

WHAT AGE ARE WOMEN MOST BEAUTIFUL--IS IT 35?

By MRS. GOVERNEUR MORRIS.
(Elsie Waterbury Morris.)

I am compelled to admit that in numbers women are most beautiful physically between the ages of 16 and 25. Yet as soon as we realize that the forces of nature are ever active for us and that by learning how to make use of them we can have beauty and the conditions of youth, plus the charm of intelligence and the personality that comes with mental and spiritual development, we shall know that beauty has no age, but it is as it was intended to be, eternal.

This knowledge rarely comes to a woman before 25. It is of the woman of 35 and over that I should like to write.

She has arrived at what should prove to be the most interesting period of her life. Mentally she was never more alert. The problem becomes to her largely a physical one. It is at this time she should keep herself fittest. Dress and care of the body become of very vital importance and the woman who "lets herself go" is over the theory that her life-work is over in the wearing of style symmetry.

Physical signs of age cannot only be prevented, but can be corrected through proper methods. When a woman reaches this age she should sit down and take stock of herself and appraise the past, the mistakes made, and profit thereby. She should awaken to the thousand and one interests that this old world of ours holds for her and to the real service that she can be to others.

"Smile, Even if It Hurts."

So many women at this age fly into a veritable panic. In a misdirected effort to regain youth they wear the clothes of the girl of 16. They affect young "misses' clothes, both their hair and mentally begin to roll hoops and climb trees. They make a mistake. The secret of success, or happiness, for them lies not in the ridiculous imitation of the young girl, but in the right expression of their own individuality.

It is a truth that people shun the unkind or belittled woman and it takes no great psychologist to recognize that a smile is the reflection of a smile. So smile, even if it hurts. In this country of ours we are a

very intense people, and many of us are likely to become obsessionists along certain lines of thought and very intolerant of other lines of thought. This I have particularly noticed in women of 35, 40. It seems to be a common belief that they must select one of two roads, and that all beauty is either mental or all physical.

Dangerous Alternatives.

Some give up all thought of care for their physical being and concentrate upon a state of spiritual exhilaration, preparatory to the next world. Others drop all mental improvement and proceed to pay attention only to their physical well-being in an attempt to retrace their steps and regain their youth. Either path seems to be dangerous. A combination of the two is desirable. They go hand in hand.

I would like to bring out the point that the real fountain of youth lies within every individual and as soon as it is understood it is a comparatively easy matter to alleviate age and ugliness and to express to the fullest extent personal loveliness.

I have just been reading an article by a physician, with which I fully agree. He states that there are only two ways of growing old—one is by actual changes in the physical organization, biological causes, and the other is by psychic changes; that is, changes in the way we think and feel.

If we think we are old, we become so. Our thoughts are, or should be, in an honest world, reflected in our faces. One of the most delightful and inspiring personalities I know is a nine children, and does her work well. She has retained her optimism and youthful outlook. I think that her sense of humor has been a great help.

"Mental and Physical Bustles."

She still sits on the floor to put on her stockings. She takes care of her complexion because she told me one of her great-grandchildren was worried about the wrinkles in her face. She tells me there are no bad people. She keeps up with the time and, after reading up on psycho-

analysis, tells me the first psychoanalyst was the mother and it is another word for "mother's knee," which was also the first and best confession. And this dear old lady has never lost her faith or her interest in youth or in life.

The only time I have ever seen her show signs of anger was when someone had said that the youth of today was going to the devil. "Nonsense," she exclaimed, "the youth of today is only expressing what we should have expressed had we had the chance and the courage. I wish I could live it all over again without the mental and physical bustles that were tied to me."

So I feel that there is one luxury that no woman can afford—no matter how wealthy she may be—and that is the luxury of old age. In these days it is not only the inalienable right, but the obligation, of every woman to stay young. A generation or so ago old age was accepted without challenge. In permitting her waist-line to go and her chin to come a woman did not realize that she was declaring quite frankly to the world that she was neglecting or over-indulging herself. Now we know this is the truth.

Fashion More Exact.

