



The Bee's Home Magazine Page



Oh! It's Great to Be Married

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Drawn for The Bee by George McManus



Dorothy Dix Writes:

On Breach of Promise Suits—Every Man Has a Right to Change His Mind—No Woman Who is Really Hurt Will Drag Her Wounds Before Public for Money.

By DOROTHY DIX

A telling blow for sex equality has just been struck by Supreme Court Justice Kelly, of Brooklyn, who has ruled that the right to change your mind is not the sole prerogative of woman. Mere man has the same privilege.



In a breach of promise case, in which a fair lady was suing a faithless swain for reneging on his promise to marry her, Justice Kelly made the following rule:

"In the modern days of suffrage agitation," he said, "we must not be too severe with the men as long as no unfair advantage has been taken of the women."

Stork and Cupid Cunning Plotters

Many a New Home will Have a Little Sunbeam to Brighten It.



There is usually a certain degree of dread in every woman's mind as to the probable pain, distress and danger of child-birth. But, thanks to a most remarkable remedy known as Mother's Friend, all fear is banished and the period is one of unbounded, joyful anticipation.

when she no longer attracts or fascinates him and he has ceased to want her—her claim upon him is forfeited, and as a matter of fact, it would be a nice point of law to decide the woman who can no longer deliver the goods isn't the one who has defaulted on the contract, and not the man.

Moreover, Cupid is no piker. He is a dead game sport, and whenever a man or a woman sits down to the love game he or she must play the limit and take the risks. In addition, this is also to be said—that although women generally get a cold deal in matrimony they hold the trump hand in courtship. For it is the custom of men to woo maid with flowers and candy, and looks and theater tickets, and restaurant feeds, so that Romeo has paid his score as he went along, and even if he balks at the altar the account still stands in the woman's favor. Truly, tis better to have been wooed and jilted than never to have been wooed at all.

In deciding that a man has a right to change his mind about getting married and cannot be assessed heavy damages for doing so Justice Kelly has done a notable service to humanity. The breach of promise case should be thrown out of court and a man not only given the privilege of withdrawing from a matrimonial engagement if he decides that for any reason it should be best for him to do so, but he should be backed up by public opinion in doing it.

Thousands of men, carried away by the impulse of the moment or some wave of transient sentiment, have popped the question to girls that they knew were unfitted to be their wives, and rued their folly before the words were off of their lips. Thousands of other men have honestly thought themselves in love at the time they became engaged to women, but found themselves disillusioned long before their wedding day. Thousands of men are so completely out of love and disenchanted with their prospective wives that they would rather face the hangman than the preacher on their marriage morn.

These men would give ten years of their lives to unsay the words they have uttered, to take back the promise they have given, to be free of the women that they know will hang like millstones about their necks, but they lack the courage to break their engagements. Many a man does everything to force the girl to jilt him. He picks quarrels with her. He neglects her. Sometimes he even tries to tell her that he doesn't love her any more, but the more he attempts to break away the tighter she clings, and the more she weeps, and in the end he gives in and lets himself be led like a lamb to the slaughter because he hasn't the nerve to hurt her or to be branded as a quiver.

Secrets of the Sphinx

By GARRETT P. SERVISS.

The secret of the sphinx, the oldest puzzle in the world, is once more the subject of investigation. Not long ago it was reported that a little temple, dedicated to the sun, and supposed to be about 8,000 years old, had been found concealed in the huge head of the crouching stone figure which for uncounted centuries had defied the abrading sandstorms of Egypt; but this is now denied.

It is not the first time that similar reports of strange discoveries in the body of the sphinx have been spread abroad, but invariably the expected revelation of a secret which was kept even from the ears of the inquisitive "Father of History," Herodotus, is disappointed, and the sphinx remains as enigmatical as ever.

