

# The Bee's Home Magazine Page

## Parents Seldom Justified in Interfering with Love

Only When Character of Boy or Girl is Weak or Bad Should Father or Mother Try to Prevent Marriage—

By DOROTHY DIX.

The question of how far parents are justified in interfering in their children's matrimonial affairs is one upon which youth and age will never agree.

All mothers and fathers think that their years, their wisdom and experience in life make them the best judges of what sort of women and men their sons and daughters should marry. And in proof of their contention they point out that in the countries where fathers and mothers do arrange their children's marriages there is much less divorce than there is in America, where young folks manage the matter for themselves.

This view of the matter is one in which independent young America will never acquiesce. In this country marriage is not entered into primarily as an establishment for the perpetuation of the family. It is an experiment in individual happiness. We want to pick out our own husbands and wives, and at least have the pleasure and excitement of making our own mistakes.

To my mind there are three cases, and three only, in which parents are justified in interfering in their children's love affairs and breaking off a match if they can. If parents know that a man is immoral, or a drunkard, or lazy and shiftless, they are right to move heaven and earth to prevent their daughter from marrying him, and thus bringing certain misery upon her own head.

Or if parents know a girl to be careless in morals, of shrewish temper and extravagant and slovenly, they do no more than their duty in trying to save their son from wrecking his life by marrying her.

In each case it is a matter of the character of the individual to which the parent has a right to object. Nothing else counts, and the father and mother far exceed their privileges when they object to their son or daughter choosing a wife or husband because she or he happens not to be of the same religious faith, or shade of politics, or have the peculiar colored hair that they admire.

Religious bigotry should have no place in this country where people come because it guarantees them freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience, yet just now I know of a heart-broken young woman who has been parted from the man she loved because her mother does not believe in "mixed marriages." The young man is all that one could desire in a son-in-law except his faith, which doesn't please the girl's mother—and which is none of the old lady's business.

In such a case a young couple are foolish to let the prejudices of a narrow-minded parent wreck their happiness. She belongs to the days of religious intolerance and persecution, the rack and thumbscrew, when people thought it pious and pleasing to God to torture other people into their way of thinking. The young people belong to a broader and saner and more tolerant era of human thought, and if each is willing that the other should seek heaven in his or her own way they should refuse to be parted by an old woman's fanaticism. If there's nothing to object to in a man except the church he goes to be is certainly a matrimonial prize that any girl should grab without stopping to argue it out with her mother.

Another stumbling block in the path of true love is the family tree. Fathers and mothers, and particularly mothers, feel that they have a perfect right to break off a match if their son or daughter is going to marry some girl or boy who isn't in their particular little social set. This is ridiculous in democratic America, where every man makes his own place in the world, and is continually changing it, so that unless mother has the gift of prophecy she never knows where the poor boy she keeps her daughter from marrying is going to end.

A bitter old maid of my acquaintance, who lives out a bare living as a typewriter, often points out to me the name of a senator of the United States to whom she was engaged when she was a girl, and whom she loves to this day. But her mother broke off the engagement because she didn't consider that a carpenter's son was fit to marry into her august family.

Children should be given meat only in moderate quantities. In the first place, it is overeating when eaten to excess, it taxes the digestion, and severely and from an economical standpoint, there are many other foodstuffs that are just as nutritious.

Writing on spaghetti and allied products, Dr. Hutchinson, one of the world's foremost dietitians, says that "they are absorbed almost in their entirety." This means that practically every morsel of spaghetti which is made from durum wheat, a cereal extremely rich in gluten, goes to enrich the blood and build up the body. Spaghetti is very easy to digest and easy to prepare. And the many ways it can be prepared to taste the palate is truly surprising. Large packages 10c. Serve it often, especially to the children.

MAVILL BROS.  
St. Louis, V. S. A.

