VOL. XLIX-NO. 30.

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS

"Modern Woman" Is Slipping, Declare Many Bee Readers; Say Tolerance Is Enticing Them From Paths of Morality

Feminine Vanity, Always Vulnerable, Cited As Underlying Cause by Many

Believe the Rising Generation of Women Care Too Much for Froths and Frills -Modification of Present Styles of Dress Urged-Analyze Every Woman As a Combination of "Angel" and "Four-Flusher"-Prone to Smother Pleadings of Conscience and Lose Their Heads Over Fellow Who Has "Shekels" If Nothing Else.

a deluge of answers from the read- either of these latter periods, and contrary. ers of The Bee to such a number who can recall them clearly, who that many could not be put into will not freely and readily acknowl- ments contained in the puerile ar-

for several weeks to come, however, conduct of a large proportion of the be knocked down. Let the Herald and readers are invited to express womanhood and girlhood that we their personal views on the question. meet daily upon the streets of our and give straightforward comment will be published, as space will permit. Following are some of the periods mentioned?

Prodded by Editorial. number of thoughtful people, men low Margaret to read that story,' or You must see that the children do not go to this picture.' Such remarks occur naturally along the

pathway of thought that leads to the question: 'Are our women (and kind, and scenes as are found in the men) slipping? 'I had no intention of discussing the matter myself in response to the query of The Bee, but have been moved to do so on reading a challenge issued on the subject the editorial columns of the World-Herald. The attack on The Bee was thinly veiled in its pretended argument, but the heart of the subject was missed, or adroitly avoided. That such a serious question should be dodged, or used as a shield behind which to aim an editorial dart at The Bee, is something extremely reprehensible. The allegations made by The Bee, and the conclusions to be drawn there- be taken to imply such an embrace-

from are indisputable, and well known to everyone, and generally acknowledged. The fact that the mon terms with matters, scenes the days of Shakespeare and 'Good Queen Bess,' are admitted condiions that do not in any way contern the issue under discussion. A Modern Question.

"The question raised does 'not' take up conditions '400' years and

"It compares conditions of today with those of 10 to 25, or even five years ago, in this country.

Public discussions of the question, ! "And who is there, who was of 'Are Our Women Slipping" drew mature and thoughtful mind at rint this week.

This open forum will be continued ence in the attitude, manner, and arguments and citations raised up to As many of the answers received cities, as compared with the con-

"I remember when 'The Black Crook' was produced, and I cite it "Editor The Bee: The question as an instance because it is one that ing a letter to that paper, set forth propounded by The Bee Are Our will be recalled by most people who certain vices of which she herself Women Slipping? is one that I lived in that time. There wasn't acknowledged guilt, and of which was pleased to see taken up, and I one family man in a hundred who cigarette smoking was the least of looked forward to reading with some interest the views that might be drawn forth. The question is one that has been raised by a large play was a Christmastide church teacher herself, does the same morality play compared to some of thing. and women, and a great many have the Babylonian scenes depicted in 'dance halls' of our western pictures, would cause these sage and worldly wise youngsters to let out an un-

> Too Much Familiarity. "Are these girls slipping? Are their parents slipping? They are, to this extent, that they have allowed themselves to enter upon terms of too much familiarity with such things. This is not to say, nor does The Bee intimate, that this familiarity has reached the degree in which the vices depicted have been embraced, and to this extent the word 'slipped' is not exact in

But they are upon easy and comity is obvious, and the half-baked wisdom and knowledge displayed by these 'fresh' youngsters who should be soundly spanked and put to bed

It was not thus 20 years ago and the World-Herald knows it. "The Herald says: 'There are as many good women, pure and highminded, in the world today, in the a general unwillingness to make world.

with curfew, is disgusting.

"Why, of course.

