

The Bee's Home Magazine Page

Why We Quarreled

No. 10—This Husband's Untidiness Causes His Wife's Story of Dispute

By Virginia Terhune Van de Water

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My husband and I have quarreled because of his apparent indifference as to how his home and he himself looks.

In the first place, Paul smokes, and no smoker is thoroughly tidy. Then he is not as careful about his personal cleanliness as I think a gentleman should be.

To be sure, I have not had much experience with men, as my father died when I was a mere child, and I had no brothers. So it was hard for me to become accustomed to the odor of cigars and cigarettes. But for the sake of my husband, I tried to do this.

I am naturally very neat, and it makes me acutely uncomfortable to see things in disorder.

Soon after our marriage we moved to the suburbs and bought a new cottage. All our furniture was pretty and dainty. Paul seemed as proud of our belongings as I was. So it was a distinct disappointment to me to note how little pains he took to keep things immaculate.

First of all, he bought a dog. Now, I am fond of animals, and the thought of having a dog on guard when I was at home alone was comfortable. But I supposed that the creature would be kept out of doors.

"When will you get his kennel?" I asked on the day of Rover's arrival.

"He won't need a kennel," my husband informed me. "He will spend most of his time on the veranda."

But in muddy weather, think how dirty he will get the place," I ventured.

"In stormy weather he can come into the house," my husband remarked. "He is too valuable a dog to be left out at night in all weathers."

I looked at the thoroughbred English setter, and reflected that he was certainly an ornament to any household. So I offered no further protest at the time.

It was autumn, and with the first cold, rainy evening Rover scratched for admittance on our new front door. Paul smiled as he saw the marks of the dog's nails on the polished wood.

"Come in, you rascal!" he called, opening the door. "You're as wet as a drowned rat."

He spoke the truth. The dog had been running through the woods not far from our cottage. He now made straight for the open fire, in front of which he proceeded to shake himself vigorously, the drops from his shaggy hair flying in all directions.

"Oh, Paul!" I exclaimed. "This is too much! Just look at my pretty furniture." But Paul only laughed.

"That is his way. That is also the way that he took my comments on his smoking and many other untidy habits. When he was a boy his mother must have let him do just as he pleased. He was her only son. Perhaps that accounts for his carelessness.

It seems a small thing to quarrel about, doesn't it? Yet, after a while, I found conditions almost unbearable. Our living room was finished in white enamel paint. Our rugs and hangings were in an exquisite shade of dull blue. It was an ideal room. At least, that is the way it was when we were first married.

Later, when my husband's dog was not lying on my one white fur rug in front of the fire, my husband's muddy boots were drying there. He liked to tramp in all weathers, and when he came in, he would throw his damp mackintosh on a chair, his wet hat on another, and stretching himself out on the couch, with his head on the delicate-colored cushions, proceed to light his cigar, and smoke, dropping the ashes about promiscuously. Then, when dinner was announced, he would go into the dining room and sit down at the table in his rough clothes, his hair unbrushed, his hands unwashed.

I stood this for one year. At the beginning of our second winter in the country, I had a long talk with Paul. I told him how unhappy his ways made me and begged him to be more careful. He seemed impressed by my talk, which I made as gentle and conciliatory as I could, and promised to try to comply with my wishes.

With my own money I had the rugs cleaned, the sofa cushions recovered, the floors "done over," and the whole house put in perfect order.

Then I went away for a few days to visit a friend in the city. I returned on Sunday afternoon instead of waiting until Monday afternoon, as I had planned. All the way home I was thinking how different our little home would be now that Paul was going to be more careful. It was a bitter cold day, and, as I took the village stage from the railroad station, I pictured my husband's happy surprise at my arrival. I also fancied how cozy and inviting the cottage would look.

But when I entered softly, I stopped short in dismay. My husband's muddy foot-prints and the dog's equally muddy tracks were everywhere. Paul wore no collar, and he had evidently not been shaved since my departure. He had had two bottles of beer brought into the living room that morning, and the "empties" and a glass still stood there. The place smelt of stale beer, cigar butts and dog's hide.

My husband laughed at my exclamation of disappointment. He always laughs at such things. Then he kissed me. The bristles on his chin scraped my face, his soiled linen and spotted clothes offended my taste to the breaking point and I pushed him from me with both hands.

"Don't touch me!" I commanded.

"What is the matter?" I asked, in a few strong words.

"And now," I said, "the time has come when you are either to alter your habits, get rid of your dog or get rid of me!"

I know many women will condemn me, for my husband was fond of me, was a good provider, and a respectable member of society.

But to one brought up as I was, uncleanliness in person and habits is harder to bear than some actual sins would be.

Miss Barnes' Rules for Gaining Poise



Today Miss Barnes finishes her article on callisthenics as a means of aiding women in their search for grace and beauty. The specially posed exercises which Miss Barnes illustrates, used in connection with those given yesterday, are classics in simplicity. They are within the reach of even the busiest woman.

