



The Bee's Home Magazine Page



SILK HAT HARRY'S DIVORCE SUIT

The Judge Was Fearfully Lonesome

By Tad

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Spring in Autumn

By CHESTER FIRKINS.

To waking Broadway comes the glow of hazy light that April know. The bright electric blossoms blow—Over every playhouse door. New plays—or violet or weed—Leap onward from the fruitful seed, Appearing barren summer's need—Of things worth living for.

The "song-birds" in new plumage light, Return from their far foreign flight. For fashion's coin and art's delight, To opera and ball.

And in society the "buds" (Some of them roses, some but "spuds") Are having loads of pretty duds—Before the season's call.



In gay cafes the midnight seat Of parties daintily dressed to all out— at an attest. The lent, of the days. The time of rest begins for them, At two or maybe four a. m. And headache's stinging diadem Their wish to sleep allays.

The cold vacation days are o'er; Deserted are the hills and shore; Back to the warm department store. Midday gaily hies. The bargain trees are all abloom. The furrier sheds his furs to whom Soer will buy—who talks of gloom When silly summer dies?



Married Women as Wage Earners

By DOROTHY DIX

A working girl writes me an exceedingly wrathful letter in which she inveighs against married women who are wage earners, and declares that they take the bread out of the working girl's mouth. She also accuses the woman who has both a husband and a job of being a pig, who wants more than her share of the good things of life. Softly, little sister, the woman who works outside of her home after she is married is often to be pitied than criticised, for in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred it means that her husband is incapable of supporting her, and that to the burden of wifehood, and often motherhood, she has to add that of making a living. Sometimes the husband is the victim of unfortunate circumstances. He loses his health, or is thrown out of work. And sometimes he is just plain no account and lazy.



In either case the woman who must go out and earn the food for her family and then come home and cook it is as pathetic a figure as you can find. It is hard enough for a young girl to have to stand behind a counter, or pound a typewriter all day, but how infinitely worse for the woman who has been up half of the night nursing an invalid husband, or listening for the footsteps of a drunken one, and perhaps covering away from his blows, or who has left a little sick child at home and whose heart stands still with fear every time a strange footstep draws near, lest it be some one bringing her the bad news she dreads to hear.

The theory of society is that every man is able to earn a comfortable living for himself and his family. This should be true, but under present economic conditions it is not always the case. There are plenty of men who do the very best they can and yet can never keep the wolf away from the door. Should not the wife of such a man have a right to shoulder her gun and help make war on the common enemy, poverty?

There are other men, good and true and lovable, who are born without any business faculty, just as most of us are born without a tenor voice. Many of these men marry women who have the talent for getting on that the husbands lack. Shall such wives sit down and fold their hands and let their families starve because, if they go out to work, they will compete with unmarried women?

Again, there are many young couples who are in love and who could marry comfortably on the combined earnings of both, but who must forever remain apart if the wife gives up her job on her wedding day.

If a wife can help her husband more by earning money than she can by cooking his dinner and washing his shirts, is there any reason she shouldn't do it? There are many cases in which a man's future prosperity could be assured by his wife holding on to her job and bringing in a little necessary money for a year or two after marriage.

Nor does it seem fair to ask the woman who has spent thousands of dollars and years of time fitting herself to follow some profession or calling, to give it up just because she marries and some single woman would like to have her place.

A great deal of the most valuable work in the world is done by married women, because matrimony, whether it is happy or miserable, broadens a woman's outlook and deepens her sympathy and comprehension. Also the married woman who is a wage earner has settled down for a life job at whatever she is doing, as a general thing, whereas the girl worker is looking forward to matrimony to emancipate her from slavery to her vocation or ledger. And it would be a distinct loss to the world if it were deprived of the services of its married women workers.

The real objection to married women being wage earners is not that they compete with young girls, but the moral effect it has on their husbands. There are some men who are spurred on to greater efforts by the fact that their wives are out in the world toiling, trying to help them by making money, but unfortunately the majority of husbands whose wives can support them, let them do it. The statistics of factory towns where many women work in the mills, show that the men contribute very little to the family exchequer. They spend their money on themselves and leave their wives to feed and clothe the family.

Daffydils



Yet It Might Have Been Worse JOYS AND GLOOMS AT THE FALL EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS.



An Overworked Sense of Humor

By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

It has become fashionable to talk about having a sense of humor, and those satisfied people who flaunt their proud possession of this quality, love to ridicule or pity those who they believe are lacking it.

It is pitiable indeed, to be utterly lacking in a sense of humor, and to put a literal meaning upon every phrase uttered in the practical joke exhibited that lack of fine discrimination and good taste which makes the dividing line between the real sense of humor and the vulgar desire to raise a laugh at some one's expense.

There is not one atom of wit, not one particle of humor, in any word or act which causes another individual to be inconvenienced, put to unnecessary expense, startled with causeless fear, or pain, or subjected to physical acid.

Nor is there an evidence of a sense of humor, but rather of a lack of fine sensibility and humanitarianism, when animals are made to play a painful part in a supposed jest.

It requires no brain, no originality, no talent to do these coarse and unkind things. Real wit and humor are talents; and those who possess them are a blessing to this world, which otherwise would become unbearable with continual and unremitting seriousness. I have heard a woman whose jealous and envious nature found vent in biting sarcasms, speak of her own great sense of humor; and accuse any of her acquaintances who objected to her ridicule of lacking in that quality which she regarded as her chief blessing. Before you pride yourself on possessing a sense of humor give a little careful analysis to the quality you are cultivating.

Any clown, any monkey, can raise a laugh. Any fool can rock a boat and pull away a chair, any vicious mind can utter an unkind sarcasm, any loud can send a false telegram, any idle mind can think up a practical joke which will cause trouble and expense; but these things are not witty. Better be too serious than too vicious, brutal, coarse or unkind. Unless you possess clean, spontaneous, good natured wit, do not pride yourself upon your sense of humor.

The American Boy

By THOMAS TAPPER.

This is what I heard the schoolmaster say: "A boy's honor and common sense help him to obey the laws because they enlist his reason. When he lets go of honor and common sense, he also lets go of reason, and then, like a bull in a china shop, he does damage."

"Now, boys," said the schoolmaster, "why is it, the moment five or six or ten of you get together that the general average of your honor and common sense falls? Each of you alone is a boy of honor. Why is it that ten of you will do things 'a gang' which no one of you would do alone?"

"This change of conduct is true of men as well as of boys. Unless they come together for a special purpose of high order or for definite business, they all let go of something. Now that something is a manly quality which each is proud of alone, but of which he seems to be ashamed when he is with others."

"Street car rowdies always travel in gangs, and the gang seems more intent on disorder than on crime, but it is a short step from one to the other."

"I have studied boys for a long time," he said, "and it is my opinion that no boy can be one of a gang without losing something that made his mother proud of him. But this refers to those groups of boys who have nothing to do. The moment, however, that a lot of boys come together for a purpose, like the boy scouts, their finest qualities come out, and they come out rapidly."

"It is strange, when a lot of boys come together that the good principles of the best of them should not rule—but they rarely do. Generally the loose ends of the principles of them all are the main influence."