GOOD FORM—SHOULD MAN PAY FOR WIFE'S VERBAL INDISCRETIONS?—CORRESPONDENCE

HUSBANDS BEAT CATTY WIVES IN OLD DAYS, M'LISS FINDS

Unfortunate Married Men Whose Ladies Were Backbiters Were Haled Into Court to Pay Damages for Slander

THE English husband who recently had to "pony up" because of an archaic law which makes a man responsible for the backbiting of his wife is probably wondering at this minute why there isn't a man's rights movement to protect such unfortunates as he. Time was when if the spouse of your heart gave vent to her cattiness by attacking the character of a neighbor with more vigor than discretion, the latter could have the "cat" up in court and collect damages not only from her but from an innocent husband, who might be the most peace-loving and charitable soul in the world.

In those days the innocent husband had one recompense from the seeming injustice. He could beat his wife. He could beat her long and beat her hard, and, unless she was possessed of a physique as potent as her tongue, there would be no one to stay his hand.

A cynic pointing to the prevalence of the habit of slander, might argue against the efficacy of beating as a means of lessening the free play of a woman's tongue. Even as the putting together of the egg would balk the efforts of all the king's horses and all the king's men, so would the curbing of a feminine gossip, sometimes malicious, be a difficult task. Men have beaten women in all ages, but they have never kept her from saying what she wanted to.

"But if this were an American law might not most married men be always busted?" a mere man asked me, discreetly accenting the might.

Might they? Does marriage make cats of us all? Is it necessary for a married woman to be a member of the paws and claws club in order to protect herself? Must she fight all other women with that most powerful of all feminine weapons, her tongue, in order to concentrate her husband's attentions on herself?

I think not, although I have met few women who are not cats. Do I hear applause from my male readers and hisses from the female ones? Very well, then. Think it over. Think over the past performances of all the women that you know. Pass quickly by the parasite type. No need for much reflection there. They're all cats. They have to be; they live by it. Come now to that type which numerically is becoming greater and greater in our midst.

How many working women do you know who are absolutely devoid of all fellinity?

How many of the so-called "new" women, they who pride themselves on being as broad and generous in their views as men are usually credited with being, are devoid of it? How many of them give to their sisters praise when praise is due and withhold censure and adverse criticism, although it is merited?

How many of us were we married and were the old law still in effect who would escape a daily beating or two?

M'LISS.

Letters to the Editor of the Woman's Page

Address all communications to M'Liss, care of the Evening Ledger. Write on one side of the paper only.

Dear M'Liss—For some time I have been a reader of the EVENING LEDGER, and especially of your column.

Thursday evening I read the article of M. J. Bancroft, and I must say that I would like to meet him some dark night at 734 Walnut and let him feel what two good fists are like, only I am a woman and it would not be ladylike, even though my husband was a "pauper soldier," as he calls them.

I suppose he draws the large amount of $7 a week and is jealous because he could not keep a wife. I would like to see this poor "Percy" if he heard a cannon go off. Yes, maybe one of the poor, overworked society dames might take him to Newport as a page or butler. A. M.

Dear M'Liss—Please send name of freckle cream, and oblige. C. A.

A stamped, self-addressed envelope, please.

MARION HARLAND'S CORNER

All communications addressed to Marion Harland should inclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and a clipping of the article in which you are interested. Persons wishing to aid in the charitable work of the H. H. C. should write Marion Harland, in care of this paper, for addresses of those who would like to help, and having received them, communicate direct with those parties.

How to Learn Tennis

As a constant reader of your advice, I would appreciate correct instructions as to how to play tennis, as the girls and boys I am acquainted with know little about the game. F. V.

It would not be practicable for me to teach you all you ought to know of the game by writing out instructions, even if there were room for this in the Corner. Manuals containing full directions for each stage of the sport are for sale in nearly all book stores. Buy one, and after you have studied the principles therein set down, visit a court where the game is played and learn the practical part of it. This is the only way to become a tennis player. One hour of close watchfulness, armed with the manual for reference, will do more to make a player of you than a library full of textbooks. This is one of the numerous activities of life to be learned by practice and not by theory.

Infested With Vermin

I cannot find any help, so turn to you. We are in a place infested with vermin. The children are troubled, as well as the adults. Will kerosene injure the hair? Please let me know through your Corner. Gah! I get some verses—bad, but so useful. They begin: "A silly young cricket, accustomed to sing through the sunny months of gay summer and spring." That is all I can remember, but I should like to get the whole poem. MRS. C. H. C.

Kerosene may not injure the hair. In the opinion of some who have tried it, it does not. Others disagree with them. I do not presume to decide the question. I can, however, without hesitation recommend tincture of larkspur as an exterminator of the vile vermin which infest the hair. First, comb the child's head well, having a large towel pinned closely about his neck to catch the creatures as they fall. Burn the combings at once with the hair and larvae which have fallen upon the towel. You cannot be too careful in this respect. Then drench the child's hair through and through with the tincture and fit a cap or bind a light cloth securely over the head. Leave it on all night. In the morning give the hair another faithful combing, burning all that comes away. Repeat the process every night for a week and you will have solved the disgusting problem. The larkspur kills "creepers" and sterilizes the eggs, known as "nits." The subject is not one to discuss "to ears polite," but, as George Sampson reminded Mrs. Wilfer, "we all know it's here," when we cannot isolate school children. Your second query is referred.