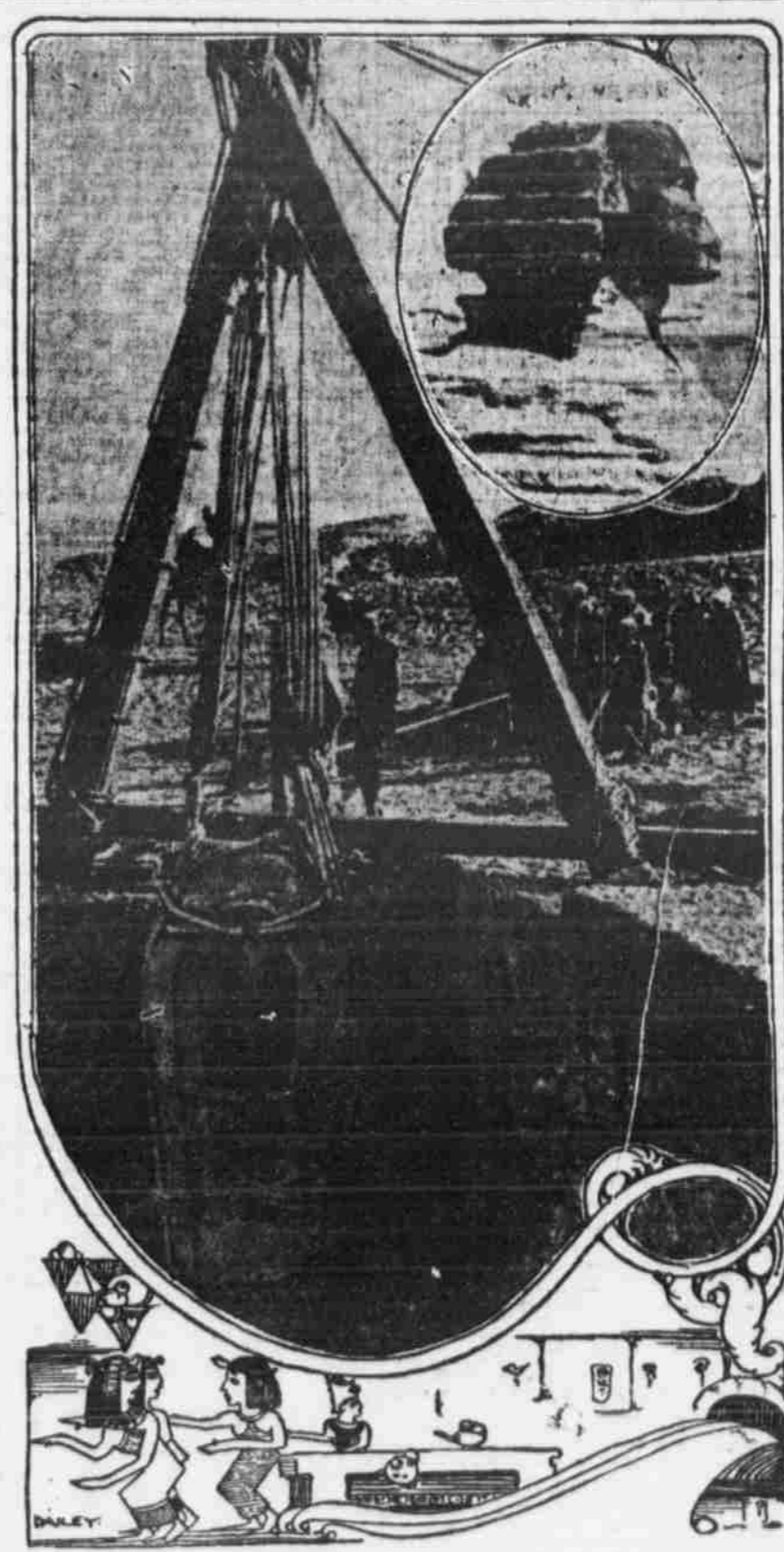
The work that is now actually being done by explorers consists of excavations by Prof. Reiner, representing Harvard university, among the mortuary temples associated with what is usually called the third pyramid, or the pyramid of Mycerinus, of other excavations by Dr. Borchart, the German archeologist, in the rear of the sphinx, where a number of underground passages have been discovered. Both of these explorations indicate some connection between the sphinx and the pyramid of Mycerinus.