Fashion, too, was more considerate then. Long skirts kindly concealed ankles that had entirely given up the straight and narrow idea. In other words, while old age was not obligatory, it was at least optional, and a woman could let herself go and become frankly old if she liked. Now this is not so. No woman is so sure of her position, socially, professionally or at the home, that she dares let the world believe that she is lagging behind or has plainly "given up."

Father time has been given gently to understand that he must no longer use women's countenances as time sheets. No woman in these days in the game and stay young and in tip-top shape mentally and physically for her home, her business or her social life, if not for herself.

What Alcohol Will Do to Beauty.

I am sure that there is no more



MRS. GOVERNEUR MORRIS.
(Elsie Waterbury Morris.)

Elsie Waterbury Morris is known throughout the world as a daughter of America's old aristocracy. Her father, James C. Waterbury, was former head of the United States customs and her mother, Lawrence and John C. Waterbury, are prominent polo players and horsemen. The recent international polo games between the British and Americans were held for the Mrs. Waterbury cup, a trophy named for another of her father's famous polo players, now dead. Mrs. Morris has not been content to follow the usual role of New York society women. Four years after her marriage to Gouverneur Morris, widely known author and descendant of Gouverneur Morris, secretary of the American constitutional convention and the first business enterprise on Fifth avenue. A toy shop, operated under the name "Mrs. Waterbury Fair," gave Mrs. Morris an opportunity to exercise her own initiative. The toys were manufactured in a shed among the tennis courts of her father's country home, and sold in the Fifth avenue shop. Not so long ago Mrs. Morris established an institute for beauty culture, catering to the same exclusive circle of society women in which she had always moved. Eventually, insistence on her own career caused a separation and divorce from Mr. Morris. There are two children, Kate and Peter, both in Mrs. Morris's custody. Successful in business, widely known in society, the mother of two beautiful children, Mrs. Morris has a unique background for the study of modern women's destiny.

highlighting effect on a woman's beauty than the excessive use of alcohol. Alcohol will ravage a beautiful woman's face in a very few years and leave her a haggard shadow of her former self. If a woman drinks heavily, even if it does not become a matter of scandal and social ostracism, she will lose her spiritual and physical beauty and in a very little time it will "take away her friends, sad, on by one, and of her own kind heart an agate make."

It is of incalculable harm for the young girl to touch any form of intoxicants, both from the standpoint of beauty and from the moral or mental standpoint. It frees age-old inhibitions, which means the breaking down of self-protection—a very real menace to happiness.

I am often asked whether women dress for men or for other women. I think that the wise, normal, successful women will always dress to please men. When a woman dresses with other women in mind she does so to excite envy, because women, judging other women's gowns, think largely in terms of cost or smartness. But man rarely knows or appreciates the cost of woman's clothing—except, possibly, at the end of the month. He gets the impression of general effect.

If women dress to please man they will dress becomingly, so that their clothes add to their attractiveness—even though the gown be home-made. After all, as a woman's husband never reflects of her in a mirror, so she thinks of herself—and it is mighty important that that reflection should discover to her both physical care and mental beauty.

To a famous physician is attributed the remark that all men should be chloroformed at 40, but I notice that this self-protective gentleman never made any such wild assertion in regard to women. It is at this time that her children are beginning to spread their wings and will soon take flight, and it is proper that they should—no matter how it pains the mother. It is at this time that her poise and advice are of the greatest consequence to their lives.

If she has kept up with youth and has the spirit of youth, they will come and lay their new problems before her for help. If she has atrophied mentally and physically and is living in the past, her advice, no matter how good, will be disregarded for the reason that youth feels, and rightly so, that age does not understand.

To keep up with the world and the spirit of youth is absolutely essential. The running of the house has, by this time, become a matter of routine—taking at most but an hour a day. She must enlarge her world, depending on where her interest lies, whether in society or business or charity, or in politics.

Fading Physical Facts. Just how great an improvement the woman of 35 is over her grandmother. Look at any golf club and see the number of fit and healthy women of today and compare them with a generation or so ago, of women usually grown old at 40, whirling around the house with every ill known to a patent medicine advertisement—natural diseases of the various organs, impossible crinolines, more impossible bustles and shoes copied from the "heavenly Chinese."

