

What Is the Relation of a Man to His Home When His Wife Works

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX.

What is the natural relation of a man to his home? What part does the husband play in building his nest and in keeping it feathered and thatched and warm and comfortable afterward? Here is one of the many letters which have come to me recently asking just this question: "I am 19, my husband is 21, and we have been married one year," writes M. M. "Since our marriage I have gone into business and have earned as much as my husband. In spare time, when there are such duties as cleaning to perform around the room in which we live, he complains. He says when he has a day of rest, he doesn't see why he should work. But this is the only day of rest I get. His work is not particularly tiring, he is in good health, and young enough to still be energetic. Do you see any reason for a man not wiping dishes?"

To make the last first and to reply in one broad sweep of the pen (or typewriter), let me remark emphatically that I see every reason in the world why a real man may WASH the dishes, and let his wife off with the easier task of wiping them!

This question of the man's part in keeping up the morale of his home, has a good many sides. I know a slippish woman who had nothing to do all day long but keep her house in order who didn't do that. She'd dandle about the halls of her apartment all day long, rush to the movies in the afternoon and come home in the evening at about the time her husband did to offer him a cold meal of delicatessen purchases.

Half the time the poor, tired man would have to slick up the sheets of his unmade bed before going to his night's rest. All the time he lived in the time her husband did to offer him a cold meal of delicatessen purchases.

For the woman who has nothing to do but keep her house in order and who is too lax and lazy to do that I feel nothing but scorn. There are—alas!—plenty such feminine slackers—but the masculine ones for a change.

The man who marries a girl of the self-supporting, business school of modernity, does well to let her go on with the work she likes and from which she brings a share of the money needed to run the home. But when she contributes her share (which needn't be an equal share in order to be a fine thing) to the

household, doesn't the man with pride and fine feelings want to counterbalance the money his wife brings in by extra efforts of his own? At the altar he's said something about cherishing until death parts him from the girl—something about having and holding. There's been the idea of guarding and caring for his wife. How well is a man doing that when he lets the girl be going to protect start off every morning on an equal basis of work and then lets her add to the sum total of her exertions for him all the duties as cleaning to perform around the room in which we live, he complains. But why should the girl add a full percentage of home making to her quota? Why shouldn't that be 50-50?

For the man who slouches around in slippers and smoking jacket and scatters sections of the paper and ashes all over the place every Sunday—all the old-fashioned housekeepers in the world have ever had lifted hands and eyebrows and voices. But, of course, even when his friend husband mused up the place on Sunday, his wife remembered that he was a boy-grown-up and that this was his one day of rest and that it didn't hurt a woman who'd had it easy all week to clear up a bit after a man who'd worked like a dog.

All right. Fine! as we said before. But if a wife has worked from 9 to 6 every day of the week, just as her husband has done, doesn't she need a day of rest just as much as he does? Isn't the strain of office routine just as hard for a woman as it is for a man? All week long the woman of the family has been adding cooking and washing up and keeping the place shipshape to the office tasks, which are certainly just as hard on her as on her man. And on Sunday there are buttons to sew on, and hooks and eyes to tend to and handkerchiefs to wash and the dozen or other "little tasks" which give woman's work that trying "never done" quality.

What is hubby to do then? Sit back and take it easy, while the awfully "weaker vessel" spends her day of rest toiling for him? Is that the manly thing to do—the thing which establishes friend husband as a true lord of creation who can be proud of himself? I started out to answer M. M., didn't I?

Now I've decided to stop with a question and leave it to M. M.'s husband and the rest of the men folks.

Frequent Visitor



Gladys Beaumont

Miss Gladys Beaumont of Lincoln is a frequent visitor to Omaha this summer. She is making investigations at the juvenile court in connection with her thesis for a master's degree at the University of Nebraska.

Mrs. K. R. J. Edholm of Omaha, executive secretary of the Nebraska Tuberculosis association, says Miss Beaumont, who managed the sale of Christmas seals in Lincoln, was one of the most successful workers their association has ever had. The Lincoln sales amounted to nearly \$3,000, which is five times the sum raised there in any previous year.

This association has enlisted the support of about 15,000 contributors whose co-operation has ranged from the few pennies of an earnest and sincere school child to contributions of \$5,000.

The collection of the fund has been attended by very many pathetic incidents, an example of which is found in the case of the mother who discovered a dollar in the clothing of her son who had been killed while fighting in France. This dollar she sent to the association because her son had loved and admired Roosevelt, and she concluded that an appropriate use of the money was to give it for the restoration of the birthplace.

Humane Meet To Be In Omaha

Plans are rapidly being perfected for the 44th annual meeting of the American Humane association at Omaha, Neb., October 25, 26, 27 and 28. The selection of Omaha as a place of meeting should insure an unusually large attendance. The situation of the city at the center of the continent makes it easily accessible from east, west, north and south.

Dr. W. O. Stillman, president of the American Humane association, has already entered into correspondence with prospective speakers and a splendid program is assured for the meeting. One of the most enjoyable social events of the session will be the dinner at which a number of prominent speakers will be heard. In addition to being a progressive commercial center, Omaha possesses a splendid attraction in the form of the Fontenelle forest reserve of 2,000 acres, and it is likely that delegates to the convention will have an opportunity to see much of this wild park. The Nebraska Humane society is working hard to perfect the local arrangements, and it is desired to make the meeting in Omaha one of the most memorable in the history of the association—National Humane Review, June, 1920.