But the sphinx was also connected with the great pyramid, or pyramid of Cheops, by similar concealed ways. Long ago it became known that a system of labyrinthine passages existed between the sphinx and the great pyramid. This is shown by a curious extract from an old manuscript, quoted by E. L. Wilson twenty-five years ago:

"In a tomb behind the sphinx, from the mouth of a mummy pit eighty feet deep, the echoes, prolonged, of a gun fired in the heart of the pyramid were heard, while the gun fired at the base of the pyramid was hardly audible. This fact proves a hidden labyrinth beneath the tableland."

This recalls the legend of Queen Nitocris, "the beautiful one with the rosy cheeks," who, according to the stories that Herodotus heard, avenged the murder of her husband, the king, by inviting all who had been implicated in the assassination to a banquet, held in a great underground hall, which she had constructed. At the height of the revelry she had the gates of passages connecting with the Nile thrown open, and all her guests were drowned. Herodotus also says that she enlarged the pyramid of Mycerinus. The Arabs, yet today, have a legend that the spirit of Nitocris haunts this pyramid in the form of a beautiful woman who lures men away into the desert, where they go mad and perish.

The Tunnels of Death



Here is shown the removal of a huge stone sarcophagus from one of the subterranean tunnels recently discovered, and below is an illustration of how Queen Nitocris trapped her enemies in one of the underground passages by inviting them there to a banquet, during which she had gates connecting the tunnels to the Nile thrown open, drowning the feasters.

But what was the part that the sphinx played in the projected assemblage of structures collected together on this rocky platform? That question remains unanswered. Why did the great conqueror Cambyses, nearly 2,500 years ago, mutilate the face of the sphinx? Did its countenance express its purpose, and did he wish to destroy its supposed influence? The Arab name for the sphinx is "The Father of Horror." Is that a mere play of Oriental imagination, or does it commemorate an all but forgotten tradition? The excavations of the next few years may yet give us light on the age-old questions that this gigantic figure, cut out of the solid rock, suggests to every thoughtful onlooker.

To a Wronged Wife

By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

Believe me, dear madam, the woman who is an absolutely wronged wife does not ask any one for sympathy or advice, because the wound is too deep to be probed by words, and it is hidden from sight. It is only the surface scratch which lies open to the gaze of every eye.

There was once a wife who believed her husband to be loyal and true in all his ways, but she continuously nagged him about small matters. She was irritable and fault finding, and she was a poor housekeeper and careless in her personal habits. Life under the same roof with her was purgatory.

She had suffered every indignity possible from a small-souled brute of a man. Yet she had made her home a heaven for her children; and she had developed the most wonderful patience and strength of character which made her the admiration of all who knew her.

After her children were grown, and in homes of their own, she left the man; but she had believed it to be for the best to save her children the scandal of a domestic earthquake while they were small. And no one ever heard her mention her husband, save with dignity. While a woman remains under a man's roof, she should follow the old saying:

"If you are going to put up with a situation, then shut up." If you find the situation impossible, then get out; and when it is necessary, talk; but only when it is necessary.

If you find yourself obliged to remain under the roof of the man who has wronged you, try to occupy yourself every hour of the day with work and duties and distractions which keep you from brooding. Take an interest in your personal appearance; surprise him by growing in attractiveness, and increase your circle of friends.

Do not for an hour let him see you looking like a martyr.

Female martyrs are never attractive to men. Keep busy, and never allow yourself to be led into quarrels.

Think about others as much as you can, and as little as possible of your own sorrows.

Sorrow well borne is a friend and a teacher, imparting a sense of kinship and sympathy. Put away any idea that you have been specially selected by fate for a crushing woe. Consider, rather, that you have been made one of God's intimate family by being shown into the chamber of sorrow.

Feel yourself kin to all the sorrowing world, and cast out bitterness. All this I say to you, knowing you have not reached a stage of suffering which paralyzes the faculties and makes words useless. For if you had you could not have asked for sympathy or spoken of your trouble. The woman who really loves and has really been wronged can only talk with God.

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You say your trouble has destroyed your nervous system and made you irritable, cross and irresponsible in your actions.

Are you quite sure you were not afflicted with some of these peculiarities before you were wronged?