And our girls are as much ahead of us as we are better off than our grandmothers. We don't mind facing ourselves in the glass today. It doesn't spoil our whole evening. Because we are thinking straighter and better thoughts. We are taking more care of ourselves physically and are not so afraid to face the facts. Science has done many wonderful things for women within the past few years. It has eased their burden within and without the home in a hundred ways; and yet, perhaps, it has done no finer thing than to open for them the way to a new beauty.

The Drinking Male.

Beauty does more than to delight the eye. It is a positive inspiration for good. It influences not only the beholder but the possessor. I have actually seen a woman of 40 in utter despair, hopeless, full of hatred of others and malicious gossip—a form of self-hate—change her whole atti-

tude towards life by changing the way she wore her hair—so that when she looked into a glass she saw a different self.

Man's spoken attitude—to which let me say I have never paid the slightest attention—towards a woman's efforts to make herself beautiful has always seemed to me most amusing. The average man is more a slave to appearances than woman. I really think that he is more aware to the importance of appearance than woman; more fearful of giving a wrong impression through investigation, and find that he spends more actual money on the "beauty idea" than a woman does. Take any large city and you will find 10 barber shops to one beauty parlor. Only one-fourth of the barber's time is spent on removing hairs, skin treatments. The rest is spent on hot towels, massage, mud masks and so forth and so on.

Inspirational Beauty.

So when we get right down to brass tacks, man is just as vain as woman—and I think it a very proper form of vanity—I am not criticizing—or he would give the bewitched appearance of a Rip Van Winkle. Man is simply a little more cunning, and probably unconsciously, than woman in his attitude—he doesn't carry his vanity case in the open.

The woman of 35 or 40 should remember that she is at this time changing into a new personality—the man who has lost a job that he has held down for 20 years. She is losing the position of nurse, stenographer, or secretary. She has had to readjust herself. In that readjustment will largely depend her future happiness. So I do think that for real beauty, beauty that shines through the eyes, beauty that is actuated by love and by gentle thoughts, by understanding and tolerance, there is no inspirational beauty to compare with the beauty of 40 and over. For at this time in a woman's life spiritual beauty gains ascendancy, and it shows in her every act and in a veritable halo about her.

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CZECHO-SLOVAKIA ASPIRES TO BE THE HUB OF EUROPE

By H. G. WELLS.

Author of the Outline of History. Special Cable Dispatch To The Omaha Bee.

Bohemia within its mountains is like a square citadel in the center of Europe. Czechoslovakia, the old Bohemian land, has expanded and extended, the most orderly and successful of all the states created by the treaty of Versailles. The republic understands the modern need of publicity. What is done in Prague is heard of in the world.

The new treaty of France brings Czechoslovakia still more prominently forward. Poor, exhausted, bankrupt Poland was thrust aside. Czechoslovakia becomes the keystone of France's rearrangement of alliances. But Czechoslovakia is a different country from Poland, it is sturdier, less romantically inclined. Its president and his chief minister are among

the most level-headed, far-seeing European statesmen, and it is likely to prove a restraining influence on France.

Bohemia is the projecting westward end of the Slav world; its language is closely akin to Russian, Serbian, Polish and Bulgarian. Within its boundaries there are more than three million Germans, and three quarters of a million Magyars. Its natural destiny seems to be to act as a region of exchange and interpretation between the Slavic world, German speech encloses it on three sides. With 13,000,000 odd and heterogeneous population, largely engaged in agriculture, it cannot be a country of any great importance. Its importance lies in its position, its possible inter-racial functions.

Bohemia a Reconciler.

To these the president and his chief

minister and pupil, Mr. Benes, are acutely alive. They see in their country a meeting place for the peoples of Europe. They are ambitious to make it a center of trade, of intellectual interchanges and political unification.

It has been stated in many quarters that this new alliance has been made hastily at the initiative of France, as a stepping stone to an understanding with Russia. The possibility of a labor government in Great Britain, the complete British recognition of Russia is supposed to have driven France to a hasty search for an intermediary who would help it end the long feud with the bolsheviks.

