

ARE WOMEN LOWERING THE STANDARD OF CONDUCT?

SEVERE JUDGMENT OF REV. DR. HAYWOOD.

ISAY without hesitation that the New York woman of to-day is dragging down moral standards, not only for the next generation of her own sex, but for the men among whom she moves and whom she endeavors to attract by means to which her mother and her grandmother would never have stooped. If her influence did not extend beyond the confines of Manhattan Island the situation would be less appalling; but, alas! she is selected as a model by women all over the country—women who see her in her own environment or as a guest in their home towns or who read of her eccentricities, her attractiveness, her daring in the public press and periodicals of all sorts. Indirectly, as well as directly, she thus becomes a source of contamination.

ONCE more the New York woman is arraigned at the bar of social opinion. And all because in a recent sermon Rev. Oscar Haywood, pastor of the Collegiate Baptist Church of the Covenant in West Thirty-third street laid the downtown tendency of New York city's morals at her door, says the New York World.

Following this sermon with a direct statement to the Sunday World, Dr. Haywood says:

"I say without hesitation that the New York woman of to-day is dragging down moral standards, not only for the next generation of her own sex, but for the men among whom she moves and whom she endeavors to attract by means to which her mother and her grandmother would never have stooped. If her influence did not extend beyond the confines of Manhattan Island the situation would be less appalling, but, alas, she is selected as a model by women all over the country, women who see her in her environment or as a guest in their home towns or who read of her eccentricities, her attractiveness, her daring, in the public press and periodicals of all sorts. Indirectly as well as directly she thus becomes a source of contamination.

"New York may well be termed a Babylon. It is poisoning the very foundation of our national social health by drawing women of other cities to itself—and away from the wholesome standards, forms and habits of generations past.

"The women of the household are responsible for the moral slough of New York. Take the single question of where the family of the typical New Yorker shall live. For the sake of his children the husband and father would be quite willing to live in the suburbs, enduring all the inconveniences of commuting. But his wife will not bury herself in the 'deadly dullness' of a quiet suburb. She wants to be where she can see and be seen. She demands excitement, the social life and the night life peculiar to this city. She insists, in fact, on being in the swim, and being in the swim in New York she imagines means indulging in all sorts of dissipation, not only in private, but in public, so that all who come may see that she knows just what 'smart' women are doing.

"Concerning the modern habits of women, let us first consider smoking. I hold that smoking, especially cigarettes, leads women to a far lower point of degradation than drinking. Many a man or woman who drinks is not morally bad, but the average man or woman addicted to cigarette smoking betrays a moral standard that is appalling, strikes a criminal note that is shocking and shows a decided tendency toward degeneracy. And figures go to show that more women are smoking cigarettes in New York to-day than they ever have before.

"Drinking follows cigarette smoking, and the combination is fearful. Women who indulge in these two habits can wreck a community's morals, for, remember, the old generation is disappearing, and the oncoming generation will look to the woman of to-day, not of yesterday, for its example.

"And what sort of an example does she set, in dress, for instance? In the ballroom at the theater, on the street, the New York woman leaves nothing to the imagination. The country youth, watching her pass, blushes at the vision of exposed ankles, clinging, suggestive skirts, low-cut necks beneath open furs, the hat crushed down over the eyes as if to half-veil the invitation to admire.

"Look at this woman and ask, if

you can, why immorality among children is on the increase, why chivalry is on the decline, why family life is disintegrating, and why, all over America, there is a tendency to abandon the spiritual for the sensual, why marital infidelity is on the increase and lawlessness is forgiven so long as it goes undiscovered!

"The New York woman, with her loose habits, will have much to answer for, to her nation and to her Lord."

The foregoing statement was shown to many prominent New York women who agreed that many of Dr. Haywood's statements were only too true. On the causes of existing conditions they did not agree, however, and their comments as here set forth are sufficiently interesting to challenge the attention of every thinking New Yorker.

By Mrs. E. L. Fernandez, Vice-President Professional Woman's League.

IMAY be old-fashioned, yet I am continually engaged in questions of the day. I see and hear things, and participate in affairs that interest the public. But my old-fashioned views inspire these comments on Dr. Haywood's interview:

The trouble with New York women is their lack of interest in their home surroundings. They feel no interest whatever in their homes. Home is a place to sleep, perhaps even to eat in when the bank account runs low and they cannot spend the accustomed amount in public restaurants.

In many households there is little love of family. This condition in itself is enough to wreck the morals of a country, for no matter how bad the woman if she has a child the spark of goodness and womanliness still burns. On the other hand, the woman who deliberately shuns the motherly duty becomes hard and bad at heart.