There was once a wife who believed her husband to be loyal and true in all his ways, but she continuously nagged him about small matters.

She was irritable and fault finding, and she was a poor housekeeper and careless in her personal habits. Life under the same roof with her was purgatory.

Suddenly, when both husband and wife were middle aged, she found him infatuated with another woman.

Then she lifted her voice and cried aloud that she had been such a good wife; so faithful; so self-sacrificing; so devoted; so loving; and here was her reward.

And no one could make her believe she had been the one who hewed the wood, and shaped and built her own cross.

Sometimes the absolutely good and noble wife is neglected and misused. The most adorable woman the writer of this ever knew was a misused and neglected wife.

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Charles Bradlaugh

By REV. THOMAS B. GREGORY.

It was thirty-three years ago May 8, 1860, that the famous battle between Charles Bradlaugh and the British Parliament began.

In 1860 Bradlaugh was elected to Parliament by the Northampton constituency; and, being an atheist, he asked that he be allowed to "affirm," instead of taking the oath in the usual form. The privilege was denied him. Offering, then, to take the oath, he was declared to be disqualified, was ordered to leave the House, and upon refusing to do so was placed in custody. His seat was declared vacant by the courts.

In 1861 his constituency returned him. Upon his again presenting himself he was denied the privilege of taking the oath, was again ordered from the House, and upon his refusal to leave was forcibly ejected.

His Northampton constituency stood faithfully by him and returned him in 1862 and 1863, whereupon the same scenes occurred in the Parliament. In the meantime he brought suit against the sergeant-at-arms for unlawful ejection and won, but later on the invalidity of his title to a seat in the House was reaffirmed.

In 1866 he was again returned to Parliament, when the same old tactics were resorted to, with the same result, but upon his being returned in 1868 he was permitted to take the oath and occupy his seat. The man of the iron will and unconquerable spirit had won them out.

By and by both the House and the country learned that Bradlaugh was as honest as he was courageous, as grand a man as he was a fighter, and before he died, in January, 1891, the House voted to expunge from its journal all the ugly resolutions that had been passed against him. It was a double victory, a victory for Bradlaugh, and a victory for the members of the House of Commons, for when that vote expunged the resolutions prevailed, their good sense and finer human sentiment triumphed over their inherited ignorance and bigotry.

Bradlaugh was born in London in 1833, of the poorest of parents, and at the age of 19 began as an errand boy. His education, such as it was, was self-acquired.

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Here Comes the Bride

By FRANCES L. GARSIDE.

When a man and woman announce their intention of getting married, don't get them into thinking seriously by asking why.

Shortly after the girl sets the date, the man gives the distress signal to her father. He doesn't want a parade wedding, and will the father assist him in rebelling? But the father knows the strength of the enemies' guns, and responds that it is no use.

One reason the bride insists on a church wedding is that she realizes it is the last time she will ever get the man she marries out to church.

No person, man or woman, who can't look on the bright side should be permitted to enter the marriage state.

When a man walks down the aisle of a church stepping on flowers which little girls have scattered before him, he must look like a fool, but no one has even looked at him close enough to see.

A man and woman going on a wedding tour try hard not to look happy, and on their return they try just as hard to look unhappy.

They long endure their engagement to go somewhere after they are married, where they will be alone. On the second day after they have been all alone, the bride says, "Wouldn't it be nice if some friend should come along?" And the groom sighs, "Yes, or even an enemy!"

About three months after a bride has left her old home with her nose turned up scornfully at the suggestion that she take her old clothes with her, she comes hurrying back for them, and is mad if one garment is missing.

As a rule, a woman has to wear her wedding clothes so many years it is a wonder her great-grandchildren don't find rags in them.

The longer a woman has been married, the greater her wonder that she ever thought fine clothes would cut any figure in her happiness.

When it is said of a bridegroom that he has money, every woman present remarks, "And you bet she knows how to spend it for him."

There isn't as much honey in the honeymoon as reported, much of it being lost in the ordeal of wiping on new towels after they have gone to housekeeping, and breaking in new shoes.

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Mr. Donz.