"Who has said anything to the "The statement, like other state lay aside its own 'straw' arguments, on some of the facts, like the fol-

"In the Daily News but a fortnight back, a certain young woman writ-

"Will the Herald editor look up approached the subject unconscious- a large number of plays that are re- the list of things these young women ly, as I have many times overheard garded as common and ordinary are doing in this Sunday school class, remarks such as: 'You mustn't al- spectacles today. To tell some of and say that 20 years ago it could these 12 to 15-year-old girls, for in- have found this Sunday school class, stance, and immature youths also, or a Sunday school class in any that it is not well for them to witness the performances of the well-known 'vamps' of the Theda Bara prevailed, or could have prevailed And will the Herald class the young women of this Sunday school with the 'muck and dregs' of society that it speaks of? And will it then bear just these few examples of the better class of our young womanhood in mind and contend that the young

> to a shocking degree further than the same young women of a decade back "Are our women slipping? Not exactly to the degree that might be taken to be implied . in the word 'slipping' itself, but they are less strict in their views of things that should really be horrifying to com-

women of today are not advanced

mon, everyday modesty. "They are 'slipping' to the degree describing conditions, as it might that young girls are nowadays tolerating things that really bring a blush to the cheek of decent grown courts of the French kings were and thoughts that years ago were lead them further along the path that notoriously dissolute, and that taboo. The danger of this familiaris enticing them from morality and

To a Certain Degree. "In answer to first question I will say in my estimation they are slipping to a certain degree, and unfor-tunately for the whole world the standard of conduct is being low-

"To many restaurants, shows and

Is the standard of conduct of the majority being

Is becoming "pals" with their brothers undermining their morals? Can they withstand "sterner"

Has woman's beneficent influence waned with the war? Were her elf-effacing endeavors a fleeting phenomena of an unusual emergency? Does the "average" woman really care more for froth, frills and foppery than affairs of the hearth, head and heart?

Does the lessened respect shown them by men-compared to that paid to their mothers-prove the daughters less worthy? Does the fair sex no longer inspire courtesy, reverence and devotion? Is the race to be popular and clever snuffing out the ideals of our girlhood?

"The hand that rocks the cradle rocks the world," 'twas said. But

a maid, today, takes care of the children while mother plays at bridge. "My Wandering Boy," in maidens' eyes, a hero is, his virtuous brothers raise cynic's sneers. It was not so when dad was young.

Why the Change Today?

Young men once were wont to worship women—called them fairles, angels, queens. Now they term them "chickens," vampires, sports. Once regarded as superiors, they have now become man's equals, with the "right" to ape his vices.

Sweethearts used to plead with lovers-pledging them to give up wild oats. But today that girl's "old maidish" who herself has never smoked, tasted cocktails, told questionable stories, seen risque plays, or

Modesty was deemed a feminine virtue. Then why all this hub-bul about indecent apparel? Why should pope, cardinal, school heads, employers, club women, welfare workers, need to score their own sisters for their negligee costumes and the display of their persons?

We have thought women religious-given them credit for being more spiritual. Yet they now lead bands of crooks, "try anything once," and of all the church movements of history (like founding the many sects of Christendom), only one was begun by a woman. Why is it? Were our forefathers misguided knightly gallants? Are women fallen angels or four-flushers? Is their new freedom hurting them? Are they deaf to the pleadings of conscience and God, care no longer for beauty of soul? Or have they grown to loath chivalry and sham, hence lay undue stress on reality? ARE THEY SLIPPING? Tell us.

The Bee invites its readers of all ages and both sexes to ponder the above questions and then send in their answers to be printed. Address

lieve woman would have gone on were in any way misguided knightly indefinitely with her wonderful sacrifices, had circumstances demanded, but she feels she is capations and indefinitely with her wonderful gallants. I believe every woman on earth is a combination of angel and industries in the sacrification of the sacrificatio ble of soon forgetting it.

women care too much for the froth ing them or not. I think it hurts and frills' than they do for settling the men to see the women so indown to hearth and home. The dependent. The women are prone lessened respect that is so obviously to smother the pleadings of conshown to the daughter of today, science; it is the fellow who can than was shown to her mother, is jingle the most 'shekels' whom they due, I believe, not to the fact that all lose their heads over, as we must the daughter is any the less worthy, each one try to outdo the other in but to the fact that the daughter a worldly showing and let the herehas conducted herself in a cheaper after go hang. and more common way.

reverence and devotion, but not to even to smoking. They are slipping, the same extent their mothers did. I believe the general trend is to a snuffing out of the ideals of girl
"Yours sincerely, L. W. T." hood unless they awaken soon.