By HELEN BARNES.

These exercises complete the series I started last week.

First—Raise the knees as high as possible with arms outstretched, shoulder high. Alternate raising knees as rapidly as possible.

Second—Lie flat on the back on the floor. Clasp hands above head and raise one leg as high as possible, keeping the other stretched on the floor.

Just a word about the general rules governing these exercises, which are best taken in rotation as a complete series. Remember you are not doing them daily just for the fun of the thing. You want results! So put a little headwork into the exercises and keep eternally at them.

You'll only waste your time if you go about them in any other spirit.

Do each one at least ten times, and do them all rapidly. Twenty minutes for the whole series is quite enough. Start them in the morning after your cold shower or plunge and at night go through the four exercises for a few minutes just before retiring. The added benefit you will get from your sleep will

surprise you.

These callisthenics will reduce flesh; they are especially good for abdominal reduction. Conscientiously followed, they will work miracles if you assist by not overeating.

Women nowadays eat too much to keep in condition. One good meal in the evening, with just enough food during the day to keep from being faint, is the best way to live.

These suggestions are especially valuable to remember during hot weather. It's really a woman's own fault if she gets flabby and aces physically. Just as soon as she does she is liable to sag mentally, and then her youth is gone.

Exercise every day in your room. Make it a sort of religious rite that must be kept up at all costs. Eat less, sleep more and walk every chance you get. Then some day you will wake up to the fact that you stand better than you used to and that you have learned the secret of poise. The old awkwardness that caused you such agonies of shame will be gone. Isn't that worth sacrificing a little for, now?

Green wallpapers should never be used in a nursery, as some contain arsenic.

Children should not be hotter than adults—the temperature should be from 10.6 to 10 degrees.

Swedish mothers put money into their child's first bath, believing that this brings future wealth.

Mothers in Greece before putting their children in the cradle turn round three times. This is to ward off evil spirits.

Evolution

Mighty Work of the Creator Seen in Progressive Forms of Animals Left in the Rocks—To the Soul Science Can Apply None of Its Tests.

By GARRETT F. SERVISS.

Answers to the following questions will be greatly appreciated: (1) Science offers the theory of evolution. Does this destroy the truth of the Biblical narrative of creation? (2) Does science admit or deny the existence of the soul?" —P. W. A.

Suppose somebody should say to you: "We are bound to believe from what is said in Genesis about the creation of animals that the first horse was a complete and perfect horse. The Almighty made the species horse in the beginning as a horse and nothing else."

If you had no special knowledge on the subject you might accept that as the truth, and you might believe that it was a truth divinely revealed to man.

But, now suppose that you enter the American Museum of Natural History, in Central Park West, and that an attendant should show you (as one will do if you go there), a long series of fossil bones and skeletons, taken from the ancient strata of the earth, and forming a complete chain, leading up, link by link, from a little animal about as big as a fox, which lived millions of years ago, to the fully developed horse of today, and suppose that he should point out to you (as also he will do if you ask him) evidence, which any court would have to accept, that these changes were gradually accomplished, by regular steps, one following another, and all progressing in the order of time so that the bones and skeletons taken from older strata bear less resemblance to a horse than do those taken from newer strata, and suppose, finally, that he should (as he can do), show you, in the skeleton of the

modern horse, proofs that its hoofs have been developed from three-toed and five-toed feet, like those possessed by its Biliputian ancestors ages ago, and that its teeth, and other parts of its body, have likewise been developed from the forms which they had in its progenitors—after seeing and hearing all that, what would you say to the man who told you that God created the horse at a stroke?

Would you feel that you were disrespectful to the Great Creator if you declared upon the basis of the evidence put before you, that he did not take the horse in an instant, by virtue of a sudden fiat, but built it up gradually, through many wonderfully linked forms, requiring millions of years of their evolution? He has left the record of how he did it in the rocks, and where is the irrelevance of reading and believing that record?

It happens that we have a very complete series of ancestral forms revealing the evolution of the horse, but the evidence that all species of animals not excepting man, have been gradually developed in a similar manner is just as clear and irrefragable as it is in the case of the horse. The monkey and the ape are often spoken of as the ancestors of man, as if they bore to him the same relationship that the extinct hyracotherium and philopippus do to the horse. But the falsity of this notion (which no evolutionist entertained or taught) is sufficiently indicated by the fact that the apes and monkeys are our contemporaries. The teaching of science is that they are, physically, a collateral and inferior branch of the order of animals to which man belongs.

The simple fact is that men and apes have been evolved from some common ancestor different from both. That ancestor has not yet been surely identified. Its fossil remains may, nevertheless, be somewhere embedded in the earth's rich crust.

