

Woman's Section

Superstitions Will Hang Around

By GABBY DETAILS

"HAVE you a pet superstition?" "A pet superstition?" you answer with elevated eyebrows. "Why, I haven't any. Superstitions are for the ignorant people."

But just a moment and rummage around the shelves of your cerebrum among your store of modern information and see if there isn't tucked away in the corner some old, musty, long-forgotten superstition you'd forgotten was there.

Do you pick up the pin you see lying in the street?

If you break a mirror does it give you a month's unsuccess? Honest, now?

When you knock over the salt cellar, do you—not because you believe it does any good of course, but because it can't do any harm—do you take a pinch and throw it over your left shoulder?

Do you dislike to accept a \$2 bill? Would you give your friend a knife without adding a penny to break the charm? Would you walk under a ladder? Do you mind being the 13th at dinner?

These superstitions are the most popular.

"I wouldn't leave town on Friday on a bet," declares Mrs. Charles Beaton, who confesses to other superstitions.

Mrs. Charles McLaughlin denies having any, but Gabby refers you to Mrs. Beaton to learn her really truly pet one.

"Would you pick up a penny for luck," Gabby asked Mrs. Henry Wyman.

"I might pick it up, but not for luck," she brightly retorted.

"No indeed, I am not superstitious," said one young woman.

"Not even a teeny, weensy bit?" Gabby urged. "Would you hesitate to sit at a table with 13?"

There, this sensible, intelligent young woman weakened. "Well, No-o-o, but I wouldn't want to be the last one to sit down."

That's the funny part of this pet superstition idea. Most women will declare they have no superstitions, but if you discuss the subject with them long enough, you will discover there is one lurking around somewhere, spite of denials.

Mrs. W. E. Shafer admits reluctantly that she is superstitious about opals. She had one once and donated it to the suffrage melting pot.

Gabby wonders if that is why Tennessee gave so much trouble in ratifying.

One woman, asked about opals, said indeed she was not superstitious about them, that she would wear any jewels she could get her hands on.

Are women the only ones who will confess to superstitions? Gabby has proof they are not.

So worthy and respected a townsman as G. W. Wattles is unshaken by the fact that he does not like to look at a new moon over his left shoulder.

Harry O. Palmer, prominent attorney, carries a silver locket piece containing a picture of his mother and brother. It was given him years ago by a friend who called it a "charm piece." "Carry this," the friend said, "and good luck will follow you." The superstition has grown with the years, Mr. Palmer says. He religiously transfers it as he changes from one suit to another.

Mr. Palmer served with the American army in Siberia and China. Starting out one day on an inspection trip while in China, he discovered he had left the charmed piece behind. A boy was sent back five miles to get it. "I could not have gone on without it for anything," Mr. Palmer said.

"You wouldn't expect a man weighing 205 pounds to have a pet superstition, would you?" George DeLacy asked in reply to the question.

A great many of our superstitions have grown up with us through so many generations that we are hardly conscious of their presence. Many of these date back to the early Romans and Greeks.

Salt in ancient times was used in religious rites, and supposed to possess propitiatory powers. But when a careless emperor's elbow knocked the salt dish over its pedestal, and the only way to insure a peaceful resumption of the meal was to appease the evil powers by throwing a pinch of the spilled salt over the left shoulder.

The superstition connected with a broken mirror dates from Napoleon's campaign in Italy, when he accidentally broke the glass over the picture of Josephine. Since glass had always been connected in any form as symbolical of life and death, Napoleon was overcome with fear that some evil had befallen Josephine. And because the broken glass caused the great emperor uneasiness, the woman on the street car today pales when she drops her pocketbook and her mirror breaks.

Other superstitions are supposed to have originated from theories based on the working of the subconscious mind, or some deduction arrived at by observing old sages who knew how to put two and two together.

"Giving a knife to a friend, says the philosopher, was considered a likely way to break off a friendship because it denoted some subconscious but sinister thought on the part of the giver."

He dipped out the bad luck that was supposed to follow a fellow who walked under a ladder in this wise: If a fellow is so lazy he takes the chance of walking under a ladder instead of going around, he's likely to meet with an accident before long.

Picking up a pin, he says, is a thrifty habit, and the man who picks it up is both saving and observant.



Miss Dorothy Bell
RINEHART MARSDEN PHOTO

A Beautiful Debutante

One of the loveliest of the season's debutantes is Miss Dorothy Bell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bell. Since her informal bow to society a year ago, when she was a special maid to the Ak-Sar-Ben queen, Miss Bell has been a popular member of the young set. She is especially prominent in country club affairs. Miss Bell has attended Miss Bennett's school in New York City. Her parents will give an elaborate debut party for their daughter during the holidays. Miss Bell has not made definite plans for the later season.

and so likely to have success in whatever he does.

As for the innocent two-dollar bill it got its reputation when some careless shopper first handed it out by mistake for a one-dollar bill, and didn't get the right change. And the poor two-dollar bill, that really is as nice as any of the Long Green family, has been regarded with a cold and suspicious eye.