Should Modify Dress. "It is surely time for women the

ence has, to a great extent, waned ones who occupy the pews.

"I wouldn't undertake to assert "I believe the rising generation of that woman's new freedom is hurt-

"They care more about being "They do still inspire courtesy, good fellow, apeing a man's doings,

"When I read your article, "Are Women Slipping," I could not help article written by Florenz Ziegfield, jr., manager of the Ziegfield Follies Would Defend Her Sex. world over to remedy their mode of feeling that you had wrongly misdressing, but the society women judged my sex and that you had in the American Magazine for Deshould first look to their styles be- very misguided ideas and opinions cember. fore trying to reform the rest of the of us. I am a young woman of Oma-Women as a general rule ha with a family of my own and I thought women more religious and

Are Our Women Slipping? Tendency Toward Frivolity Reaction From Intense Strain During the War

Men Blamed by Some for Existing Conditions—H. C. L. Blamed by Others—Difference in Attitude, Manner and Conduct Noticeable in Proportion of Women and Girls of Today as Compared to Same Classes 20 Years Ago-Modern Girls Accused of Tolerating Things Which Bring Blush to Cheek of Decent Grown Man.

ability.

"In the first place, I do not believe that the average woman is any less touch of a fallen young girl. heart-hungry for love, home and Demand Instead of Ple hildren than she ever was, I challenge anyone to find 10 girls, average, ordinary girls in Omaha, or girl up again and show her the way anywhere else for that matter, who stands a better chance of gaining are not ready for these three essentials to happiness, the minute the hypocrite of former days, who would ight man comes along.

"You ask, 'Has woman's beneficent influence waned with the war?' Women may be more frivolous since the war than they were before, but the old church doctrines, when the then it is in perfect accord with hu- church was used as a means to cover man nature for a reaction after a up and gloss over innumerable sins. great physical, mental and nervous does not signify that women worstrain such as women, as well as ship Christ less than formerly. men, were subjected to during the war and men have yielded to the reaction as well as have women.

Time for Readjustment.

"It will take time for people to eadjust themselves to normal feeling and conditions again. It is also true that more women than ever are becoming 'pals' with their brothers and entering the business world, but his is not always done from choice. Don't you think that conditions and old H. C. L. is partially to blame for "Nowadays the average father is

not able to support his daughters until they are ready to marry, much less give them any of the pretty things every girl longs for. He does well if he can give them a fair edu-

"You say 'young men now term girls chickens and vampires.' I hope you do not think this applies to the great majority.

tory also shows that the people of will power to keep away from them every generation always considered entirely.
that their generation of women was "So there is the heart of the subthat their generation of women was weaker morally than the generation before them. It used to be that the get they should look for a woman 'vampire' was very popular on the who would make a wonderful wife stage. Are they today? They are and mother, but they look for the not. Public sentiment is very much girl who attracts their attention, in favor of the sweet, innocent, girlish charm which is shown more on the stage today than ever be-

"You also say that men once United States, in Nebraska and in Omaha, as there ever were.'

Wolfd. Wo

my sex to the best of my crites that they were in the old days 'chickens' and 'vamps,' but the girl lest they be contaminated by the

Demand Instead of Plead. "Don't you think that the woman of today who helps to lift this young entrance to heaven than the pious scorn her and give her an extra shove downward?

"Because women do not like to carry on the sham and falseness of

"You also say, 'Once regarded as superiors,' they have now become man's equal, with the 'right' to ape his vices. Sweethearts used to plead to lovers to give up 'wild oats,' There again you are wrong. Women do not want the 'right' to ape his vices, but they do want the right to demand instead of plead, that the fathers of their children, and their life companion, does not have vices nor sow wild oats, but keeps himself clean and untainted as he demands of the woman who is to be the

mother of his children. "And so I believe most empratically that women are as pure and good as they were and I do not be-lieve they are slipping. Yours re-spectfully, Mrs. G. I. P." Men Are Responsible.