There is something attractive in these steadfast schemes to make Bohemia the center of a Europe, as edited in the New York World some weeks ago, which said: "No member of congress and no public official has yet spoken out on the subject of immigration from Europe. The subject is taboo, because

zation must feel warmly sympathetic with these great ambitions, but it is impossible to ignore the disadvantages against which the imaginations of President Masaryk, Mr. Benes and their colleagues are pitted.

Rail System Hindrance.

One first difficulty lies in the fact that European railway systems were developed while Prague was merely a provincial capital. The railways of central Europe radiate from Vienna and Berlin. The centers of banking and commercial exchange were in these cities. And the efforts of Prague to deflect the currents of trade and finance to itself have hitherto fallen far short of the political ambitions of its leaders. I remember my astonishment on my first journey to Prague in 1920 to discover that I was traveling to the capital on a single line of railway.

Friction With Germans.

But it was there again this last summer. The foreign flags and visitors had gone. I realized more fully

the sturdy, obstinate patriotism of the Bohemian people. I saw Prague not as a show for the foreigner, but in its every-day clothes. And the effect was extremely provincial. My impression was that friction between German Bohemians and Czechs had increased. There was more pronounced objection to the German language. Hitherto the Czechs have been a bilingual people. It was in the double possession of the Teutonic and Slav language and culture that one of our chief hopes for their future lay. But they seem to be dropping German and learning no other language in its place. The public notices of the town of Prague are in Czech and in Czech only. For the westerner, Czech is as difficult as Russian. Indeed, so far as he is concerned, they might as well be in Chinese. This is patriotic barbarism.

How can Prague expect either pleasure visitors or business men to come there if it will not speak to them in any intelligible tongue? How can it become a mart or meeting place of nations if it insists that no other speech than its own shall be used in its streets? In a little while the currents of central European life will be flowing back again to their former centers at Vienna and Berlin.

Masaryk Tragic Figure.

Now these excesses of Czech patriotism make President Masaryk, to my mind, a very tragic figure. For this amazing man, a learned professor who was a village blacksmith's son, did more than anyone to revive the self respect and national feeling of the Czechs. He restored the Czech nation.

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been vulgarized, has cheapened himself. Behind him and Mr. Benes presses a loud irreconcilable body of ultra-patriots. His Germans have been foolish and tiresome, egged on by Austrian land owners who are furious because of the capital levy and other land policy. They will do nothing but rebuke their great neighbor. In such German places as Marienbad you see them retreating the insult of Prague by boycotting the Czechs.

Yet a generous understanding between the Czechs and Germans is essential to any future beyond obscurity for Bohemia. Czechoslovakia is a pure Czech with perhaps for political purposes a smattering of Poland—will be following in the way of France toward a vexed, vexatious insincerity in European affairs.

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PROPOSED IMMIGRATION LAW HITS SOUTHERN EUROPE

By MARK SULLIVAN.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 26.—The immigration restriction bill now pending in congress, on which hearings have been held and which will come to a vote in the near future, is intended to be permanent.

It is always a temptation to speak in generalizations. And yet those persons are probably reasonably accurate who say that this impending adoption of drastic immigration restriction as a permanent policy will be perhaps the most important step ever taken by congress.

The reasons brought forward to sustain so sweeping a statement are largely on the fact that an immigration restriction policy deals with and will profoundly affect the make-up of the stock of the American people.

It is said that this measure is more important than tax bills or tariffs or railroad regulation or even declarations of war. It really is a turning point in our national history, a sort of biological milestone in the course of the American people.

Encouraged 300 Years. From the very beginning, for more than 300 years, America was open to all comers. For fully nineteenth of that 300 years, indeed, the effort was to encourage immigration.

In the early colonial days immigration was encouraged because the great land-owning companies wanted settlers, and because those already here not only saw no objection, but actually wished for greater numbers. This commercial and industrial motive was dominant until less than 10 years ago. As to the blacks, they were brought in as slaves. Millions more of our present population were stimulated to come in or were brought in as bond servants, who indentured themselves to work out the cost of their passage.

