

Gossip for Women

NEVER be afraid of asserting yourself and having your own opinion about things as long as your ideas are practical and sound.

Don't let other people's opinions turn your mind and then be apt to think as they do. Stick to your own ideals and ideas.

It will help you to keep your own self-respect and will win the confidence of others.

Don't be a negative character.

By all means listen to what your elders say and patiently hear them out, but don't be aggressively self-assertive when you state your ideas which are totally different from those of older people. Speak quietly and modestly. It will carry just as much weight as if you spoke aggressively.

Never let another's ideas, which may differ from your own, so aggravate you that you lose your temper. Remember that to the speaker those opinions she holds are just as sacred and important to her as yours are to you.

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How few people really know how to sit for a photograph! Every face has its weak points, and these unfortunately have a way of cropping up in a picture and ruining the effect. Of course a photograph should be absolutely lifelike, but at the same time one naturally prefers to look one's best.

Scarcely one face in a hundred has features perfect enough to promise a satisfactory photograph in profile.

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for this pose brings any little defects into the foreground.

For a full face picture a sitter must possess fine eyes above all things. If they are good the pose will be a success even if the other features are lacking in comeliness.

If one has any pronounced defects to hide the three-quarter face is really the happiest way to be photographed. This position enhances the charms of the beautiful and tones down the irregularities of the plain face.

It is never well to be photographed in a hat of distinctly modern style, for in a year or so the picture is ruined by the old fashioned headgear. But a picture hat such as those worn by the Gainsborough women makes a most picturesque setting for a beautiful face and is never out of fashion.

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No one is so humble minded that she likes to be forgotten. We all resent the fact that our personality has not made an impression. Pretend indifference as we may, it flatters our soul to be remembered.

The woman who forgets names and faces lacks social grace. The gift of remembering people often makes the difference between success and failure in making friends.

There are women who think it is rather smart not to remember names. They like the feeling of belonging to a small circle and always look blank when meeting those whom they know but slightly.

This is foolishly short sighted. The well bred woman is she who tries never to forget a name. To be forgetful and unable to help is a misfortune; to assume forgetfulness is ill bred.

If a memory for persons is important to the woman in society, it is indispensable to the business woman. In an office the gift of remembering any one once met is a greater talent for success than more showy talents. Try to cultivate a good memory in names and faces.

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Man has an ingrained belief that he must feed a woman on fairy tales. From the cradle to the grave the woman with whom he deals is treated to cases of misrepresentation of one form or another.

Men have a notion that the vast majority of women abhor the truth; that if they treated them to a dish of plain, unvarnished facts it would give the sweet creatures a bad pain. So would they sugar coat life—then wonder why women find it a failure when the coating is worn off.

Women have achieved so much these days that they have gained the right to be treated as a helpmeet, not as a plaything; a companion, not a doll to be coddled and deceived.

Do not think that women—even the ones you treat to overdoses of flattery—would not count it more of a compliment if men took it for granted they had brains, heart, and courage to hear the truth, though it be painful.

The flattery that goes deepest is to have the man she loves tell her plain facts straight out from the shoulder, rather than to be stuffed with fairy tales when her intuitions tell her something is wrong.

Why are there so many things awry in marriage?

Because the man in love never dreams of giving actual facts about himself to the maiden he is wooing. If he does not actually misrepresent, he does tacitly.

Does he say: "Anne, dear, I love you; I want to marry you, but I am unwilling to marry you unless you can face squarely what that marriage will mean to us both.

"I am on a certain salary. It will not give you luxuries; you may even have to make sacrifices, but I am in the line of promotion, am young, strong, and willing to work hard for you. Some of these days I can give you both love and money; now I can only offer you love and a pittance. Do you love me enough to take the chance?"

Not he.

Anne is not given the chance to show how willingly she will work side by side with the man she loves. She is treated to a lot of fairy tales. There are glowing word pictures of the home-to-be, where Anne is given to understand she is to be just a charming head of many workers.

Marriage is painted in rose colors. Dear Anne is to be a queen, with treats handed out to her daily on golden salvers by willing slaves. She is given to understand that she is too fine and precious to soil her hands with menial tasks; that the lover is marrying a companion, not a house-keeper.

On this basis the maiden gets utterly unsuitable trousseaus and gifts. The money she would have spent to so much better advantage had her lover told her the truth is frittered away on nonessentials.

The illusion is kept up during the honeymoon. Jack almost exhausts his bank account to splurge on the wedding trip.

Then, when home is reached and dear Anne awakes to real facts—when she must get up early in the morning and cook breakfast, slave from week end to week end at cooking, washing, dusting, and making her own clothes—is it any wonder she feels resentful?

The loving service she would have given joyfully from love is grudgingly given when forced. She feels she has been deceived, and is naturally indignant.

Women who love, love to give of themselves if they are but treated fairly and squarely. What irritates them to inward if not outward rebellion is to be fooled into a thing.

If the lover has not actually made false representations about his finances, he is cowardly about telling a woman the actual truth. Many a wife is called extravagant, is blamed for a man's downfall, when she knows nothing of his affairs and has not the least conception that she is spending more than she should.

If a man would openly tell his wife what they can spend, then expect her to live up to it, he would rarely be disappointed in her management. It is working in the dark that leads to so many bad tumbles.

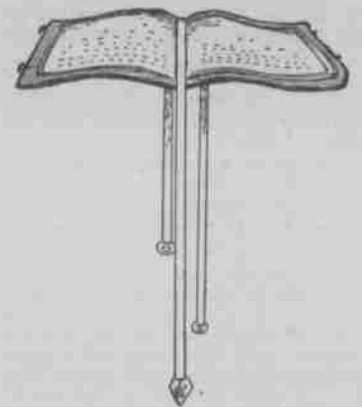
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