# Woman's Realm / Social and Personal / Fashions / Literature

## DUETS by JO FISCHER

## Better English

D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He is a valuable friend."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "gondola"?
1. Which one of these words is misspelled? Centigrade, centenial, centrifugal.
4. What does the word "solicitude" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with exo that means "to free from blame"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "He is a valued friend, and he has valuable jewels." Valued means highly regarded. Valuable means having monetary value. 2. Accent first syllable, not the second. 3. Centennial. 4. State of being anxious of concerned. "He showed a constant solicitude for his son's welfare." 5. Exonerate.

## Morning Smile

An old lady kept a parrot which was always swearing. Every Sunday she kept a cover over the cage, removing it on Monday morning, thus preventing the parrot from swearing on the Sabbath.

One Monday she saw the minister coming toward the house; so she replaced the cover over the cage. As the minister was about to step into the parlor, the parrot remarked: "It's been a damned short week!"

Returning from his day's toil to his happy little home, father greeted his family.

"What have you all been doing today?" he asked.

"I washed all the dinner things!" said Ann proudly.

"And I wiped them!" exclaimed Sheila, just as proudly.

Father turned to his only son.

"And you, John?"

"I picked up the pieces," was the brief reply.

Electrocution has been caused in the home by frayed cords at the lamp base. Make sure frayed cords are replaced and insulation is in good condition.

Seafood, eaten at least about once a week, can help supply the body's need for iodine.

## Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. Where should a man give a stag dinner?

A. A stag dinner should be given in a man's bachelor quarters or in a private room in a hotel. If he chooses to give the dinner in his own home, his women folk should not appear.

Q. When macaroni is served Italian style, how should it be eaten?

A. It is much better to break it with the side of the fork, rather than to attempt to copy the Italians' skillful manner of eating it. This may save both embarrassment and laundry.

Q. Is there any ornament permissible for one who is in mourning to wear?

A. A little dull jet is often worn.

## How Can I!!!

By Anne Ashley

Q. How can I mend a torn window shade?

A. Lay it on a flat surface, bring the torn edges together, and apply a half-inch strip of adhesive tape on the side next to the curtains. Then the tape can be painted with water colors to match the shade, if desired.

Q. How can I clean fine lace?

A. Spread the lace on clean white paper and cover with calcined magnesia. Place another paper over it and place all between the leaves of a book. Leave for about three days, then shake out the powder.

Q. How can I prevent the icing from running off a cake?

A. Dust a little flour over the top of the cake before it is iced.

### GUESTS AT CASTLE

Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, retiring Canadian high commissioner to the United Kingdom, and his wife have arrived at Windsor Castle, the court circular announced. The circular did not amplify the statement, but it is known that members of the royal family and their friends have been entertaining at Windsor Castle is the traditional country residence of the royal family.

## Household Scrapbook

By Roberta Lee

### Hints on Painting

A good brush that will not shed its bristles is the most economical The brush can be placed in a can of turpentine between usings to keep it soft. And don't forget the cloth dampened with turpentine to wipe up spilled drops before they harden.

### The Linoleum

Much can be done to prevent the linoleum from cracking if it is cleaned regularly with equal portions of lukewarm vinegar and water.

### Shoe Heels

One will not feel so tired if the heels of all the shoes are of the same height.

## Cook's Corner

### HAM PATTIES

3 tablespoons butter
4½ tablespoons flour
1¼ cups milk
½ teaspoon minced onion
1¼ cups ground cooked ham
2 tablespoons minced parsley
1 egg
3 tablespons milk
Bread crumbs.

METHOD: Melt the butter in a pan and blend in the flour. Add the 1¼ cups milk gradually, stirring constantly. Then continue cooking, stirring frequently, until the mixture has thickened and no raw taste of flour remains. Add the onion, ground ham, and the parsley. Spread the mixture out onto a platter and cool thoroughly.

Now shape the mixture into patties. Dip them in the egg which has been beaten with the 3 tablespoons milk, and then in the crumbs. Fry in a pan containing hot fat about ¼ inch in depth. Turn the patties to brown both sides. Drain on unglazed paper, and serve hot.

The second recipe we have for you is another made with chopped cooked ham. This is a fondue, and can be used very well to provide a luncheon or supper dish.

### HAM FONDUE

1 cup milk, scalded
1 cup soft bread crumbs
1 tablespoon butter
¼ teaspoon salt
Dash of pepper
¼ cup chopped green onions
3 eggs, separated
1½ cups finely chopped cooked ham

METHOD: Scald the milk and add the bread crumbs, butter, salt, pepper and the chopped green onions. Beat egg yolks slightly and add to the milk mixture. Cool to lukewarm, then add the chopped ham.

When ready to bake, fold in the stiffly beaten egg whites. Turn the mixture into a greased baking dish, filling this not more than three quarters full. Bake in a moderate oven (350 deg. F.) for about 40 to 45 minutes. Serve as soon as possible after removing from the oven. A salad or hot buttered vegetables would be good served with this.