## "A Honeymoon!"

By NELL BRINKLEY  
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What is a honeymoon? "A honeymoon is a lonely, frail swing of silvery gold hung in the sky, far away from everybody, where nobody can hear, where nobody matters at all, and in the honeymoon, drifting, uncaring, lost to the world for awhile, swinging their feet over chasms that they never could cross with their feet on the earth, snuggle the bride and the man she's gone with for good! That is a honeymoon!"

Why is a honeymoon there in the sky for only a little while? Why does it go so soon, like a sand lily in the sun? "Because," says Love, "because no moon lasts, does it? And the honeymoon is the rarest of the moon blossoms. Nothing endures—and

the tenderest and choicest fades the fastest. That is the way of the world. But there will be lots of other honeymoons after this one!"

What's in the honeymoon besides the man and the bride? "Oh, new baggage with a new name upon it that makes the bride grow carnation pink when she catches it with her enchanted eye; bonnet boxes, railroad folders, rice a-leakin' out, white ribbons, roses and worn shoes, the blueprints for a little bungalow, a treasure chest full of memories not very old and dreams ahead into the future and a sigh and a kiss or two! Enough!"

"And I sit," says Love, "here upon by fairy stool, swinging 'em to and fro!"—NELL BRINKLEY.

## Advice to Lovelorn

By Beatrice Fairfax

**See Her Mother.**  
Dear Miss Fairfax: I am 24 and in love with a girl six years my junior. She loves me dearly, but I have found out that her mother dislikes my sister for some reason, and does not seem to have me call. Please tell me what I can do in this case? TROUBLED.

Go to the girl's parents and try to find out why they object to your sister. You are entitled to know. No doubt you can explain the misunderstanding under which the mother labors.

**Forget Him.**  
Dear Miss Fairfax: I am in love with a man two years my senior. My love was reciprocated until a few months ago, when he went out west on business. We corresponded for a month or two, and then he stopped without giving me any reason. He came to see his folks for two days and we did not speak. About three weeks ago I received a

card from him, which I answered. Since then I have not heard from him. How can I keep his friendship?  
LOUISE F.

My advice would be to pay no more attention to this young man. Evidently he has tired of you and will think less of you if you throw yourself at him. What would you think of a young man who persisted in writing to you if you had ceased to be interested in him?

**Showing Love for a Man.**  
Dear Miss Fairfax: Should a girl show her love for a man? If so, when so, and if not, why not?  
PUZZLED.

A woman may show her fondness for a man by sweetness, consideration and joy in his companionship, but unless he asks for her love she must not force it upon him, since masculine human nature

is such that men like to do the courting and do not want what they obtain too lightly.

**Tell Him You're Sorry.**  
Dear Miss Fairfax: A short time ago I had an argument which caused me to part from the man I love. I love him dearly and I am sure that my love is reciprocated. Kindly advise me what to do.  
M. S.

If you are not too proud to make the first advances write a note to your friend and tell him you are thoroughly sorry for your share of the misunderstanding. He will probably think you are a generous, high-minded girl and admire you all the more for being able to rise above your petty feelings and to make the first attempt at a reconciliation.

## Paris Autumn Styles

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As in the gown to the left, Callot believes in the future of the lace frock. Two very full and flaring flounces ripple over a foundation skirt of plaited tulle, and a deep cape of the lace adds beauty to the back of the plaited bodice.

A touch of fur is requisite even on the more severely tailored suit. A band of seal heads the turned-back hem of this smoke gray velveteen suit, matching the shawl collar and cuffs of the same fur.

## Romance of a Moth

By GARRETT P. SERVISS.

One of man's oldest companions on this lonesome, moon-chased earth is the silent, little lover of dark corners and destroyer of wool, fur and feathers, called the clothes-moth. The ghost-white wings of these fluttering creatures of the twilight have haunted human habitations from the earliest recorded times.

The patriarch Job, who was a great wool raiser, knew only too well their ravages when he compared himself to "a garment that is moth eaten." It is probable that they insinuated themselves into the smoky caverns of the prehistoric cave dwellers, and luxuriated in the first fur garments.