Come now, what's yours?

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One man got on a Farnam street car last Sunday afternoon. He recognized a woman friend near the front and sat down beside her.

"I recognized you by your hat," he smiled.

"Oh, dear me! By my hat!" exclaimed Eve. "I knew I need a new one, but I didn't think you'd be so unkind as to tell me so."

"Oh, my, what have I done now?" cried the bewildered man.

"Why you told me you have seen my hat a hundred times before," declared Eve.

"Well, suppose I have. It's a very pretty hat. I like it. I think you have wonderful taste," stammered the man.

"I'll forgive you this time," smiled the woman, who is very pretty and wears beautiful clothes, "but don't tell a woman again that you recognize her by her hat. It isn't being done."

IS IT the price of things we like or the things themselves? The evidence is against us, Gabby maintains, so far as platinum is concerned. It is only since the war that platinum has come to take its royal place among the metals of the world. It is since scientists discovered that platinum was valuable for the manufacture of war implements, that it had been used chiefly for dental purposes and for spark plugs in motors.

As the price of platinum rose substitutes were used for dental purposes and motors, but platinum still holds the premier place for electrical contacts in war materials. The demand for platinum, already evinced in jewelry, increased during the war, and as Russia's supply was cut off, and the amount imported from Colombia, small prices began to soar. In the first part of 1911 platinum was worth \$39.06 a troy ounce. Today it is bringing \$135 a troy ounce.

Jewelers say the increased price has met with increased demand in the case of jewelry. The white metal with the grayest tinge, less brilliant than silver, but taking a high polish, has found widespread favor, especially since it can be finely spun into the most delicate designs.

It gives the diamond a whiter radiance, is very malleable and not attacked by any natural acid, which leads jewelers to declare that it is the sovereign metal of the future.

Sisters Visit Omaha Frequently



Miss Margherite Schneider

Second only to the interest shown in the bride was that of Harry S. Byrne Wednesday evening at Fremont. Miss Margherite Schneider was the bride's only attendant and Mrs. Etta Turner of Pittsburgh, Pa., who returned to her native city some weeks ago to be present at the nuptials, assisted at the large reception following the ceremony.

The two sisters are well known in Omaha. They are frequent visitors here and have many friends in this city. They have been visited at the R. J. Dinning home as the guests of Miss Louise Dinning, now Mrs. Allan Tukey. Omaha may hope to have them as guests more often in the future, since their sister, Mrs. Harry Byrne, will be a permanent resident here upon return from her wedding trip, December 1.

'Best American Drama' of the Year

"Beyond the Horizon," by Eugene O'Neill, is the play which Prof. Paul H. Grumann of the University of Nebraska will use for the first of his series of interpretative studies of contemporary plays. Tuesday, November 23, at the Fontenelle hotel at 4 p. m. before the Omaha Drama League.

Eugene O'Neill is the son of James O'Neill of "Monte Cristo" fame. "Beyond the Horizon" is his first full length play. He is also a writer of short plays and has been a member of the Providence Players since their organization. This play is termed the "New American Tragedy" but is said to be a tragedy which might occur in any civilized country of the world where marriage is a recognized institution. It was first produced on February 3, 1920, and was awarded the Pulitzer prize of \$1,000 by Columbia university as the best American drama of the year.

Walking Club to Hold All-Day Outing

The Omaha Walking club will hold an all day hike Sunday, November 28, under the leadership of the Misses Lorena Knox and Allie Houston.

Members will take Bellevue and Fort Crook interurban car at Twenty-fourth and N streets at 9:30 a. m. The walk will start at 10 a. m. from Twenty-seventh street station, Bellevue, going east one mile, thence south through LaPlatte. From LaPlatte the party will take the road that runs close to the bluffs east the old lime kiln to Dyson's Hollow on the Hector Place.

The next thing on the program will be lunch and hot coffee, which will be served either in the lodge or beside what is claimed to be the best spring in Nebraska. Members are expected to bring a lunch and the leaders will furnish the coffee, cream and sugar.

After lunch the walk will be continued along an old abandoned road for some distance, thence west to Fort Crook. Those who have had enough can take the car home from this point. Those who are still frisky may continue the walk to Bellevue.

Members who are unable to start early or who miss the 9:30 car may take the 12:30 p. m. Burlington train to LaPlatte.

From LaPlatte take the road that runs close to the bluffs, turning to the right at the lime kiln, joining the main party at Dyson's Hollow on the Hector Place about 2 p. m.

On account of having an all day walk in October and another all day walk in November, and because most of the members seem to be favored with Thanksgiving dinner invitations, the committee on walks decided not to plan a walk for Thanksgiving day.