Before the civil war immigration was stimulated and immigrants were made welcome by the commercial interests which needed them to build the canals and railroads. Subsequent to the civil war immigrants were solicited by railroad companies and other corporations owning land in the west, who wanted that land opened up. Yet more recently, after we became a great manufacturing nation, immigrants were attracted by the interests in manufacturing industry, who wanted cheap labor.

Another commercial interest that aided the stimulation and actually combed Europe for immigrants was composed of the steamship companies, whose profit lay in the passage money.

Open Door Till 1914. The aggregate of these interests dominated America's policy until less than 10 years ago. There were occasional restrictions which did not keep out any considerable numbers. For a time there has been a not very thorough examination looking to keep out mainly incompetent and persons suffering from disease. There also has been from time to time a treaty, which did not keep out any more aliens, and which actually, so far as it did keep any out, worked against some who would have been the most desirable immigrants.

But all these restrictions were prac-

tically negligible. Substantially we were an open-door country until the European war broke out in 1914. Actually, within a single year just preceding the war, more than 1,800,000 immigrants came in.

With the beginning of the European war, the immigration of Europeans ceased substantially on August 1, 1914, partly because the European countries wanted to keep their people at home as soldiers, partly because of the interruption of shipping and for other reasons. For the nearly five years of the war we received little or no immigration from Europe.

Post-War Rush Halted.

It was at this moment, soon after the ending of the war, that the sentiment in America for restriction of immigration became so strong that it overwhelmed those commercial interests favoring immigration which formerly had been dominant.

With the ending of the war and the demobilization of the European armies it was apparent that immense numbers of Europeans wanted to come to America.

Those Americans who had become apprehensive about the effect of practically unlimited immigration on our national stock saw that with the demobilization of the European armies immigration would begin again in even larger numbers than the 1,800,000 a year which already before the war had caused some alarm.

In this spirit our first immigration restriction law was passed as an emergency measure to head off the post-war flood until we should have time to work out a careful, permanent policy. This emergency measure was meant to last for two years.

At the end of two years congress had not yet worked out its permanent policy and so the emergency measure was renewed for another two years. This second two years will expire on June 30 next.

It is this emergency immigration restriction act that is now in effect. And it is in anticipation of the coming of June 30 that the immigration committee of the lower house has written a permanent measure aimed to express our policy on this point for the indefinite future.

New Measure More Severe. It is the intention that this new permanent measure shall still further restrict immigration. The present emergency measure limits the number of immigrants who can come into America from any one country to 2 per cent of the number of individuals of that country who were already resident in the United States, according to the census of 1910.

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Caters to North Europe.

The reason for this latter provision is coming to be widely understood, but is rarely put in words. One of the few occasions was in a Europe, as edited in the New York World some weeks ago, which said: "No member of congress and no public official has yet spoken out on the subject of immigration from Europe. The subject is taboo, because

to admit what is generally accepted at Washington as the major premise for any immigration statute would offend large sections of the voting population. That premise is simply that the influx from the south and east of Europe is to be curbed, while immigration from the north and west of Europe is to be encouraged. That is what is implied in the plan to base a new quota system on the census of 1890. The United States has decided that it cannot in the future take care

of so many newcomers alien in race and tongue as the country has attempted to absorb in the past. People from England or the Teutonic countries, as a rule, slip readily into place among us; others often do not. Whether it is the accident of speech or of racial temperament that makes the difference it would be difficult to say. Nevertheless, there is a difference. Washington may not admit it, but it is true that our immigration policy has shifted."

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For the Children

JEANNER House Party, by Alice Ross Co., Philadelphia. This is a story of four girls and good times at a house party held during the summer vacation at the seashore. What could be more exciting than a summer visit to the seashore by four girls, each possessed of a strong temperament. Of course, some adjustments were made out of many quarrels. Unexpected guests bring harmony and everything ends happily. The book is the second of the author's Jeanne series.

JUDY, by Temple Bailey, Penn Publishing Company, Philadelphia. Judy is just plain Judy, and the most different, lovable girl anyone ever knew. She loves the outdoors life and adventure. Her adventures bring her to the camp of gypsies and here she learns her fortune in a most unusual way. The tale is suitable for girls from 12 to 17.

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