



The Bee's Home Magazine Page



Bringing Up Father

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Drawn for The Bee by George McManus



Why Mothers Fail as "Press Agents"

By DOROTHY DIX.

I often think that mothers are the worst press agents on earth. And that they do far more to queer their daughters' fortunes than they do to boost them.

Practically every woman who has girls is on a hunt for husbands for them. She wants to see them married off and settled in homes of their own, with their shopping tickets assured for life. To this end she attempts to present her daughters in an attractive light to the masculine eye, and it is the blunders in this direction that are so appalling and so pathetic, for nine times out of ten instead of casting a rosy halo about the girl, mother succeeds in robbing her of whatever charms she has.

For instance, the other day I was at a dinner given in honor of a woman from the middle west and her very pretty and attractive daughter. There were several delightful young men present who were just beginning to get their feet well planted on the ladder of success, and any one of whom would have been a good match for the girl, for they were all men with futures.

But mother calmly announced: "Mabel told them all at home that she was going to New York in search of a millionaire, and that no pikers need apply." Possibly the speech was intended as a jest, but it was an expression of a desire so sordid, so mercenary, so vulgar that it fell like a wet blanket over the entire company, and, push it aside as we might, none of us could see the girl as anything but a miserable little fortune hunter, willing to sell herself to the highest bidder.

"That lets us out, doesn't it?" one of the young men said with a scarcely veiled sneer to the other men. "We can't qualify in the millionaire class by about \$99,975."

Furthermore, not one of the young men who was invited to the dinner to meet this girl paid her the slightest attention while she was in the city, although they would have liked her, and been nice to her, and made her have a good time had it not been for her mother's assertion that she was in search of a husband with money. The girl's most malicious enemy could not have done her a worse turn than her mother did by her idiotic speech.

Nor is this type of mother rare. I have known hundreds of women married to men in moderate circumstances who made no bones of proclaiming to any one they knew that they didn't intend that their daughters should marry poor men and have to work and economize as they had had to do. A mother of this sort is as good a scarecrow to keep suitors away from her daughters as human ingenuity can invent.

The man who has his own fortune to make certainly does not want to marry the daughter of a woman who has not the courage to do her part in assisting her husband, nor the affection to make her feel that it is a privilege to help bear the burdens of one you love, so the level-headed man, who wants a wife who will be a helpmate instead of a hindrance, keeps away from girls that have been brought up by such a mother. Nor does the man who has money yearn to marry a girl whose mother has taught her to look at his check book before she looks at the man. Even a millionaire likes to think that he was married for himself alone, and that the woman would have said "yes" just as quickly whether he had offered her a Harlem flat or a Fifth avenue mansion.

Another mother who is a hoodoo to her daughters is the woman who brags about how helpless her daughters are, and how tenderly she has reared them. "I never let Mabel be wakened in the morning. I always let her sleep until 10 or 11 o'clock, until she feels like getting up." "I always keep everything that is unpleasant from Gladys. She's such a sensitive nature I feel she must be shielded." "Sadie couldn't sew on a button to save her life. I always do that for her. She really doesn't know how to hold a needle in her hand." "Gwendolyn has never put her foot inside of the kitchen scapery. She couldn't boil water without scorching it. I don't want my daughters to work as long as I can keep them from it. There'll be plenty of time for them to learn to cook and sew after they get married."

These are familiar utterances of mothers and daughters, and with

daughters that they are anxious to marry off, too. Isn't that an insane line of talk to hand out as a recommendation for wives? As well had a clothing salesman say to a man, "Sir, I'd like to sell you this suit of clothes which I can conscientiously recommend to you as a misfit that you will regret taking - if you do take it - to the longest day you live. It's true it's pretty and good to look at, or at least it will be good to look at until it fades, which will be soon, but it's utterly no account, and useless, and it will rip and tear at the first strain, for it hasn't got one thread of genuine wool in it, and it's shoddy through and through, because the woman who made it made it that way."