### NOT MUCH HELP

After the excitement of gay Christmas cards popping into Britain's letter boxes, there followed an epidemic of dun-coloured envelopes—millions of them marked "income tax—private" and some million and a half others about the family census. The latter is a newcomer to British households, whereas the income tax buff form is only too familiar. An authority recently explained to some puzzled recipients of these forms that they are the notices of coding for pay-as-you-earn ready for the start of the new income tax year in April, when personal allowances go up and the rate of tax goes down, while post-war credits come to an end. A correspondent summed this up so; "They gives yer a bowl of soup and hits yer on the 'ead with the spoon."

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## Dorothy Dix Says—

# Matrimonial Problem

## Matter of Nuptials Hard Lot For Female Side of Team

The matrimonial problem has always been a tough one for women to solve. First, there was the difficulty of catching a husband. Then the stint of housebreaking him and making him like it. Then the labor of feeding the brute who was sure to growl over his food. Then the job of teaching him to jump through the hoop and to fetch and carry.

Then the never-ending task of keeping an eye upon him and see that he didn't stray off of the premises, or get stolen by some predatory female. Take it all in all, it's quite a chore.

And now another woe has been added to the married woman's burden, for the war seems to have undemosticated thousands of husbands who have reverted to the wild, and thereby rendered null and void all of their wives' efforts to tame them. And why this should be, why the man who for years and years has been happy and contented, purring on his own hearth stone and believing the Little Woman and the kids world beaters, should suddenly go A. W. O. L. and chuck the whole business, is a riddle nobody can guess

### COMMON OCCURRENCE

Yet this is what is happening in thousands of cases, and it is one of the major tragedies of the war because it is wrecking so many homes and breaking so many women's hearts. There isn't a day that my mail isn't weighted down with tear-sodden letters from anguished and bewildered wives who say that their husbands have come home from the war so changed that they scarcely know them.

"We had always been so happy together," a woman will say, "and my husband had loved his home and been so fond of the children and me, but now he is bored to death at home. He criticizes everything I do, and he is so cross with the children that they are scared of him."

And many and many another wife writes that she has had to take the baby to Mother to keep while she gets a job to support it and herself, because her husband has told her that he doesn't know why, but he has fallen out of love with her, and that he is leaving her.

It is a sardonic reward that these women receive, after they have prayed so fervently for their husbands to return safely to them, and have worked so hard to keep together the little homes for them to come back to, to find out that their husbands have lost their love for them and do not want to come back home.

But, perhaps, the fault is not so much with the soldiers as it is with just circumstances. Fate. Kismet. Whatever you want to call it. Perhaps absence got in its deadly work and alienated two people who might have lived together to their Golden Wedding day if they had not been parted. Perhaps an uncongenial marriage crashed of its own weakness. Perhaps a fettered soul saw its way to freedom and took it. Perhaps no man knows why he loves, or why he ceases to love. Perhaps you can never lay down a way of life and pick it up again just as it was.

Nerves, suffering and experiences can explain to a wife why her husband is so changed, but it does not answer her questions: "Will he come back to me? Will he learn to love me again? Will we be happy once more as we used to be?" Only God can answer these.

But after G. I. has gotten over his war jitters, many a one, who thought he had lost his taste for his wife, will find that she is the GREAT and ONLY one and love her all he better for her wisdom and patience in standing by him through his readjustment, instead of getting a divorce.

### YOU MAY BE JUDGED BY YOUR HANDBAG

Handbags are like shoes—they last longer if they are allowed to rest every few days. So for the sake of your bags as well as your costume, switch them often, and when you empty the contents, take time to clean the inside of the bag. Brush the dust from the folds of linings and pockets of both fabric and leather-lined bags. To clean and protect the outside of your smooth-leather bags, like calf or alligator, use saddle soap and a neutral cream or special leather preserver. Rub a thin coating of the neutral cream or leather preserver over the bag, wipe off the excess, and polish with a clean, dry cloth. Special note: A wax treatment is ideal for colored bags that tend to rub off on gloves and clothing. Apply liquid wax sparingly (the same type of wax you use on your furniture). Then polish well. It may take a little time, but when a good film of wax has been built up, it will go a long way in correcting the trouble.

The south central Florida caracara found also on the southern coast of Texas, is a bird of unusual appearance; a scientist recently said it looks like a hybrid of an eagle and a hawk, crossed with a vulture.

American soldiers in India became well acquainted with the common kite or sheel; these birds hovered around mess halls and would sometimes swoop downward and take food out of a soldier's hand.

This bunny put the Aga Khan to shame when film actress Susan Hayward weighed him off with $1,008,000 in gem diamonds during the filming of "Canyon Passage." This gives the rabbit a rating of $112,000 per ounce against $617.20 for the noted Moslem leader.

