Correspondence

WE invite readers to make use of these columns, and an effort will be made to publish all interesting letters received. The large amount of correspondence which is sent us has, hitherto, made it impossible for every letter to appear in print and, in future letters received from subscribers will receive first consideration. A friend of the magazine, offering a kindly criticism, writes that the Correspondence column has at times an air of monotony, as one writer after another follows the same phraseology. We wish to warn our correspondents against this common error. A little independent thought will help mutual development, and readers of the Monthly will find valuable aid in the study of the many instructive articles by eminent men that appear from month to month.

Girls and Homesteading

Sask., March 3rd, 1913.

Dear Editor: Having been an interested reader of the W.H.M. for some time, I have at last decided to write a few lines. I have never yet read any paper that I like as well as the W.H.M. Nothing in it escapes my eye. As for your new topic "Should marriage wait for prosperity, or should love laugh at poverty," I think it is a good one. I would like very much to say a few words on the subject, but scarcely know how to begin. I think it absolute folly for some girls to marry a poor man. Take for instance a young homesteader just "beginning to make a beginning," he falls in love with and marries a girl, who has only heard the bright and cheerful side of homesteading. She is fascinated with the life at first, it is new and fascinating; but the novelty of the undertaking soon wears off. She tires of the daily routine, she does not like to be all alone so much, perhaps some miles from neighbors. The nights are especially lonesome. Perhaps some of your readers think that it isn't necessary for a woman to stay alone at night, but I have had to do so. I kept house for my brother last summer. He was homesteading. He didn't like to leave me alone, but when anything happened that he couldn't get home, I stayed alone. Although I think there are some girls who could not stand homesteading for long, girls who would long for more pleasure, (for a homesteader has very little time for pleasure,) they would become discontented. I think it would be better for such a girl to remain single until the man was financially able to supply her with all the necessaries, and some of the luxuries of life. But still, there is the other kind of girl, the girl who can be perfectly happy on a homestead year in and year out, helping her husband in little ways, ways that seem very little to her, but still they help, for she does it out of love, and the husband loves her all the better for it. Now, don't think that I mean the drudgery of the barn work because I don't approve of a woman doing that at all, unless it's necessary. I have done it when it was necessary. The girl that looks on and talks of only the bright side of life and gets through the dark side with a laugh and without a complaint, and has a cheery word and bright smile morning, noon and night whether it be cloudy or fair, I think that a girl like that could marry a poor man and be perfectly happy, and make the man happy too. So you see that a life that would suit some girls would not suit others. I think that the lovers know best, or ought to know best, how long to wait, or whether to wait at all. I guess I better not say any more on the subject or I am sure to be landed in the w.p.b. Only a Girl.

Room for All

Medicine Hat, March 31st, 1913.

Dear Editor: I am afraid you will have to put another extra page in the W.H.M. for I notice the Correspondence columns keep pretty well filled up, and the dates are away back too, so goodness only knows what you have on hand. Several of the correspondents seem to

think that the dancing question is getting threadbare. Well possibly it gets on old readers' nerves a little with so much of it, but they must bear in mind that some of those letters are written by new subscribers, and so of course, they wish to give their decision on the matter accordingly. "Mutt and Jeff," I am glad to see approve of it, the same as myself. "Blue and Brown Eyes" also agree with me, as does "Fudge," and a few more, but the old proverb, "A place for everything, and everything in its right place" comes in here. I will write a few lines to these correspondents within a week or so. Now, on the marriage question, I have a word or two to say. No doubt "Plato" is giving good and sound advice under certain conditions. Loveless marriages are certainly of no value. As regards contentment, I should think if a woman is contented, she has got practically everything she requires or she could not be contented. Quite a number of these loveless marriages are based on the inexperience of the parties. Marrying too young is one instance. Neither party know their own mind, until they are on the 25 mark, but there are people under that age who think themselves smart, and know it all, but they find out their mistake. Another instance, is marriage without courtship. There are hundreds of marriages contracted within six months of their introduction, and neither one or the other know each other's affections or ways. Of course, a wife should be her husband's pride, and I fail to see where she is regarded as a necessary evil, although many a home is wrecked by a woman of evil habits, through no fault of the man. "True Blue," I see, can give a little advice on that subject too. Please Mr. Editor don't be too long in printing this letter. Dido.

All Should Read It

Sask., March 12th, 1913.

Dear Editor: Will you kindly allow another homesteader a small space in your Correspondence column. I am an old reader, but a new subscriber. I think every homesteader should be a reader of the W.H.M. I am sure they would find it both enjoyable and profitable. I enjoy reading the numerous short stories, "The Young Man and His Problem," and especially the Correspondence. I notice some of your correspondents are much against dancing and card parties, surely they would not be too hard on a lone-some homesteader for attending one or two parties during the long winter nights to help pass away his weary hours. I am very fond of both, but dance or play cards very little. I am fond of playing the violin at parties, and play a good deal. Am very fond of all out-door sport, such as hunting, fishing, baseball etc. I also like music and singing. I never use tobacco in any form, or touch any intoxicating liquor, and besides my homestead, I have a first-class half section of land not incumbered in any way. Well, dear Editor, I hope I have not exhausted your patience. Wishing the W.H.M. the success it deserves, I will close. Black Knight.

An Interesting Family

Ladstock, Sask., March 12th, 1913.

Dear Editor and Readers: Seeing an item in your paper inviting subscribers to write to your Correspondence page, I now take the opportunity of sending a few lines, as we have just lately become subscribers. We think it a very nice paper, and it certainly has some very useful and interesting things in it, and I always look forward to its coming every month. "The Crank"; I read your letter in the February number, and I quite agree with you from beginning to end. The old proverb, "Marry in haste and repent in leisure," perhaps in many cases has become true. I think all the letters are good, but some are extra good and sensible. Now, I have never noticed any letter from this point of Saskatchewan in your columns, so I will describe it a little, as some of the

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