

# "There Aren't Any More Old Maids! No Room for Them in Swift City Life"

Unmarried Woman Has Developed Into One of Finest, Sweetest, Cultured Types in the World, Says Mrs. Mildred M. Easton.

Of Greater Benefit to the Race Than Married Woman Who Contents Herself With Sitting Back and Saying "I'm a Wife and Mother."

By Marguerite Mooers Marshall  
"THERE AREN'T ANY MORE OLD MAIDS!"

It seems to me that statement is worthy of capital and exclamation points, though it was made originally in the dulcet tones of Mrs. Mildred Manley Easton, founder and president of the Life as a Fine Art Club. Yesterday, for the benefit of the —, unmarried femininity, outside the club, Mrs. Easton consented to explain and defend her very welcome discovery.

"An old maid," she defined for a starter, "is a woman who is everywhere preceded and followed by the comment, 'she couldn't get married.' By her unattractive appearance, by her crabbed, unlovely disposition, by her self-conscious avoidance or foolish seeking of male society, she is traduced as a failure in the solitary effort of her life, the attempt to win a husband. Needless to say, she is despised, mocked, or, at best, contemptuously tolerated, like any other failure.

"Old Maid" Practically Extinct.  
"Now the fact is, this type of woman is practically extinct to-day. Perhaps there are a few of her left, in the little country towns. But in our splendid, strenuous city life there is no room for her, or rather there is all the room for her to develop into something very different. And she is done it."

"Then what is the modern 'old maid'?" I asked.

"Don't call her that," cautioned Mrs. Easton. "She is simply one of the finest, strongest, sweetest types in the world. She is cultured without being pretentious. She is witty without being cynical. She is tolerant without lowering her ideals. She is generous, energetic, self-sacrificing, with a host of real friends, men and women. That's the modern unmarried woman after the age of, oh, say, thirty."

"Not before?" I questioned.  
"Before that she is still developing. We are apt to put too much emphasis on the transcendent qualities of our young girls. Of course they are sweet and dear and charming, but, like all immature things, they have their faults and weaknesses that disappear later."

"Do you think the modern unmarried woman a finer type than the married one?"  
"Sometimes," replied Mrs. Easton firmly. "Please understand that I am not depreciating marriage," she added, in quick afterthought. "I think the right sort of married life is indeed the best and happiest a woman can have. But it is so easy to achieve the wrong kind of marriage.

**Selfish Affection.**  
"The woman herself is not necessarily unhappy in this wrong marriage. But she lives a little life. She has a selfish animal affection for her husband and children and home. She permits the lives of her children to come into being but she does nothing to lead and develop those lives. Yet this type of perfectly futile woman has a sovereign contempt for every unmarried acquaintance, no matter what fine and splendid things these 'old maids' may be doing for the world.

"They are really of much greater benefit to the race than the married women who content themselves with sitting back and saying, 'I'm a wife and mother.' The unmarried woman-to-day is almost sure to be adding something to the total of world progress.

"She creates. Perhaps it is a book or a painting, a statue or a song. Perhaps it is good, faithful work at some necessary, if undistinguished, task. Perhaps it is simply a wonderful, beautiful personality."

"And so many unmarried women are either adopting or educating children, nowadays," I suggested.  
"There is an unmarried woman in this city who is fifty years old, and has worked as a teacher and governess ever since her graduation from Mount Holyoke College thirty years ago," said Mrs. Easton. "For most of her life she has been taking care of various members of her family.

Adopted Two Boys.  
"Two years ago the last one was produced for. What did she do? She adopted two boys from an orphan asylum near her old home in New Hampshire. She has placed them in an excellent school and still continues her work as a governess to support them. For summers she devotes to them, and she plans to send both through college a little later. And that is not an isolated instance.

"There are very few 'old maids' who are not mothering some one else's children, helping them to become good men and women."



MRS. MILDRED MANLEY EASTON.

"Do you think the modern 'old maid' happy?"  
"Do you remember the old Greek proverb?" Mrs. Easton counter-queried. "To be happy is the first prize to be glorious the next lot." As I've said, I do think the woman who makes of her marriage all that can be made of it is the happiest in the world. But the change in the situation lies just here: Marriage was and is recognized as 'the first prize.' Only in the past there weren't any second awards; there was nothing between the first and

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the dull and sickening thud of the 'collision.' The unmarried woman never got anything else.

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"Now the 'next lot' is always open to her. She can make her life a glorious one. That does not mean, necessarily, glory in the eyes of the world. It implies simply a fine, complete development of one's natural gifts and possibilities, something which is within the power of every unmarried woman in this age of the widened field."  
"And what do you find is the attitude of men toward this new-old maid?" I questioned, finally.  
"Men are delighted with her," smiled Mrs. Easton. "You know the term, 'historic friendship,' that has been coined at through all the centuries? The great Greek who originated it also propounded the plan of a republic, where men and women should meet on a perfectly equal basis. That dream of his is not yet realized. But men and women are more nearly equal to-day than ever before, and therefore some very beautiful friendships, not based at all on sex, exist between them. The cultured, charming unmarried woman of middle age treasures many such friendships. They are the final proof of her victory over the boggy, 'old maid'."

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started in pursuit. He did come up with the thief once, and got a blow in the face, but the two confederates stumbled into the way again, and finally all three were lost in the crowd. Ecks told the police that he had planned to go to Philadelphia to-day, but he won't now.



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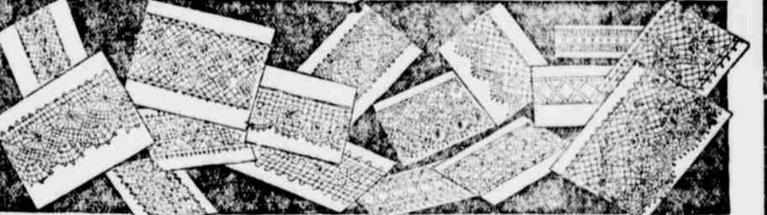
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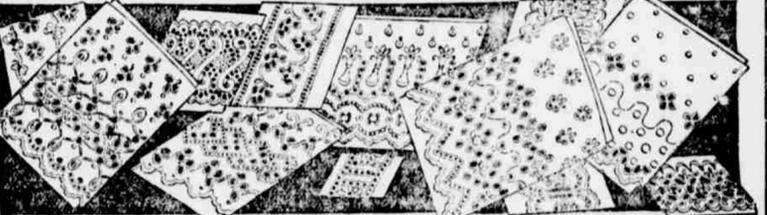
## Gigantic 33c On Dollar Purchase and Sale of Embroideries And Laces

The Season's Most Sensational Sale—a Bargain Surprise for Our Customers, for Dressmakers and Small Dealers, who may now take advantage of the remarkably low prices at which we purchased this immense stock at the recent auction sale of Asiel, Putzel & Co. These goods may be purchased in this sale in almost unlimited quantities at much less than regular wholesale prices. An opportunity to secure line laces and embroideries that may not come again in years. From 25% to 75% less than regular prices.



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50,000 Yards Assorted Wide Cluny Laces  
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At the most extraordinary savings imaginable; shown in matched sets in Leaf, Rose and Figured designs; assorted widths; at, dozen yards, 12c, 15c, 19c, 25c, 29c



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GARAGE CANS... 25c  
BABY WILLOW BASKETS... \$1.25  
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