Membership in Tennis Club

The writer, a man of 27, comes for aid. It is rather peculiar assistance he is asking. He is anxious, through your Corner, to obtain membership in a tennis court. He knows little about the game and wishes to take it up. But he knows no one who might be the "open sesame" for him. This is due in part to the fact that he has few friends, and these few have no desire to play tennis. Still, there may be some one who would be in a position to help him in this instance. The writer has Saturday afternoons off and thinks they might just as well be spent doing something he wants to do as to be spent in riding in trolley cars by himself, lamenting the loneliness to which he has been assigned. His idea was that of the many readers of your Corner, who have rendered assistance in various other ways, there might be some who would enter into his feelings and be willing to "lend a hand" to relieve the painful awkardness of the situation. Maybe some young fellow has felt in his earlier life the wretchedness of being a stranger in a strange city. W. J. R.

The letter is inserted entire that our junior members may comprehend the reason why our correspondent seeks Cornerly aid and comfort. May I suggest that the Young Men's Christian Association may have such clubs connected with its Recreation Committee? I wish a member of the association would give the Corner definite information upon this point?

Not Like Home

Some time ago I spent one week in a strange city, stopping at an exclusive hotel. At meals everything seemed to be served so differently from the way they are served in our home that I was somewhat puzzled how to handle things. I am a girl 17 years of age, and have not been away from home as I have not been graduated from high school as yet. Will you kindly tell me where I could obtain a book on the subject mentioned? JOSEPHINE S.

We sent you by mail the title of a book that may be what you want. But as I had occasion to observe in replying to a would-be tennis player, the best way to learn minor social usages, particularly those pertaining to the serving of tables and eating from them when they are served, is to embrace every opportunity of visiting places where such matters are conducted after the best modern fashion and keeping both your eyes open. You are a bright girl and will soon pick up all necessary information. The practice of new styles of eating and drinking will come readily to you. Changes of this sort steal into the daily living of each generation. A century ago gentlefolk poured tea and coffee into the saucer and sipped it from the edge daintily. It was then not vulgar to eat with one's knife, and napkins and finger bowls were as unheard of as gas and electricity. Take courage. You will catch up with the times and keep abreast of them.

Papers Save Labor

Take all the newspapers after they are read and put them in some convenient place. They are mighty handy. If you are peeling potatoes, you can gather up all the refuse in newspapers and throw it away without making the kitchen dirty. Or dry refuse may be gathered up in papers and burned in the stove.

SEEN IN THE SHOPS

USEFUL FOR LATE SUMMER

WITH summer well advanced and the early summer clothes looking rather passe from faithful service, it is just the time for a frock or suit to freshen one's wardrobe.

Taffeta, which continues in high favor, fashions this attractive and practical suit. It features billiard pockets and novelty pearl buttons. If desired it may be worn as a sport dress instead of a suit. It comes in white, pink, gray, navy and black. Price, $14.95. It comes in special sizes ranging from 34 to 46.

A practical sports hat is this one with a mushroom brim. It has the new chenille top and satin facing with cord edge. Diamond ornaments in Egyptian colored chenille add a bit of contrast. In citron, gray, copen, rose, wisteria or purple. Price, $6.95.

The name of the shop where these articles may be purchased will be supplied by the Editor of the Woman's Page, EVENING LEDGER, 606 Chestnut street. The request must be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope, and must mention the date on which the article appeared.

For Home Baking

You can get fresh, clean broom straws in a sanitary package now with which to test your cake. It's certainly an improvement on the old method of taking a broom straw out of the cleaning broom, says Popular Mechanics. And everything around the kitchen should be scrupulously clean.

GOOD FORM

Good form queries should be addressed to Deborah Rush, written on one side of the paper and signed with full name and address, though initials ONLY will be published upon request. This column will appear in Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's Evening Ledger.

What to Say

Dear Deborah Rush—If you are introduced in the early part of the evening to a young man, and upon leave-taking he informs you that he has been pleased to meet you, what would the most appropriate and correct answer be? I am 18 years old and have been in little company, and therefore, I am rather anxious to know what to do on such an occasion. Thanking you for any information you may give on the subject. B. B.

Of course, the young man who tells you he is glad to have met you is simply carrying out the usual custom of making a polite remark. There is no special way to answer him, except by saying that you, too, are glad to have met him or that the pleasure is mutual. Do not make your answer too stilted or according to a set form. The more simple and at ease one is in conversation the more likely one is to make a good impression, and I think this is your idea, is it not?

Wedding Invitations

Dear Deborah Rush—I am to be married shortly and want to send invitations to the members of the firm for which I work. Should separate invitations be sent to the members of the firm and their wives, or should I just send one to the firm? JACK.

