

Health Hints :- Fashions :- Woman's Work :- Household Topics

When One's in Love Ask Nothing

BY THE JESTER.

It is supposed to be a doubtful question when one gets engaged—don't necessarily mean that I am speaking from personal experience—as to whether it is wiser for either side to give too many little confessions about their past life (assuming, of course, that one or the other, or both, of them have a past). Through why it should cause such extensive heart-burnings I never can quite understand.

Were love and marriage an ordinary prosaic sort of business arrangement whereby you sat down and carefully weighed up the pros and cons, it would be another matter—quite irrespective of the fact that if you did so

not one person in a hundred and fifty would probably ever risk it. You would then want to know all about the deal you were contemplating and you would proceed to estimate the chances of your future happiness through the light of his or her past side-slips.

But it is, I believe, the custom among those who marry and give in marriage to be concerned principally with the fastness of their respective partners, cherishing a beautiful belief (where the said partners are alleged on the highest authority to have exceeded all speed limits in years past with unfailing regularity) that under their own guidance of tuition the age of miracles is not past.

And after all is said and done this seems to be the most reasonable view to take of the situation. Provided always that the promise to keep to the rails in the future is supported by a reasonable amount of probability that this will be carried into effect. I cannot see how it can possibly benefit or should be in any way obligatory on the other party to dig up little past skiddings.

Of course, this should hold good for both sides or not at all. The mischief of it usually lies in the fact that two people of the same caliber practically never unite. The type of man who could give Don Juan ninety in a hundred and a beating generally marries an innocent, trusting little 18-year-old thing (always supposing that the combination exists nowadays) who knows as much about life as a pig does of a prayer book.

Frankly, then, I don't favor the confession idea unless it be what I call general confession. By which I mean, don't either of you make out that you have been a plaster saint when you have been as torrid as the next letter to K. Nine times out of ten she won't like you any the better for it, and ninety-nine times out of a hundred she won't believe you.

But that is as far as the confession shall go. It is an awful mistake to go into individual cases. She may possibly, and maybe conversely, think that by dwelling on them you have still lingering regrets on the subject.

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"Peach-Blossoms"

By Nell Brinkley

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THERE is a space in life and the seasons when they who live only to see and understand and marvel, hear whispers of what is to be. Then they see the rosy beginning of later beauty. The tenderly colored pink and white blossom is the babyhood of the rose-and-gold peach. It is a whisper and a promise of richer form and color. Perhaps it is the taking shape for a day of the spirit of the delicious reality. The old gray rocks wait for the short hour of spring suit-bloom. And they lament its quick going. "If you were gray and hoarily like us you would last until Doomsday!" they say.

"If you," mourns the grim, rocky-faced man who lives but to see and marvel, as he watches the brief space of peach-blossom time in a

little maid's life, "if you were hoary and ugly as I am you would go on so for a good hundred years!"

In the hurrying, breathless instant when spring comes and is gone almost before we have looked into her shy eyes, the girl of 14, a slim little branch of a figure, clear-eyed, flower-lipped, draws down the spray of peach-blossom and holds it 'gainst her face, and the two are one, with that beauty transparent and fairy-like that is passing even while you see it!

The grim, rocky-faced man, who sees and marvels, grumbles, "A peach is a splendor and a gift of the gods, but I would keep its flowering longer with me!"—NELL BRINKLEY.

Just What to Do When Man's Love is Growing Cold

It is not until a man realizes that he is tired of a girl, and never really was in love with her, that he also realizes how foolishly he has acted. It amazes him to find that he has gone so far as to be considered the fiancee of the maid, whose whole attention has been given him for a long time—for many of these affairs result in an "understanding" that is the equivalent of a proposal.

Then, not knowing how to get out of the tangle in which he has become entangled, he falls back upon the unmanly.

Then, not knowing how to get out of the tangle in which he has become entangled, he falls back upon the unmanly method of neglecting the girl he has hitherto courted and flattered. True, this is little more foolish than the former recklessness of his conduct, but it causes a good deal of suffering to a woman who has loved innocently and too well, and is deserving of better treatment.