Woman's Success In Roosevelt Memorial

The Woman's Roosevelt Memorial association had raised, up to June 1, approximately \$200,000. This has been accomplished in a period of about a year and four months.

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Music Celebrities This Coming Season

The ever popular and charming Alma Gluck will return to the concert platform next season after a year's vacation spent in New York and at her summer home on Fisher's Island, off the Connecticut shore. Interest is added to her return by the announcement that in several concerts she will appear with her husband Efreim Zimbalist, the distinguished Russian violinist. After giving half a hundred concerts Mr. and Mrs. Zimbalist will sail for England, where they have been booked for a series of joint recitals during March, April and May.

Edward Johnson, the tenor who stepped into remarkable prominence last winter in the leading roles at the Chicago opera, has been widely heard in concerts this spring. He is a fine commanding figure and was featured in Cincinnati, Evanston and Ann Arbor at the festivals. Mr. Johnson has been one of the most admired opera tenors in Italy for the last six or eight years and he more than lived up to the exalted reputation that preceded his return to his native country.

The Worcester, Mass., Music festival which is the acknowledged first big musical occasion of each season, has contracted with Merlo Alcock, the contralto, for two appearances in October. This young American contralto carried off high honors in nine festivals this past

spring; among them were Cincinnati, Evanston, Indianapolis, Fitchburg, Bethlehem, Pa., and Norfolk, Conn.

Josef Hofmann has limited his American tours to the months of January, February and March. Prior to that time the famous pianist will fill 25 recital engagements in Great Britain.

Another "due concert" attraction to be heard in many cities next season will be the unusual combination of Mme. Louise Homer, famous opera contralto and her daughter namesake, Miss Louise, who is a soprano. Miss Homer has been doing considerable recital work in the last two years and is regarded as an artist worthy to bear the Homer name.

Problems That Perplex Answered By BEATRICE FAIRFAX

Many Admirers. Dear Miss Fairfax, Omaha Bee: I am 18, considered good looking; I know plenty of nice boys who tell my girl friends they like and admire me, but after they take me out three or four times I very seldom hear from them. A girl friend asked one man why he didn't go out with me any more and he told her he didn't think he had a "ghost of a chance" because I had so many admirers. Would you please tell me what the trouble may be?

Perhaps you're self-centered and lacking in sympathy. Perhaps you're one of those ultra-modern girls who think that to make a good appearance is all that is required of a girl. Perhaps you're really the impression of being flexible and interested in everyone so no one has a chance of coming to mean much to you. But at your age to have many friends instead of that near-engaged condition known as "keeping steady company" strikes me as the most sensible thing in the world.

Billy—The addresses you ask for are: Ethel Clayton, Famous Players-Lasky Corporation, Hollywood, Cal.; Gloria Swanson, 1944 Kensington Road, Los Angeles Cal.; Ann

May, care Motion Picture News, New York City; Alma Rubens, Brunton, Los Angeles, Cal.; Durrell Burton Foss, 103 House Avenue, Venice, Cal.; and Lila Lee, Paramount, Hollywood, Cal.

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THE TRUTH THAT EMBODIES ALL TRUTH

People are still going about with their eyes eagerly afloat, hunting for the honest man and the honest product.

When that search is rewarded, nothing but betrayal can break or lessen their allegiance.

It has been pathetically true from the beginning of time, that men admire honor in others even when they have smirched it in themselves.

Humanity may be a million years old in point of time, but it is as young as this morning's sun in its pursuit of the ideal.

After two thousand years of disappointment and disillusion, the eternal verities and the eternal values still prevail.

The elemental truths are still true; the man whose word is good is still the secret hero of our inmost hearts.

We smile, perhaps, at the spectacular triumph of the trickster; but while we smile, we hate the trick by which he filched that sham success.

Even in an era of unbridled extravagance, when, on the surface, men appear to have lost all sense of proportion, that which is sound, and good, and true, is more admired, and more desired, than ever.

In such feverish times, the mediocre and the meretricious only seem to be admitted to equality with that which is worthy, because they fall heir to the overflow which excellence is unable to supply.

The process of discrimination between the sham and the solid, the superficial and the substantial, goes on, just as before, without interruption.

That which is unworthy carries its own punishment, and its own penalty—its true character is inevitably disclosed in due time, even though a temporary prosperity comes to it from the caprice of the unthinking.

When 'the tumult and the shouting' dies down, the strong man, the strong institution, the true artist, and the true workman, in any and every vocation, is more solidly entrenched than ever.

Even though it be surrounded, and seemingly obscured by sham and pretense, nothing in this world is discovered so surely as solid merit.

Nothing stands out so strikingly, by way of contrast, as genuineness and genius.

No special and painstaking effort of hand or heart, or brain or brawn, that goes to the building of something superior, is ever wasted.

Cheapness and compromise, substitution and surrender—these, in the long run, are the real sources of waste.

The unceasing search of the mass of mankind for that which is good and enduring—this is the only law of supply and demand with which the superior craftsman need concern himself.

Let him dedicate his life to the satisfaction of this restless hunger of the human heart, and he can, if he will, remove himself beyond the reach of rivalry.

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