This lack of home ties leads to dissipation. The idle wife must be amused. Once she begins to drink she is forever restless. The world holds not enough to divert her. She must go out every night and then to supper and to drink some more. She must lunch and dine here, there and everywhere and liquor accompanies every meal.

Her home bores her. She escapes from it as every opportunity. She is off with other men because they interest her for the moment and furnish excitement. She begins to regard her husband as a human bank account, and resents the situation when she finds she has overdrawn her account.

This condition nine times out of ten will end with divorce. To-day, even, divorce in the eyes of some women is a diversion. It gives them something to do. It furnishes excitement to jaded sensibilities.

Smoking represents exaggerated stimulation of minds and bodies. Vulgarity in dress is the natural result of the woman's deadened sense of decency.

When a woman drinks she turns reckless. Her first recklessness may hardly be apparent even to herself, but gradually it becomes more marked. As a result she will say anything she desires; she will do anything, no matter how disgusting, that she wishes to do, and she will wear the most outrageous clothes imaginable.

Analyze the nervous, high-strung women of to-day, the woman who flaunts her petty vices in the face of society, and you will find that the word "home" means nothing to her.

By Mrs. Harriet Johnston Wood, Vice-President of the Woman's Equal Suffrage League.

WHAT is the matter with the New York woman? Her husband!

If she has no husband, then her men friends. For New York men are directly responsible for what New York women are to-day.

Does a woman smoke? Then it is because her husband demands her companionship even in smoking. He may have traveled in countries where women smoke. He has become accustomed to this, and misses it if his wife does not join him in a cigarette after the salad, or with their coffee. His selfishness leads her into the habit.

Does she drink? Then her husband, or her men friends, have asked her to do so. They go out to dinner together. The first question asked by the man is: "What sort of a cocktail is that?" Or if he has learned her preference the cocktail is ordered before she has drawn off her gloves. She drinks at first not because she likes the taste of the cocktail, but because the man expects her to be his "good pal." When she finally learns to crave the liquor he taught her to drink the man condemns her.

Does she wear low-cut gowns or

indulge in any extremes of dress? Be sure he has admired them on other women. Men of to-day demand that their women folk shall be in style, regardless that styles may be shameless. A New Yorker will not have a dowdy for a wife. And when the women have tried putting on all the finery they can they begin to strip it off again. Just at present it seems to me that they have taken off about all they dare—to satisfy man's desire to parade about with a marvelously-dressed doll!

Why are ballet girls clad in daring fashion? To please male theatergoers! Women at home know this, and sacrifice all womanly dignity to compete with women of the stage whom their husbands may admire.

A woman of leisure must lie, cajole, pet, pamper and please men in order to obtain what she wants or even needs. Marriage as a trade has made women what they are. Some day they will wake up. They will cease to pamper and pander to men.

By Miss Leonora Macadam, Teacher of Deportment.

WHEN you ask me what is the matter with New York women, their manners and their habits, I see opened up before me a large and painful subject. In sorrow I must admit that women are helping to lower morals in New York.

First, too much liberty is given to the young woman. I do not mean that she should be immured in a convent until she comes out socially, but I believe that she should be taught how to conduct herself properly in public and in private before she goes forth into the world. To-day this is done only in rare cases.

The modern mother therefore is to blame for the conduct of the new generation of young women. She is not content with the sweet manners of a modest girl. She demands that worldly dash in her daughter which causes comment, yes, but which is so often the hallmark of vulgarity. The mother does not recognize this as such. To her it is style, fashion, something sparkling and altogether to be desired in her daughter.

From this scorn of sweetness and modesty in young girls spring looseness and carelessness among women in public. The young woman of to-day thinks nothing of drinking in public; in fact, she awaits eagerly the time when she may go into a restaurant and order her cocktail.

Smoking in public is becoming too common. To see a woman, beautifully gowned, smoking in her motor is most offensive, yet walk down Broadway or Fifth avenue any evening and you will see that very thing.

This all comes from familiarity with the life of the woman in the half-world. It is a difficult thing to-day to tell one class from the other. In dress, in habit, in manner, they are the same. Their walk is filled with suggestiveness. Their clothes are designed to attract the attention of men.

Here is the great trouble with women of all classes in New York. They think only of attracting men. They do not consider that gentleness of manner and dignity will interest the desirable class of men.

Until maternal censorship is exercised over the dress and the habits of the girls who have the wrong standard of manners and dress the moral tone of the city through women will gradually decline.

By Mrs. Belle de Rivera, President of the City Federation of Women's Clubs.

THERE is a vast difference between lowering morals and offending good taste. Many women in New York do both, but, on the other hand, there are thousands of other women in this same city who remain untainted, delightful and charming.

