

WOMAN'S REALM

The Matter of Marrying.

A minister of the gospel has written an article for a magazine discussing the question, "Why Women Do Not Marry." The caption demonstrates the article to be a fraud. It is the statement of a "conundrum" that does not exist, for the purpose of showing a great deal of sapience in answering the question. Women do marry, though this minister insists that if they do they frequently put the wedding off till after they are 30. It is true that a good many of the gentler sex enjoy single blessedness till they have reached this "old maid" age, and some of them remain alone for their whole lives, but the ladies themselves will not be offended if the opinion is expressed that in a great majority of such instances the postponement is on account of circumstances over which the ladies themselves have no control.

If there are fewer marriages than there used to be it is because society and the economic system have been deranged. The shifting of the responsibility of making a living has worked hardship to both sexes. The explanation is made that "woman with an enhanced sense of equal rights is unwilling to sacrifice her own individuality on the one side or to become the economic slave of any man on the other." This is offensive. It is insulting to all true men and women. There is hardly a woman struggling to make her own living and maintaining her "independence" who would not be glad to exchange her condition for that of the old-fashioned marriage relation. It is the same way with men. There is nothing in human effort that can bring complete happiness to either man or woman, in single or double life. Getting through the world is a rather heavy responsibility at the best.

The old plan, though, of the man going out into the world and taking the hard knocks and winning the bread, and the woman presiding over the house and doing her graceful part to the rising generation, is the natural and ideal condition.

A great many of the women of our time have not been raised or educated for the pride and beauty of domesticity. They have been brought up for clerks in the United States Treasury Department, and stenographers in counting rooms, and "sleek like," and the current talk about the happy life of "the bachelor girl" is rank heresy. The phrase "bachelor girl" ought to be expunged from the language. It is an affront to womanhood.

And all the upset condition of things is not the fault of the women who work in occupations formerly monopolized by men. They are bravely doing the best there is for them to do; and a lot of the men are loafing about doing nothing. They have not the touch and refinement to do women's work. There has been no trade of employment between the sexes. A considerable number of the young men of the country have been simply "side-tracked."—Cincinnati Enquirer.



Don't bundle up its head except in a blast of wind.

Don't be cross and irritable about the baby, and then be surprised that it reflects your mood.

Be calm and self-contained always in the presence of your little one, from its days of earliest babyhood.

Don't let people outside the family kiss the baby. Never so trample on your child's rights as to make it submit to an unwelcome caress from anyone.

Don't fasten its clothes like a vise and then think it is going to be comfortable. A child can't be happy unless it can move every muscle of its body freely.

A child has a natural dislike for "showing off," and if you make it acquire a taste for such a proceeding you have to spank it later for being forward and impudent.

The Value of Practical Knowledge.
Many women unconsciously affect an incompetence which they do not really possess, partly because they do not feel that it is incumbent upon them to take unnecessary trouble, and partly because they think it is feminine to be unable to understand practical things, like men. How few women, for instance, understand the system of plumbing in their houses, or how to manage a furnace or even the

range! If the least thing is out of order they are helpless, and can do nothing but send for a mechanic. The other day a girl's frock was caught by some machinery, and she was whirled into a position of imminent danger. If her companion had not had the practical knowledge and calmness which enabled her to stop the machine, her friend might have been killed or mangled. Nine girls out of ten would have screamed or fainted, and done nothing. Resourceful strength of mind belongs properly to the "ewig weibliche." It is essentially feminine (mildly's ideas to the contrary) to be strong. "She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms," says the wisest of monarchs in the finest description of a perfect woman that the world has ever had. "Strength and power are her clothing," he reiterates. She does not despise dress, far from it, for it is written that "her clothing is of silk and purple," and "she clotheth her household in scarlet." She adores her children, who "arise up and call her blessed," and she is a true helpmeet to her husband. There is nothing of what one would now call feminine weakness about this grand woman type of the Old Testament, in the delineation of whose character, strength and womanliness are synonymous.—New York Tribune.



Italian women are said to spend more on dress than the women of any other nation. Their men attribute this extravagance to the example of Queen Margherita.

A bequest of 200,000 marks from Miss Eleanor Wallot to the University of Heidelberg provides the first fund ever willed to the higher education of women in Germany.

Mme. de Thebes, the famous palmist, meditating a visit to London, consulted many people on the subject, among them Sarah Bernhardt, who, to her question, "Should I succeed and be pleased if I went to London?" very pertinently replied, "Look into your hand."

At State functions the Empress of Japan dons European dress and takes her place as a wife, not as a prime favorite removable at the pleasure of her lord. The Empress, though little seen in public, is generally regarded as one of the potent influences in modern Japan.

Queen Alexandra has been pictured a thousand times, but one of the most interesting and least known presentations of her is to be seen in Lendal bridge at York. Her majesty is shown sculptured in stone as an angel with flowing hair and bearing the royal arms, the likeness to the queen being in every respect unmistakable.