What inspires any woman to think that a man that's got sense enough to be out of a feeble minded institute would deliberately marry a girl who has been trained to be lazy, and selfish, and incompetent, and worthless, and who is neurotic to boot, passes comprehension. But mothers go about advertising these disqualifications for wifehood in their daughters, and then are surprised because they have a lot of old maids left on their hands.

Then there are mothers who think that the way to catch husbands for their daughters is to pile flattery they can't afford on the girls' backs. They think that attracts men, whereas it scares men off. When a sensible man sees a poor girl dressed like a millionnaire he sets her down as heartless, selfish and frivolous. He says to himself that she's working her poor old father to death to get good clothes to flaunt herself about in, or she's going in debt for them, or she's willing to starve the family to adorn herself, and none of that for him, thank you. He wants something in a wife with more to it than a fashion parade.

Of course mother means well. She's doing the best she can to boost daughter, but she doesn't understand the booster, but she doesn't understand the booster, but she doesn't understand the booster, but she doesn't understand the booster.

The amnesty bill was passed by the United States senate forty-one years ago - May 21, 1872, the vote being 33 to 2. Charles Sumner being one of the noes.

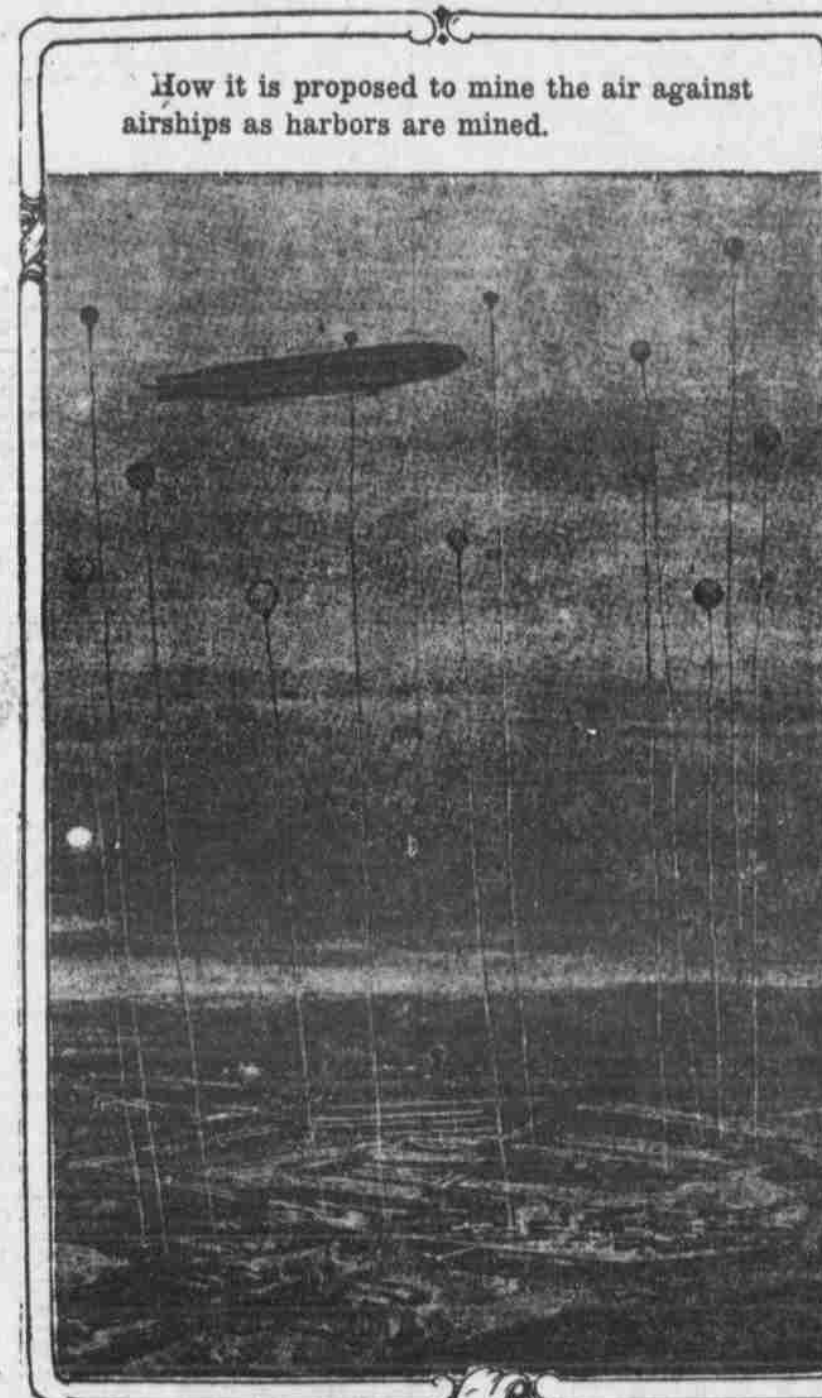
The act declared that all political disabilities were removed from all persons who-soever except senators and representatives of the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh congresses, and officers in the judicial, military and naval service of the United States. Before this became a law, between 150,000 and 200,000 were excluded from office, while this act reduced the disabilities to a number between 20 and 300. Thus the act of 1872 was a strong forerunner of that of 1898, which brought full amnesty, wiping the slate clean, forgetting all.