Business and social affairs should never be mixed. Invitations should be sent to each member of the firm and his wife.

Yes, Take Gifts Now and Again

Dear Deborah Rush—I am very fond of a certain young lady and would like to take her some flowers or a book sometimes when calling upon her. Would this be in good form? HENRY.

Yes, flowers, candy or books are always permissible, and most girls greatly appreciate them.

How to Entertain

Dear Deborah Rush—I have invited a group of friends, 12 in all, to spend an evening at my house. I have a large lawn and am going to have Japanese lanterns strung around. All these young people know each other and live in the country. They do not dance. Now, what I want to know is how shall I entertain them informally? They are all jolly and I am very anxious for them to enjoy the evening. I certainly shall appreciate your suggestions as to games or something to do. And also, would you send me some idea as to refreshments? E. H.

If any of your friends are musically inclined or do any special stunts, perhaps it might be well to have a vaudeville evening. Or you might send them word to bring photographs of themselves when they were babies or about 2 years old. Put these all together and show one at a time. Give the guests paper and pencil and make each one write down the name of the one he or she thinks the photograph represents. Then give a prize to the best. Or still another way to have a good deal of fun is to ask the guests to come dressed as the titles of various books, and give a prize to the one who guesses the largest number of correct ones.

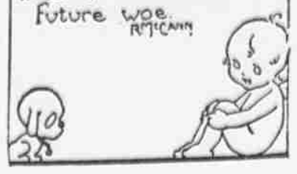
Light refreshments are best in this kind of weather. Lettuce sandwiches or pimento cheese ones are nice, as is fruit lemonade. I would also have ice cream and cakes.

Ask First

Dear Deborah Rush—I met a girl at an evening party lately and want very much to go call but I know where she lives. Would it be all right for me to call they some evening without having asked her first if I may? I have only met her once, and I want to do the right thing. H. G. L.

It would not be correct to call before asking the girl's permission. You can easily wait for an opportunity to see her again at some affair, and then ask if you may call. DEBORAH RUSH.

THE CHEERFUL CHERUB



Child's Song

What is gold worth, say,
Worth for work or play,
Worth to keep or pay,
Hide or throw away,
Hope about or fear?
What is love worth, pray?
Worth a tear?

Golden on the mold
Lie the dead leaves roll'd
Of the wet woods old.
Yellow leaves and cold.
Woods without a dove;
Gold is worth but gold;
Love's worth love.

—Algernon Charles Swinburne.

BATHING SUITS SHOWN IN FALL FASHION SHOW

Beautiful Beach Creations Nicely Filled With Models, Seen in Chicago Display

CHICAGO, Aug. 7.—Live models—the livest of whom wore bathing suits and were exhibited in a special fountain—characterized the fall style show of the Chicago Garment Manufacturers' Association which opened today and will continue all week.

Wholesalers' invitations to buyers to attend the show at Bismarck Gardens dwelt particularly upon the group of feminine swimmers in up-to-the-minute bathing costumes. Why the bathing suit display for fall wear no one knew and none seemed to care. It was a great attraction.

Chicago store windows were in the beginning of a week's boycott on out-of-town goods and gave their entire window space over to the display of "Made-in-Chicago" products, taking this method of doing their share to boost the show.

A half hundred garment manufacturers of this city had entries in the display. Each manufacturer was allowed to exhibit four garments—provided he entered them on live models.

From 6000 to 7000 Middle West buyers are attending.

A feature of the show is a revolving stage which permits quick changes of scenery. Dinner will be served each evening, after which the show will be held.

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August Fur Sale

In order to keep our large workroom employed, we will during August have a special sale of

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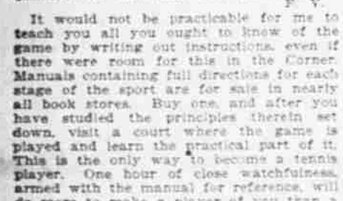

Ask yourself these questions about your poor complexion

"*Why* must I endure these unsightly pimples and blotches?"

"*How* do other girls keep their skins clear and make themselves welcome where I am avoided?"

"*Isn't* there some way to improve my complexion that will not cost more money and time than I can afford to spend?"

You can give yourself this answer: "I believe the simple, but thorough, daily use of Resinol Soap, aided perhaps by a little Resinol Ointment, will be all you need to restore your unattractive skin to its natural healthy beauty. Don't worry—act!"

For free sample cake, write to Dept. 20-R, Resinol, Baltimore, but all toilet counters sell

Resinol Soap

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This "uncommonly good butter" is made in a way that gives a wonderfully rich, creamy, uniform flavor—and firm, dry body. And you get not only a *better* butter but *more* butter when you buy Meridale.

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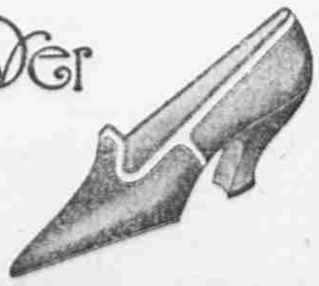

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