Toast.

Bread is toasted not merely to brown it, but to draw out all the moisture possible, so that it may be more easily digested. If a thick slice of bread is carelessly held close to a blazing fire, the outside is blackened and hardened before the heat can penetrate to the inside. The moisture is only heated, not extracted; the inside is tough and clammy, and the butter spread on the surface remains in the form of oil. This toast is most indigestible. The correct way is to cut the bread in rather thin slices, and at first hold it about six inches from a clear fire so that it will become gradually hot, and then decrease the distance to let it brown. It should be of a uniform color, light brown, all over and quite crisp, and as soon as ready it should be placed in a toast rack or stood upright to allow it to dry, which it will not do if laid flat.

To Clean Carpets.

Boil together until dissolved, eight ounces of borax, eight ounces of washing soda and three pounds of white soap in four gallons of water. When ready to use, add two gallons of water, four ounces of alcohol and two ounces of ammonia to one-half of the mixture as first prepared. After it is thus diluted, wipe the carpet over with this, using a scrub brush on stains and very dirty spots; afterwards, wipe over with a clean cloth wrung out of clean water.

"A Poor Excuse Is Better Than None."

Mrs. Homer Leigh—What do you mean by telling your friends you married me because I was such an excellent cook, when you know very well I don't know how to cook a potato?

Mr. Homer Leigh—Well, don't get mad, my dear; I had to offer some excuse, didn't I?—Woman's Home Companion.

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

Heroes of Peace.

THE present war in the East, like all others which have preceded it, will doubtless develop its individual heroes. Deeds of special bravery in times of conflict such as that now raging between Russia and Japan have a spectacular effect and attract attention and admiration entirely natural under the circumstances. But let us not forget the heroes of peace who are always with us. There have been some notable cases of heroism lately outside of the war zone, and the Philadelphia Ledger appropriately alludes to some of them:

"To charge up to the cannon's mouth with thousands of comrades is a small thing compared with going alone into a burning building, groping through the smoke up stairs that cannot be seen and may be on fire, and searching an upper room for a person threatened with an awful death. Five firemen stayed on the roof of a building in Baltimore till the roof was about to fall in, and then hung to the eavesgutter, swung themselves to a telephone pole and slipped down to the earth.

The engineer who stands by his engine with a collision impending; the fireman who crawls into an engine room where a steam pipe has burst and shuts off the steam that parboils him, and from which he does not always escape; the man who steps out into the street in front of a runaway team, catches the bridle, is dragged for a block, but stops the horses—these and other heroes of everyday life have not the support of numbers and discipline, they can rarely look forward to promotion and still more rarely to monuments for their rewards; but the men who wear the Victoria Cross or the Iron Cross are not greater heroes.

A beginning has been made in London of the erection of tablets not to the memory of dead heroes of civil life, but to record their names and acts while they are alive, and while the respect and admiration of their fellow men may be of some comfort to them. Every city ought to commemorate upon the walls of its public buildings the heroic acts of its citizens who, not being soldiers, are in danger of getting no more substantial recognition of their daring and their sense of duty than a few lines in the newspapers."

There is nothing grander or nobler than doing one's duty and risking one's life under such conditions as these. The honor and applause won by military heroes constitute their just due, but save something of approval for the quiet fellows who do equally daring deeds wholly because it is part of their calling to jeopardize their lives for others.—Troy Times.

The Cost of Living.

THERE is food for thought for all classes of society in the published results of an investigation at nine of the leading cities of the country by the International Mercantile Agency into the recent course and the tendency of industrial wages, of rental values, and of prices for many essential articles of food and of clothing. The showing is made and that at all but one of the centers covered the average rate of wages remains practically stationary, with a weakening tendency in some instances, the significance of which is driven in by statements that at almost all the cities reported rents have shown a tendency to advance, and that many of the more important food products and staple fabrics are higher in price than a few months ago or than a year ago.

A further increase in the cost of living seems to be foreshadowed by the results of the inquiry as to house rents, and food and clothing prices, when contrasted with what seems to be a sharp check to further increases in wages, and in some instances a tendency to moderate reaction.

One may hardly infer that rents, food and clothing are to cost more because of the average gain within a year of perhaps 10 per cent in wages in many lines. The argument for the latter was based upon an increased cost of living that had already taken place. That the existing wage level may not be long maintained in its entirety seems a natural inference from late refusals of railways to heed further

MAGAZINES OLD AND NEW.

Contrast Between Those of Fifty Years Ago and Now.

The contrast between the American magazines of fifty years ago and those of to-day is so marked that it will impress the most careless reader. Take a bound volume of Putnam's Magazine from the shelves of a public library, free it from its layers of dust, turning its yellow pages, and, lo! you are confronted with some of the most famous names in the literature of the nineteenth century. Contrast this treasury of wit, humor, pathos and sentiment—embodied in the clearest of English prose, in the most musical English verse—with the current number of a magazine of to-day, and the unfavorable gulf between the two periods will at once be apparent. The great names of literature have given place to those of men and women who have gained a passing notoriety through good or bad fortune.