Once more the country was united. Upon the swearing in of Senator Ransom of North Carolina, Thurman of Ohio, said: "I take the liberty of expressing the satisfaction that I am sure all will feel that now, for the first time since 1861, every seat in this body is full. I think it is a matter that the country and the senate may congratulate themselves upon." Almost simultaneously, Rogers of North Carolina was given his seat in the house of representatives, and a Massachusetts republican exclaimed: "The representation of the entire union in this house is now complete." "Happy event!" responded the members.

The sober second thought had prevailed. Reason was at last asserting herself in the councils of men, and humanity and sense were taking the place of passion and hate. It is true that the ground-swell of reconstruction was still pretty heavy, but the worst was over, and in the amnesty bill readers of men and measures could see the unmistakable prophecy of the good time coming, when the long discovered and discordant sections of the union, once more strongly united, shall march all one way.

Mining the Air--The Latest Plan for Aerial Defense

The History of Man's Fight for Aerial Supremacy, and How the Human Mind Has Shown Itself Capable to Surmount Any Obstacle.



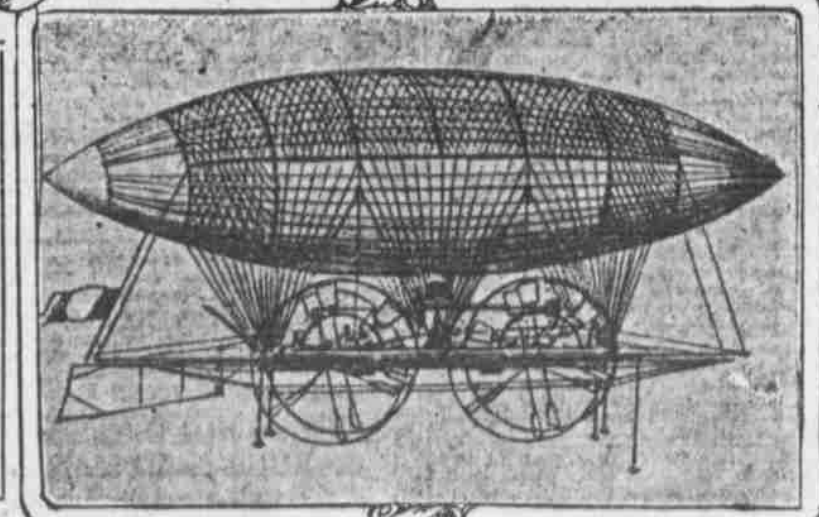
How it is proposed to mine the air against airships as harbors are mined.

The small pictures are (from top to bottom): Laudent de Gusman's weird idea for a bird-like air machine, drawn in 1709; (2) the plan of Degen's of Vienna, showing a man propelling himself through the air with hand-worked wings; (3) an imaginative freak evolved, on paper only, after the introduction of the "Moutgolfier balloon"; (4) Pathino's flying fish, constructed at Placencia, Spain, in 1784, and called a dirigible, and, (5) one of the earliest types of dirigibles ever put into the air.