"'Are our women slipping?' It is a question I have long wanted to see

"It is a delicate question, these women, but God has made them the pire type of woman as far back as weaker sex and they are almost ruled history has been recorded and his- by men, unless they have enough

first, because of beauty, 'classy' clothes and the like.

"The first thing he thinks is, 'I wonder if I can get by with her, And he tries her out, and if he is tactful at all, he has her in his clutches, and another woman has

The Real American Girl. "Some girls dress for attraction, and others dress to keep up with them. These are the girls the men

when they drew their draperies aside who isn't in their minds a 'sport.' is a quiet girl who stays at home,

and is seldom called up for a date. "But in the long run, she is the real, true, American girl, and will be one to be appreciated and looked up to, when some of our men catch themselves napping, wake up, and get over some of their foolish

"Then the girls will not have to be 'sports' in order to have dates and a good time.

"Yours very truly, "FRANCES." Present Dress Demoralizing.

"Are our women slipping? Yes ncreased employment has not always worked for their good.
"The present styles of dress have a demoralizing effect, and instead

of helping our fellowmen to purer

and nobler thoughts, we have placed temptations before them which have dragged them down to the vilest crimes, and in many ways lost our nfluence for gool. "Women appear in public in dress

which should put to shame any pure minded woman. "To us, the influence of mother

and sister bringing society under a pure exemplary influence is the foundation of Christian civilization. "The present day styles of dress are to be deplored and should be condemmed. A radical change should be advocated by every pure

minded woman. "To my mind, this is the one great cause of our women slipping away from the paths of modesty and virtue, and losing their one time influence over the lives which

"O. A. HARVEY." Modern Woman Has Gained.

"Women have become men's equals! Equality has destroyed tween the sexes. Lack of restraint allows freedom. "Freedom allo velopment of individual character

Take restraint from the women of bygone days and you have the omen of today. "What have women lost by equality?-artificial devotion, prudery,

prdery, unnaturalness, poor health. deceit, trickery, cunning and the "And they have gaind?-real de-

rotion, self-knowledge, naturalness, health, truth, independence, individualism, in fact, life itself, "ONE OF THE LESS DEAD-

"Why Execute Grammer and Cole and Let Beryl Kirk Go Free?" Asks Reader of Bee, Among Letters Discussing Case

Many Points of View Expressed by Readers Throughout State Who Reply to Question Asked in Last Sunday's Bee About Proposed Electrocution of Two Convicted Men-Feature of Letters Is That None Base Plea for Clemency Upon Pity, But Upon the Wrong of State Committing "Legal Murder."

be executed, and Beryl Kirk be "fur-

This is one of the many points of view expressed by readers of The Bee in answer to the invitation extended in Sunday's issue of the paper for expressions of opinion concerning the conception of the case as presented by the newspaper artist in a cartoon published in connection with the story, which was history of the murder of Mrs. Lulu Vogt, and the trial of Allen V. Grammer and Alson B. Cole for

The cartoon depicted the two convicted men in their cell beholding a vision of the electric chair which the law has, said they shall expiate the crime for which they have been found guilty. Horror at their fast approaching fate is expressed upon the features of he two men, and the explanation made by The Bee in lines beneath the picture is as follows:

"If the death penalty is right in principle, its chief asset is fright-fulness—not so much in the death of the criminal as in the lesson it would have on others who would commit crime. If it is wrong it should be abolished.

Should these two men be executed? The Bee will be glad to hear what its readers have to say."

Clemency, but Not Pity. Answers have been received from points all over the state, among them some presenting unique and startling riews and aspects of the matter not before brought to the attention of hose who have given consideration

A striking feature found in the views of some is that, while they advocate clemency for the two men in plea for mercy to this extent is not ased upon pity for the two men-nor like element of mawkish sentiment, but finds its foundation for 19 years, and we are having the principally in the opinion that the worst period I ever lived through state should not commit legal mur- with regard to the number of crimes,

"Why should Grammer and Cole | der no more than the citizen should | committed. It looks as if the crimillegally take a life. Only one writer calls up whatever doubt there may be as to the guilt of the two men in appealing for clemency, and another blames

the crime upon liquor, expressing the

opinion that the seller of the intoxi-

cants which the writer alleges the

boys drank is equally guilty, or more guilty, and should bear the burden of the crime None of the writers advocate freeing the men. The letters are as fol-

How About Kirk Case?