Having got no real reason to give for his coldness, except the bold statement that he has made a mistake, he shirks the issue. He knows that if he tells the truth he has to account for many statements that seem to prove the contrary.

A man's methods are often cowardly in dealing with the woman for whom he has ceased to care. He tries to force her to break with him by giving her ample grounds for complaint, but a woman is usually too generous and too loving to take advantage of his devices. Her cry is: "Why are you so changed?"

She cannot understand why the lover who has left her with a fond good-bye can go away and put her out of his mind. She writes him frank open letters, the pleading, imploring ones, begging all the time that he will tell her what she has done to vex him. He cannot tell her without putting all the blame on himself, without showing that he has not acted a manly part. But even if he could and is not disposed to, his conduct should show her that his love is dying. The signs are unmistakable.

Is there a woman who, being thus treated, does not know the truth at the beginning? She does, but she will not admit it. Yet all the time, from the moment when the first doubt arose in her mind, she has known it.

There is only one thing to do when a man's love is dead and that is to let him go. To "win back his love" is next to an impossibility. It is a pathetic sight to see two people, one madly in love with the other, and the other unable to reciprocate. And, yet "try to forget" is the only advice that can be offered.

A man shows it plainly enough when he has ceased to love. Appointments cease to be sacred, he cannot summon up courage to write letters, he is moody and silent, and shows in his manner all that his tongue refuses to say.

If he can get an excuse to go off somewhere away from his fiancee, he endeavors to bring her to an understanding of his views by preserving a strict silence.

Should she not see things as he wishes her to, she may be angry with him, and he will see this pretext to bring about a rupture between them.

Anything to save him from confessing that he has not acted well. Usually the disappointments of women are the outcome of man's inattention and false promises.

Were a woman not so honest and so blind in her love, she would see through many of the protestations of affection made by man, and know his vows for what they are worth.

The silliest thing a woman can do is to cling to the man who wants to have done with her, and to try to bring him around to reciprocate her affections.

If he is a sentimentalist he may be influenced, and vow that he really does love her just to please her. But this will not alter his affections. He will shirk the marriage and put it off. Should he go so far as the altar, she is no better off, for doubtless, after marriage, he will state plainly that he does not care for her, and that he only married her because she worried him into it. Certainly men have queer ways and should be brought to look about their misdeeds.

It is not wise to surmise that a man's love is dead and treat him accordingly. Be sure of it. Bring him to the point of saying so. It may pay you to do this, much as you may regret the parting, for a man in love can be gentleness itself, while he who loves not can be cruel as the grave.

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Household Hints

Wash a potato, wipe dry and put it in your breadpan. It will keep the bread fresh for days.

Always rinse black stockings in blue water, and they will keep a good color right on to the end.

To make ironwork proof against rust, heat it until it is almost red hot and then brush it over with linseed oil. This makes a varnish which, unlike ordinary paint or enamel, does not chip off.

To tighten cane-bottomed chairs wash the chair in a strong solution of soda and water and let it get thoroughly dry. When dry it will be found that the cane has shrunk and the seat tightened.

To make a good furniture polish scrape two ounces of beeswax into a pot or jar, add as much spirits of turpentine as will moisten the whole and the eighth part of an ounce of resin. Dissolve all this to the consistency of paste and add as much Indian red as will deepen the color to a dark mahogany. Stir all well together.

TODAY'S DAINTIEST DISH

"COOKERY IS BECOMING A NOBLE SCIENCE"

A New Fruit Salad

By **CONSTANCE CLARKE.**

Fruit salads are steadily growing in favor and nothing is more healthful or delicious than a judicious mixture of fruits with a delicate dressing.

The following recipe is new, and makes a tempting salad: Take three apples, chopped fine, the sliced pulp of one grapefruit, six canned pears, cut into small squares, three stalks of celery, half a cup of chopped wal-

nut meats. Mix well together, arrange in a pile on platter with thick mayonnaise dressing.

Dressing—Two three-fourths of a cup of thick mayonnaise, add two tablespoonsful of lemon juice, a salt-spoonful of paprika pepper, pour the dressing on the salad, using a pastry tube with plain round-pipe to decorate the top.

(Tomorrow—Little Neck Clams)

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