When it comes to smoking in public I do not believe in it. I do not smoke, but I do not object to other women smoking if they choose, so long as they do not indulge the habit in public, where it offends the more conservative element and defies the customs of our nation. It is decidedly bad taste, but not immoral.

I must say right here that I cannot see how a woman's smoking would have any specific or direct effect on the moral drift of a community unless she carried the habit to excess and through that excess became irresponsible.

Drinking is an entirely different matter, and I must condemn it without reservation. I have seen a great deal of drinking among women, and when you ask me what is the matter with them, why do they do it, I would again say that it is a matter of custom, and custom is the New York woman's greatest foe.

Before drinking in restaurants became a custom among women you saw little of it. No what it is customary you see a great deal. The New York woman is a slave of custom, and when she breaks from this taskmaster and does some independent thinking she will gain much.

I do not believe that the older New York woman is leading the younger woman into bad habits. The younger woman now leads her elders. For instance, a middle-aged woman goes into a restaurant; she has never drunk anything in such a place; she sees it going on about her among the young women; it seems to be the custom; she follows the custom because she does not want to appear behind the times.

The dashing young woman in search of new sensations sets the daring example and warns her elders that they must follow or be counted as "has-beens."

Women Explain the Tendencies Deplored by Dr. Haywood



Radical and Careless Mothers Are to Blame.



Lack of Home-Making Is to Blame.



Husbands Are to Blame.



Rich Women, by Bad Example, Are to Blame.

Sheep Regenerate Overgrazed Ranges



Logged, Burned and Grazed Slope.

STOCKMEN throughout the west will be gratified to learn that Uncle Sam is studying means for using sheep to regenerate overgrazed ranges. Unique experiments now being conducted by the United States forest service at the experiment station within the Wallowa national forest, in northeastern Oregon demonstrate that the grazing of sheep under proper restrictions is an important factor in the work of reseeding overgrazed ranges.

The problem being studied is that of restoring to depleted ranges their original covering of mountain bunch grass, the scientific name of which is *Festuca viridula*. This grass is one of the most important of the summer forage plants in the higher ranges of the northwest and its rapid disappearance from the ranges by reason of overstocking could only be regarded as a direct economic loss to the stockmen. Special attention has therefore been given to the restoration of the grass by the plant ecologist of the forest service and his latest report shows that a thorough reseedling has been secured upon the areas to which a protective grazing system has been applied.

In the initial stages three different methods of reseeding were used. Upon one area the seed was allowed to

during the present summer through the cattle eating oak leaves.

In that section of the country the season has been unusually dry and grass extremely scarce. To eke out the scanty forage supply the cattle have browsed heavily on the scrub oak which covers large portions of the range. Ordinarily the stock does not browse on the oak and the little they do get, taken with the other food, is not injurious, but when, as in the present season, the oak browse furnishes a large proportion of the daily food of the cattle the results are serious.

The oak leaves and sprouts contain a large percentage of tannic acid. The action of this acid on the stomach is extremely injurious and the losses have been unusually severe. The symptoms of the disease are staring eyes, feverish and blistered lips and nose, the animal ceases to graze or seek for food, and the hair is all turned the wrong way, as in case of loco poisoning. The animal does not chew its cud and in a comparatively short time it becomes too weak to remain on its feet and death rapidly follows.

So far as is known the only available remedy for this trouble is linseed oil given as a drench in amounts from one to two quarts. The oil appears to overcome the injurious ef-



Sheep Grazing on an Inferior Range.

fects of the tannic acid and if the disease is not advanced too far and the animal can be furnished sufficient food so it will not be forced to eat the oak it will generally recover.

There are emergencies in which the government must depart from the usual policy of conserving the timber, and disposing of it by well regulated sales. It is some times necessary to destroy bodies of timber of considerable extent, or at least to cut the trees and leave the logs lying in the woods, where they may, or may not, become useful before decay sets in. Such apparent wastefulness is made necessary most frequently by attacks of the Black Hills beetles upon the western yellow Rock Mountain pine. The destruction of beetle-infested trees is in reality no more wasteful than would be the destructive action necessary to stamp out an infectious disease among cattle, horses or sheep. Trees which have been attacked by the Black Hills pine beetle are harboring the dangerous pest for almost a year after the attack is made. After that period, the beetles having left them, they are no more a menace than are the bleached bones of a steer scattered upon the prairie.

The Black Hills beetle has long since passed beyond the confines of the region which gives it a name. Last winter the insect was discovered in menacing numbers upon the San Isabel national forest in southern Colorado. As the result of 1908 depredations, nearly 900 yellow pine trees, practically in a solid body, were dying.

The stockmen grazing their cattle on the national forests in the southwest, especially in Colorado and New Mexico, have suffered serious losses

Only people who agree with you listen to reason.