With the effect of these facts upon the narrative of creation contained in the Hebrew holy books, science does not concern itself. Science did not set out to destroy or disprove that narrative; it set out only to learn all that it could about the earth and the universe, and the history of the earth and the universe, as far as they can be apprehended by human senses. If the facts of evolution had been known in ancient times the Bible would not have been written as it was written.

Concerning the soul, science has nothing to say, because, to that, it can apply none of its tests. It is a conception lying entirely outside of the scientific field. Nevertheless, science does not affirm that the soul does not exist. There is no reason why the man of science should not be just as much impressed as anybody else by the wonderful words that Socrates addressed to his friends when he was about to die:

"If the soul is immortal, then does he stand in want of care, not only during this period which we call life, but for all time, and we may well consider that there is terrible danger in neglecting her. If death indeed were an escape from all things, then were it a great release to the wicked, for it would be a release from the body and from their own sin, and from the soul at the same time; but now, as the soul proves to be immortal, there is no other escape from evil to come, nor any other safety than in her attaining to the highest virtue and wisdom."

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Heavens in October

By WILLIAM F. RIGGE, S. J.

Early risers, if the envious clouds do not prevent, will see the starry sky in its least array. With Orion, the finest of the constellations, on the meridian, and Sirius, the brightest of the stars, at its left, Procyon, in the Smaller Dog, will be somewhat towards the east, and the twins, Castor and Pollux, higher up in the eastern heavens, with the quiet planet Saturn and the wandering fiery Mars in their immediate company, and the brilliant planet Jupiter very low down in the west, set like jewels in the sky. The Big Dipper will be in the northeast, Cassiopeia, or the Lady in Her Chair, in the northwest, and the Lion will be climbing up out of the eastern horizon.

There is nothing like this at present in the early evening sky, except the lonely planet Jupiter in the east, which rises at 4:37 p. m. on the 15th and south at 10:17 p. m. Saturn rises on the 19th at 10:37 p. m., and Mars at midnight. Venus and Mercury are too near the sun to be seen.

The day is 11 hours 36 minutes long on the 1st, 11 hours 8 minutes on the 15th and 10 hours 30 minutes on the 31st, a loss of 1 hour 16 minutes during the month.

The standard time of the rising, meridian passage or setting, and setting of the sun and moon at Omaha during this month, are given in the following table:

Date	SUN		MOON	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1	6:21	12:14	6:07	11:58
2	6:22	12:13	6:06	11:57
3	6:23	12:12	6:05	11:56
4	6:24	12:11	6:04	11:55
5	6:25	12:10	6:03	11:54
6	6:26	12:09	6:02	11:53
7	6:27	12:08	6:01	11:52
8	6:28	12:07	6:00	11:51
9	6:29	12:06	5:59	11:50
10	6:30	12:05	5:58	11:49
11	6:31	12:04	5:57	11:48
12	6:32	12:03	5:56	11:47
13	6:33	12:02	5:55	11:46
14	6:34	12:01	5:54	11:45
15	6:35	12:00	5:53	11:44
16	6:36	11:59	5:52	11:43
17	6:37	11:58	5:51	11:42
18	6:38	11:57	5:50	11:41
19	6:39	11:56	5:49	11:40
20	6:40	11:55	5:48	11:39
21	6:41	11:54	5:47	11:38
22	6:42	11:53	5:46	11:37
23	6:43	11:52	5:45	11:36
24	6:44	11:51	5:44	11:35
25	6:45	11:50	5:43	11:34
26	6:46	11:49	5:42	11:33
27	6:47	11:48	5:41	11:32
28	6:48	11:47	5:40	11:31
29	6:49	11:46	5:39	11:30
30	6:50	11:45	5:38	11:29
31	6:51	11:44	5:37	11:28

The dot, or period, between the hours and minutes indicates p. m. times. The times not so marked are a. m. The sun is east the whole month on sundial time, the exact amount in minutes being found by subtracting from twenty-four the minutes given after 12 in the "noon" column. The sun will enter Scorpio on the 24th.

The moon is in last quarter on the 1st at 3:44 a. m., new on the 8th at 3:43 p. m., in first quarter on the 15th at 7:22 a. m., full on the 23d at 6:16 p. m. and last quarter again on the 30th at 10:40 p. m. It is in conjunction with Saturn on the 1st and 29th, with Mars on the 3d and 31st, and with Jupiter on the 18th. The conjunction of the moon with Mars on the 2d will be pretty close and amount to an occultation on the North Atlantic ocean.

Creighton University Observers, Omaha, Neb.

Facts for Mothers

Tea is poison to a baby.

No child should sleep on the floor, as all heavy, impure air sinks to the floor level.

Green wallpapers should never be used in a nursery, as some contain arsenic.

If a piece on being burned smells of garlic, arsenic is present.

Children should not be hotter than adults—the temperature should be from 10.6 to 10 degrees.

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