"Omaha, Neb., Jan. 5, 1920. "Do I think these boys should be electrocuted? By all means-no. Why do the officials of the state of Nebraska allow these boys to be executed when they allow such a man as Kirk his freedom? It's just another case of money talking. Look at the past reputation of these boys and the past reputation of Kirk? Which of them should be fur-loughed? There is no doubt but that one of these men is innocent, and it is not justice that the innocent should suffer for the guilty. Why not give these boys a prison term?

Need Capital Punishment.

"Omaha, Neb., Jan. 4, 1920. "With reference to the Grammer-Cole case my opinion is that they should be given capital punishment. If there were more capital punishment in the state there would not be as many murders and crimes as there are. It looks as if the criminals are running the city. How few are caught and go to the penitentiary, where they are turned loose as fast as they come in so that they can go forth to commit more crimes. I should think the policemen would get so disgusted that they would refuse to catch any that they should be given life sen-tences instead of being executed, the more. The criminals don't fear the penitentiary because they know they won't have to stay there but a short time. I have lived in Omaha

inals have a strong hold on the city.—B. A. W.

A Hideous Crime.

St. Paul, Neb., Jan. 4, 1920. "In the issue of The Bee of January 4, 1920, you have carried before the public, the photos or likeness of two men that the courts of Nebraska have found guilty of the most hideous crime ever committed in our

"Then you ask the question, should these men be electfocuted? "The cartoon to the right, was a very vivid picture of what could be expected in the minds of the crimrals, even if the picture of the electric chair had not occupied a part of that space. But as a matter of justi ice first to the Vogt family and to the public who depends upon the laws of our great state that we may pursue our vocation in life safely t behooves us to uphold our courts "And in my mind the artist has left void the picture or cartoon that should occupy this space. Picture if you please our good citizen and a ady who had done her part to make this state of ours what it is today For she was a pioneer in Howard county and was honored and respected for the virtues of a noble

"Picture I say, this lady falling victim to the hands of these two men, dragged from her home at a midnight hour, under false impressions, shot to death and left on the pen field, a victim to the beasts of God's creation. If there is any crime that would set the minds of sound thinking and law abiding citizens in a termoil, it is a crime of this nature, and if men should not pay the extreme penalty for a crime ideous and premeditated, may I ask in the name of all that is great and noble, what the crime would have to They may be ideal prisoners but the courts of our land have proven that they are by far better ubjects for execution than they are or citizens of a civilized country for justice-A. H. Rines.

Life Sentence Best.

These Two Youths Face Electrocution Next Friday for Murder of Lulu Vogt



Alson B. Cole and Allen V. Grammer are to die next Friday by electrocution. Governor McKelvie yes day refused to grant their pleas of clemency.

They were sentenced in the district court of Howard county to die in the electric chair for the murder Mrs. Lulu Vogt, Grammer's mother-in-law, on the night of July 4, 1917. The supreme court of the state Last Monday Governor McKelvie granted a hearing of the case of the two men with a view to deter-mining the fairness of their trial. In his statement yesterday he declared that he is satisfied they had a fair

trial, are guilty of the charge and in spite of his own views with regard to capital punishment must die, in accordance with the order of the court. Date of execution of the two youths has been thrice deferred. January 16 is the final date. Arrangements have all been made at the state prison for the first legalized electrocution in Nebraska,

rection of faults and the teaching the state to take a human life than crime? The families of these two of a lesson, I do not think that cap-ital punishment quite meets the re-quirements. How much easier is it death penalty to be inflicted upon for these men to die than to live the these two men going to make them right? No. Is it fair? No. And rest of their lives in repentance to realize as fully as they should what is it justifiable? No. Life imprison-they have done? Of course the made. Of course, murder is wrong, but, did ever two wrongs make a rible that can be inflicted, but do substitute for the so-called capital Council Bluffs, Ia., Jan. 4, 1920. I right? No. It never has, and it you think the very fact that it is punishment, and taking all things

into consideration it is the superior Revolt Against Death Penalty. Staston, Neb., Jan. 5, 1920.