By GARRETT P. SERVISS.

If a small should take it into his head to run with the bewildering speed of a West Indian centipede, so dramatically described by Lafcadio Hearn, the wonder of the onlooker would not be greater than that which any one must feel in considering the sudden leap of invention that has brought forth the modern aeroplanes out of the old flying machines with which men had been fumbling for centuries and making no progress.

They fumbled because the key was lacking. But the human mind never goes backward, and it never wants a key that it does not ultimately find. Man has always wanted to fly. He began to try almost in the infancy of his race. He copied the first bird he saw. Read the ancient Greek story of Daedalus, which is not the first of its kind. As mechanical knowledge increased, fresh efforts to invent a mechanism for human flight were made. But the main



and he actually made a flight with one of his machines. In 1784 a Spaniard named Pathino constructed at Placencia a balloon shaped like a fish, with a rudder, tail and side wings, which, according to some contemporary drawings, were intended to be worked like the oars of a boat. At the end of the eighteenth century, when the balloon had been improved, the imagination of the public was excited by such representations of coming airships as the one here presented, with a ship pierced for cannon beneath the balloon, a sail to drive it, and a huge Gallic cock triumphantly surmounting the aerial wonder. In 1807 the inventors went back to the bird-like idea, and one Degen, an Austrian, contrived the pair of wings shown in one of our pictures. But he couldn't fly with them. Now, turn from these vainly ingenious devices, which were continued without much real improvement, until the latter part of the nineteenth century, and look at the airships of the present day, and note the contrast. The secret has at last been found. The irresistible genius of man has got its grip firmly fixed on the slippery principle. At first the dirigible balloon had the lead, and it is interesting to see an early form in Ernst Bessler's machine, driven by rotating paddles beneath. Then came the gliding experiments of Lilienthal and

Racial Differences--

Sermon on American Citizenship and Christianity in its Broadest Meaning

By DR. C. H. PARKHURST.

The "American Citizen" is a welcome addition to our magazine literature. It exists for a distinct purpose. It is the organ of an idea. It is intended primarily as an advertisement of the history, quality and achievement of the Jewish people, set forth in a way to disabuse the Gentile mind of its anti-Semitic prejudices. It will be read by Jews and ought to be read by Gentiles, and will be, if there is in them that openness of mind and generosity of heart that are ingredients of all Christianity that is of the genuine type.

While there is an essential distinction between Judaism and Christianity, and while every Christian should be distinct and outspoken in his recognition of that distinction, yet it should never be forgotten by us that Judaism is the foundation upon which Christianity builds and furnishes the root out of which Christianity develops.

It was Jesus Christ, himself, who said: "I came not to destroy, but to fulfill!" The iron that was in the moral and religious constitution of the old prophets is still a part, and a very considerable part, of the strength and aggressive energy of the new faith.

The Old Testament is not a book number, and makes out part of the Christian's Bible, and if he ignores its contents and treats them as something which he has outgrown his system of belief and tone of character will lack an ingredient of which he cannot afford to be destitute.

In our contemplation of the Jews, Jewish history, character and religion, it should not be forgotten that racial distinctions make a large contribution to progressive history. They play something of the same part in the make-up of human progress that the several zones and climates of the physical world play in accomplishing the purposes of the material world.

A part of our earth's perfection consists in its varieties of altitude and temperature. The polar and the tropical regions are essential to the earth's well being and to human success as well as the temperate regions. So it is of the several races. Each has its separate function. Each makes its special contribution to the welfare of the whole. Differences are more valuable than resemblances. And this observation includes not only the Jews and Gentiles of the western world, but the peoples of the east, whose type of character varies so widely from our own, and who in course of time will infuse into Occidental civilization an element that will be to the betterment of the western world, even as our civilization here in the west, if we behave ourselves, will prove to the intellectual, moral and religious enrichment of the Orient.

It is with thoughts such as these in mind that we require to approach our contemplation and study of the Jewish race as of all races distinct from our own. Differences should not be a barrier to our approach to them, but rather

Chanute, and the theoretical investigations of Langley on the sustaining power of the air for swiftly moving aeroplanes. The small was beginning to run! And suddenly, with the triumph of the Wright brothers, he set off at full speed!