Catherine Smyth

Catherine Smyth Here

A guest at the Ward M. Burgess home is Miss Catherine Smyth of Washington, D. C., fiancée of Charles Burgess. Miss Smyth arrived Saturday, to spend some time here. Her marriage to Mr. Burgess will take place in January at the home of her parents, Judge and Mrs. Constantine J. Smyth, in Washington. It had been planned to have Miss Smyth make a formal bow to Washington society during the holiday season, but owing to the announcement of her engagement these arrangements were dropped.

Mrs. C. J. Sibbensen of Omaha is a sister of this visitor, and Miss Smyth spent the last summer here at the Sibbensen home.

Comings and Goings at Capitol

Bureau of The Bee, Washington, Nov. 20.

Cabinet making and preparation for readjustments in the official circles, which of course affect everything else in Washington, have kept society busy since election day. And it will keep it busier and busier until President-elect Harding announces his selections for his official family of the forthcoming administration. The outgoing official family are observing their rounds of everyday life as gayly as though their going were not the result of actual defeat, but was from personal choice. There are some of them, however, who will remain with us in other circles, the secretary of the navy and Mrs. Daniels, for instance, being likely to remain on as "Senator and Mrs. Daniels." The people of their state are devoted to them both, personally, and have already declared that the secretary shall represent them in the senate at the next vacancy. No loverly hostess than Mrs. Daniels has ever lived here, and she is beloved by a wide circle of old and new friends, who will rejoice in her continued home here. There is no particular class in which Mrs. Daniels' popularity is greatest, all classes having the same feeling for her from the working girl in the community centers to the members of the diplomatic corps.

There was a near family reunion at the White House the last weekend, when Mrs. William Gibbs McAdoo, Miss Margaret Wilson and Miss Helen Woodrow Bones came down for a few days' visit. They arrived from New York on Friday and returned to New York on Tuesday. The only missing member was Mrs. Francis Bowes Sayre who could not leave her little family just at this time. Miss Bones, who was a member of the president's family throughout their residence in Princeton, and during the years of their occupancy of the White House, until the first presidential trip to Europe, has not been at the White House since she came joining the President and Mrs. Wilson's absence in Europe and packed and shipped her belongings to her new home in New York. She took up important work with the Red Cross at the outbreak of the war and during those last few years she was a member of the White House household, she attended to her duties in that organization as promptly and as regularly as though her own daily bread depended upon it. When the President and Mrs. Wilson came to the White House, she transferred her work to the New York offices, where she has remained. She is quite the most attractive member of the president's family. A handsome brunette, petite, erect, with well rounded figure and a fascinating smile, she has a touch of silver in her front hair and a sweet womanliness of expression, she has made a host of admiring friends here. She bears the responsibility of introducing the president to his present wife, who was her particular friend for many months before the presidential interest became pronounced. She is a second cousin of the president.

New Memberships In Fine Arts Society

Omaha Society of Fine Arts reports a splendid response to membership in the society, according to Mrs. Edward L. Burke, chairman of membership committee. New members are being constantly added. The new manual will soon be completed and sent out to members. This keeps the former members in constant touch with the new members as well as the officers of the preceding year. Information regarding membership in the Fine Arts society may be secured by telephoning Mrs. Edward L. Burke, Harney 6285. Membership is unlimited and those interested are invited to join.

Dues entitle members to all lectures, exhibitions, and meetings of the society. There are more than 600 members.

Honored Guest

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn C. Wharton entertained at dinner at their home Saturday evening in honor of Mrs. Wharton's brother, Burdette Kirkendall, and his fiancée, Miss Mary Cooper, of Pittsburgh, Pa., who arrived Saturday to be a guest at the Wharton home. The guests included Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Carpenter, jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Burgess, Mrs. Fred Daugherty, Miss Catherine Smyth of Washington, D. C.; Drexel Sibbensen and Charles Burgess.

Mr. Kirkendall's mother, Mrs. F. P. Kirkendall, will entertain informally at a tea Sunday afternoon for Miss Cooper.

Miss Dorothy Judson is planning an affair for Monday, honoring Miss Cooper, and Mrs. W. De Hostford will entertain in her honor Tuesday.

Debutante

The first debutante of the season will be Miss Marion Hamilton. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Will Hamilton, will give a dancing party Wednesday evening, November 24, at the Hotel Fontenelle, when Miss Hamilton will make her formal bow to Omaha society. There will be dancing in the ball room and card tables will be placed in smaller rooms for those who do not dance.

Miss Hamilton attended Duchesne college here, and has spent much time in Washington, D. C. She was active in the League of the Christ Child society and Duchesne Alumnae.

Omaha Business Women's Club

On account of the closing supper and meeting for final reports for the finance campaign to be held at the Y. W. C. A. on Tuesday evening, the Business Women's club will meet for supper and its evening program at the Young Men's Christian association, in the assembly room on second floor. Registrations for supper will be made as usual at the Young Women's Christian association before 9:30 Monday evening. The program for the evening will be under the leadership of Miss Eunice Conaway. A. W. Gus Miller will speak on "Juvenile Experiences."