A successful Wall street broker is traveling for health and pleasure and in a mountainous country of Eastern Europe is captured by bandits. The bandits, in a businesslike manner, demand \$50,000 as a ransom; otherwise the American traveler will return to his sorrowing family and friends minus his ears. Negotiations are entered into with the outlaws and after long delays, during which the broker's precious ears are constantly threatened, the money is paid, and he returns in an unscathed condition to his office in Wall street. But his adventures have made him a famous man and magazine editors are clamorous in their demands that he shall tell the story of his capture and retention by

appeals for advances; from many industrial shut-downs as a substitute for wage reductions; from the outcome of the New York building strikes; from the Erie Railway Company's appeal to its employees to refrain from asking for advances; from the murmurings which have been heard in big steel manufacturing districts, and last, but not least, from the merits of the argument of Western bituminous coal miners in their explanation of trade conditions and why they were impelled to ask for a lower wage rate.

Considerations such as these, in a year which is evidently to be one of convalescence after the financial shock of 1903, founded upon an exhibit of prevailing tendencies bearing upon the cost of living, should be well calculated to appeal to the conservatism of employer and employee.—Newark News.

Fearlessness, Courage, Bravery.

IT goes without saying that whatever positive moral element there is in courage comes not from the absence of fear, but from its presence and the self-command exerted to overcome its effects. The normally constituted man, except in moments of irresponsible excitement, is frightened by any danger that confronts him. This does not necessarily mean that he is panic-stricken, but only that he is conscious of the gravity of the situation in which he finds himself. It is then the part of manhood for him to take himself in hand and repress any demonstration of his fear which might react in a demoralizing way upon himself. The courageous man makes up his mind that, no matter what comes, and no matter what threatens, he will keep cool and do the best he can. He knows, when he thinks it over calmly, that his only hope rests in never letting go of himself, but being constantly in such a state of mind that he can take advantage of any opening that offers. The frequent exertion of this self-control results in gradual hardening or seasoning, so that, although he never overcomes his fears, it is progressively easier for him to avoid being overcome by them.

The actually fearless man, if we can imagine one, is not likely to be very highly organized, for a fine organism means emotional susceptibility, and substantially all heroes are brave. He may be a worthy enough person, but more or less wooden. He must be classified in an exclusive category, since he possesses a trait of distinct value to himself and his fellows, but devoid of any high moral quality. As the ancient philosopher explained why the gods wished for nothing, by noting the fact that they had already everything that heart could desire, so we may say that the fearless man deserves no special credit for his good conduct in the face of peril, because he is under no temptation to behave badly.—Washington Post.

Seals in Lake Superior.

HUMAN ingenuity is tireless when a profit is in sight. Now they propose to maintain the supply of seal coats by breeding seals in Lake Superior. As a matter of fact, seals have been bred in fresh water, so that this transportation from their natural habitat is not impossible.

But there are other considerations which stand in the way of its profit and of its desirability. One is the climate. The ice in Lake Superior is said to be heavier than salt water ice, through which the Arctic seals find their blow holes, and incidentally enable the Eskimos to catch them and secure their own dinners. Then if the seals could live in Lake Superior it is a question whether any other form of life would long survive them. A colony of seals would be worse than a fleet of fishermen that covered the whole surface of that inland sea. They are gluttonous beasts, and they would respect no close season. The fish of Lake Superior are more valuable than the seals would be, even if seal culture there is possible. The seal has the broad Pacific for his own now. He is disappearing there, but his disappearance, with his shiny and luxurious coat, would not be an unmitigated calamity.—Brooklyn Eagle.

to satisfy them as a mere matter of business. The question of literary culture is not considered either in the editorial rooms or by the purchasers of the periodicals of to-day. And it must be admitted that the voice of a feghorn carries farther than the most dulcet notes of Pan's pipes.

Babies.

When the May baby and the June baby got well acquainted they exchanged confidences.

"My milk comes from a certified cow," said the May baby.

"So does mine," said the June baby.

"It is milked by a man in a white suit, with sterilized hands, through absorbent cotton, and kept at a temperature of forty-five degrees."

"So is mine."

"It is brought to me in a prophylactic wagon, drawn by a modified horse."

"So is mine."

"Then how in thunder do you manage to be so fat and well?"

The June baby winked slyly.

"I chew old paper and the corners of the rugs and anything I can find that is dirty, and in that way I manage to maintain the bacterial balance which is essential to health," he said, chuckling.

The May baby laughed long and loud.

"So do I," said he.

The mammas heard the goo-gooing, but they assigned to it only the usual fantastic significance. It was just as well.—Life.

Whenever we want to loaf, we don't give the excuse that we are going fishing.