Now we have, with almost magical quickness, arrived at the biplanes and monoplanes, the German "Zeppelins," the hydro-aeroplanes and all the other flying apparatus that has become familiar to everybody, and are eagerly awaiting news of the first passage of the Atlantic by the aerial route!

Flying ships of one form or another, figure in the military and naval calculations of all the great powers. How best to employ them; how to use them; how to resist their attacks; how to destroy them; how to protect them; these questions are in all minds.

Even the atmosphere must be "mined" now, like a harbor exposed to an enemy's fleet. Look at the picture of the latest device of this kind, where the air above a great fortification, and military depot, is filled with anchored balloons charged with explosives, which would be as perilous to a fleet of invading aeroplanes or dirigibles as a mined harbor to a fleet of battleships.

a provocation to closer and more interested access to them.

They are no more different from us than we are different from them, and if it be true, as Christians are apt to claim, that Christianity is possessed of more of the spirit of universal brotherhood than any other religion, or than any other religion, then it will be especially true of the Christian and one of his evident characteristics that whatever racial peculiarities exist in Jewish character will not operate discouragingly nor in a way to alienate. He is a cheap Christian who can admire and love only those that are like himself.

Jews have never been in favor with Gentiles, and that was as much the case prior to the Christian era as since, a fact which takes all the vitality out of the theory that the prejudice against Jews is due to their having been the crucifiers of Christ. Aside from that there is too much innate justice in the human heart in general to allow of passing an adverse judgment on the race at large for what was done by a little knot of Jews 2,000 years ago.

The cause of anti-Jewish prejudice is farther to seek, and is to be discovered in the fact that their religion was from the start an exclusive religion. It constituted a barrier set up by the Jews themselves.

The intensity of their loyalty to Jehovah created on their part a corresponding intensity in their enmity toward those who were not believers in Jehovah.

They would neither ally themselves with Gentiles nor seek to have Gentiles ally themselves with them.

They were a separate people. They insulated themselves as far as possible from Gentile contacts. What was really religious devotion to their holy faith was interpreted by Gentiles as being devout superciliousness, a sort of "holier-than-thou" piety. They were narrow in their religion, but they were devout.

If Christians were as true to the doctrines which they profess as the Jews were they would be looked upon in something the same way, and the words of our Lord would be found to be true, "Because ye are not of the world the world hateth you."

That I believe to be the origin of Gentile antipathy, and having once become established it has maintained itself by its own momentum. Gentiles have gotten into the habit of thinking and speaking disrespectfully of Jews, and have not enough of the grace of God in their hearts or enough of the love spirit of the gospel to break loose from the habit.

It is difficult to get an idea into people's hearts, but ten times more difficult to get it out when once it is there.

Advice to Lovelorn

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX

Ask Her. Dear Miss Fairfax: I am desperately in love with a girl named Catherine, of Katie, as they call her, who is three years my senior. I love her very much and I would like to know if she cares for me. She has a sister, Minnie, who likes me very much and I think Katie is jealous over her sister, although I have given her no reason. ADAM D.

Ask Her if she loves you, telling her first, of course, that you love her. There is no other way to find out, though her jealousy is encouraging. If she did not care for you a little, she would not be jealous.

Let Him Decide.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a girl of 20 of the Jewish faith, and am desperately in love with a young man of 21, who is a Gentile.

My folks are greatly opposed to my marrying him on account of his religion. That is their only objection, as in all other respects they consider him a most excellent young man. ROSE.

You owe it to your parents to consider their wishes first of all.

Think of this coolly and fairly. If you married this man and your parents cast you off, could his love make up for what life would mean without a friend among all your kindred?

Both Too Young. Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a young man of 25 years of age, and have been keeping company with a girl one year my junior for the last fifteen months, with whom I am deeply in love. During the last three months she has grown cold-hearted toward me. G. L. R.

Few girls of 16 know their own hearts, and I am sure boys of 17 don't. Love is too serious an emotion to be played with by one of your years. Forget the girl and give her a chance to forget you.