"The fondness they exhibit nowadays for tailor-made suits and other expensive products of the loom," says C. L. Marlatt of the United States Bureau of Entomology, "is simply an illustration of their ability to keep pace with man in his development."

Like the still more objectionable, impudent and dangerous sanger-on, the house fly, the clothes-moth does man's footsteps wherever he goes, embarks with him on his voyages of trade or discovery, crosses oceans with him, and officially helps him to inhabit any new lands that he may find.

Thus it appears that clothes-moths came over with the pilgrim fathers or some of the early white settlers on this continent, for Mr. Marlatt speaks of their early introduction into the United States, which seems to carry the implication that they were not here originally. But, if so, they multiplied with astonishing rapidity as soon as they got a foothold, for by the year 1763 they had become a terror in the village of Philadelphia, by their destruction of woollens and furs.

It is not, by the way, the moths themselves that undermine the hair of your costly fur overcoat, plough winding channels through the surface of worsted garments and eat holes out of the pile of expensive garments, but it is their offspring, the larvae, or caterpillars. These are of a dull white color and hardly three-eighths of an inch long, with a brownish white head. They are odd-looking creatures, for they clothe themselves as if they carried their unreciprocated fondness for human society to the point of imitating their big, two-legged unwilling hosts, by wearing a garment.

The garment of the moth caterpillar consists of a kind of sack, or jacket, woven by its own hand, and lined with soft silk, in which it ensconces itself up to the ears, and when it takes a walk it puts out a short length of its neck and a bunch of forelegs and drags along. It never takes off its strange jacket or comes out of it unless pulled out by an inquisitive entomologist. Perhaps remembering its own dealings with laid-up garments, it keeps its clothes always in use.

Mr. Marlatt has given an interesting description of this curious appendage:

"With the growth of the larva it becomes necessary from time to time to enlarge the case both in length and circumference, and this is accomplished in a very interesting way. Without leaving its case the larva makes a slit half way down one side and inserts a triangular gore of new material. A similar insertion is made on the opposite side, and the larva reverses itself without leaving the case and makes corresponding slits and additions in the other half.

The case is lengthened by successive additions to either end. Externally the case appears to be a matted mass of small particles of wool; internally it is lined with soft whitish silk. By transferring the larva from time to time to fabrics of different colors the case may be made to assume as varied a pattern as the experimenter desires."

When it feels its end drawing near the larva usually attaches its case to the garment on which it has been feeding, but sometimes carries it elsewhere to be attached. About three weeks later the transformation is finished, and the moth emerges, ready to lay eggs for the production of a new generation.

The eggs are laid in April, May, or June, according to the latitude, as a certain warmth is required, and usually they are deposited directly on the garment that is to serve as the foraging field for the larva. The eggs are scarcely visible to the naked eye. Sometimes they are deposited in crevices of trunks and boxes, in which garments have been laid away, and as soon as they are born the larvae creep in through the minute

## Thin Folks Who Would Increase Weight

**SIMPLE DIRECTIONS EASY TO FOLLOW**  
Thin men and women—that big, hearty filling dinner you eat last night. What became of all the fat-producing nourishment it contained? You haven't gained in weight one ounce. That food passed from your body like unburned coal through an open grate. The material was there, but your food didn't do its work, and the plain truth is you hardly fed enough nourishment into your body to pay for the cost of cooking. This is true of thin folks the world over. You can't be organs, your functions of growth and repair are sadly out of gear and need reconstruction.

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cracks and begin their forbidden feast. The best way to protect garments is to begin in April or May and beat and brush them thoroughly every few days before they are put away in tightly closed receptacles, with camphor, tobacco, naphthalene, cedar strips, or some of the other "repellants" commonly used. But if any eggs have been left in the garments they will hatch, and the larva will promptly set to work. The surest protection is cold storage, the temperature never being allowed to rise above 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

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## Give Your Children Meat In Moderate Quantities—Serve Other Nutritious Foods

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