Jan. 5, 1920. "I am driven by deep conviction o say that my whole nature raises up in revolt against capital punishment under any circumstances, and in the case of these two men, I sincerely hope our good governor will see his way clear to at least change their sentence to imprison-ment for life.

"There seem to be some circumstances in the case of these two men that would justify such action. Anyway, we are not living in the dispensation of an "eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth" age.

"I sincerely hope the day may speedily come when this fair state of Nebraska, which I love and where I have raised my loved ones, will forever blot from its statutes this relic of the dark ages-capital punishment. Understand I am not advocating the mitigation of the punishment of the guilty for their crimes, but let us not stain our hands in their blood. Very sin-F. M. Druliner. Fit for Clemency.

"York, Ncb., Jan. 4, 1920. "It is the opinion of the majority of the people of our community that hese prisoners are fit for Governor McKelvie's clemency. The same seems to be the opinion of Mrs. Grammer and the people residing in the vicinity of Grammer's home. 'Never before in the state of Ne. Sanders. oraska has an electrocution taken ! lace, so why start now? Who can nake a law higher than the law of jod? It will be a cowardly act ifthe governor does not heed his conscience and do the right thing by these men. Surely he will not

listen to some who are worse at

heart than Grammer and Cole.

Nothing can be worse than the

Third Degree. "We never would have had a conas has been described. Some who put to death should be put to that Cole was so glad to get out pleading for his life, and the cirstrong. This is just an earnest request of Governor McKelvie to do ishment as He sees fit. as God bids him, and not as the small part of the bloodthirsty pubic bids him.-H. W. B."

Abolish Death Penalty. Grand Island, Neb., Jan. 4, 1920. "I don't think it right to electro-

ment should be abolished. Who has given anyone or two the right to take the lives of these boys any more than they had the right to take the life of Mrs. Vogt? As far as I am concerned this old world doesn't hold enough money to induce me to press the electric button. I consider it wrong and wicked, and I hope every one will send in a plea for these unfortunate Boys.-B. F.

Place Blame Where It Belongs. Omaha, Neb., Jan. 4, 1920.

"There are thousands right here in Omaha who oppose capital pun-ishment. Why don't they speak up? They voice their opinions only among their friends. As to the Grammer-Cole case, why is it the dirty saloon-keeper and the brewery man are not punished. Get down to brass tacks and place the blame where it belongs. boy hadn't been intoxicated they never would have done the deed. This is not the first case to be laid to the door of the saloon-keeper and when I think of all the pain and grief that has been caused by liquor I feel like being a second Carrie Nation and going after them with a hatchet, only I'd be tempted to strike at the heads of the brewerymen instead of the plate glass

windows .- M. E. L. Opposed to Legal Murder. Milford, Neb., Jan. 5, 1920. "With reference to the Grammer and Cole case. I will say we are op-

Wants Life Sentence.

"Lodge Pole, Neb., Jan. 5, 1920. "Omaha Bee: Your request from eaders in regard to death sentence of Allen V. Grammer and Alson B. Cole has aroused my interest in regard to the question of capital pun-ishment in the state of Nebraska, as no doubt it has thousands more. I am sure if the issue were put to a vote in this state it would be defeatession made like that of Cole if come up. If these two men are ed so bad we would not know it had he had not been put in such torture guilty of the crime they are charged with, it would be much better to im are so anxious to see these men ply a life sentence. Death would not be near the punishment life imprisonment would, and let us rememof that torture that he was glad to ber we have a Supreme Judge. God answer the questions put by the cruel officials. He saw it would mean death if he did not answer. When and where did He ever step. When and where did He ever Grammer and his wife are both give us the right to take the life of our fellow men? Let us keep our umstantial evidence isn't very hands clean of capital punishment and let God administer eternal pun-

> "Let us suppose we in the state of Nebraska send these two men to the electric chair and in after years we find one of these men to be inno-

that can never be made right. Let cute these boys. Capital punish- (Continued on Page Three, This &