## Ellen's Diary

By an Island Farmer's Wife

Rissa "kaleyed" at Alderlea today, and the hours were winged—they always are when she and I visit together. And sometimes it is at her cottage, lonely and quiet and full of memories for both of us and at other times we forgether in this busy spot "down by the old mill stream." Then I am content to neglect my work or as today resign it to others, while we pick up the threads, which have gone —and still continue to go, to weave the story of our lives. I have just come indoors from seeing her a piece of her way, which leads out over the hill. I loitered returning until the lamps were lit for I waited to hear the pond-choir rehearsing while the moon was hanging to the edge of a cloud. She came this morning, when I had come from the upstair work to see to the dinner preparations. "Come for the whole day, mind" I had said to her the last time I had seen her and strange thing that it was, she had been on my mind since early morning. I saw her come—from a verandah. She walked leisurely, yet with a spring to her step and the funny sedateness that is so integral a part of Rissa. Not that she is too dignified or sober. Her laugh is infectious and she is understanding and human. How could she be otherwise, with the experience she has had through the years?

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She came the long way, by the Alder-lined approaches to the bridge She paused as I often do nowadays to take in the beauty of the woods across the road—a "farmed" piece of woodlands. Done in pre-war days, by a group of happy young foresters, who went one by one then to the services. It has been neglected and some giants have fallen and an odd one—a hemlock or a great spruce has been felled. But it is still a "sylvan retreat" to me and worthy of admiration to those who pass by. Rissa stopped there this morning, and then I went to the gate-way to meet her, when she had come from the end of the lane.

• • •

Romance came to Rissa early—in fact it had commenced in the little country school. Though many a destiny is pointed there, at the time youthful eyes never see it. Until later looking backward across the years—with eyes that have seen more of life and have perchance faded a little. Was it in this school of our own? Dear me, I mustn't be telling! He never offered to carry her books as they do in stories—not that I can remember. But I can recall that once when she stubbed a toe and the blood oozed, it was his kerchief that bound it up. I can recollect too as he followed with the other lads, keeping within chatting distance of the girls, his remarks were meant for her ears alone and a shy look of admiration. I surprised once, rested on her nut-brown curls. Almost white they are now—more silvery than mine. But then Rissa is older. She was in the grade above me—"books" we called it then. You would never think that the years or troubles or cares could take the sheen or color from lassies' or lads' hair so care-free they are in school days.

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I was at their wedding, and how proud I was of my invitation. "You were so young then, Ellen?" Rissa said today But not too youthful to remember every detail of it now as if it had taken place only yesterday. James wasn't a guest. Perhaps it was that a distance intervened or maybe it was that then he courted someone else. This James of mine? Have you never caught sight of the beguiling twinkle in his eye? When Rissa came down stairs all in her white gown, she floated as light as thistledown into the parlor, her hand tucked in her father's arm. Very bonny she was and so happy. I recall now that I hoped at the time, that if ever I should meet a man at the alter, I would want him to have the same fond look in his eyes that Rissa's man had that summer night for her. So tender a look and true—a woman might be sure of an enduring affection It was as if I had looked into "the holy of holies" and I quickly turned my face away. I heard very little of the Minister's word— nor the blessing he bestowed I was seeing that tender look in his eyes. "A heavenly look, Ellen wasn't it?" her mother said to me afterwards when we happened to speak of it —and Rissa's happiness.

• • •

Rissa was happy. I knew it and she had no need to tell me with her own lips as she often did He was, so James would have it "not much of a farmer," but he was kind and good. If they were not able to have many luxuries, they had a good, and a wholesome living. After all as I told James, happiness is something that can not be bought—even with a millionaires gold. Neither can content. Rissa's home had both of these—and white curtains at her windows and red geraniums against the kitchen panes. They never had any family, and though there is a saying that if there be no children in a home "if they never make you laugh; they'll never make you cry". Rissa has often begged me to "just let me hold" one of mine and her arms were sort of empty when she gave him back to me and her eyes a mite wistful. Rissa's husband sleeps now in a country churchyard. His picture —and I read into it that same look—is on her mantle. I've seen her take it down and move nearer the light—tremulous-lipped and then replace it to talk of other things. She was always brave. I remember when we were vaccinated, and I frail-cat that I was, let a tear fall the first minute I saw the doctor. "Hold your head up brave-like, Ellen" she whispered "and you won't mind anything" That has been her philisopy through life. She lives alone now in her cottage—her holdings on shares. Once in a great while she leaves it to "kayley" with old friends. We had a lovely day and often I could catch the subtle fragrance of rosemary—for remembrance. I left my cares to Polly while we went lightly or lingered over the old days. James stayed with us awhile but then was off to a dozen duties—now that his Spring fencing has commenced, as well as the usual chorings— But dear me, is it as late as that old clock says?

Until tomorrow Diary
Good-night

# Living & Leisure

## —THE WOMAN'S REALM—

### LET US KEEP FAITH

Let us keep faith
While homes of light and love and laughter
Have parents holding high the torch,
And children following after.
Rejoice that homes still choose
Through all the tempting clatter.
From what the world is offering
The things that really matter.
Let us be glad that homes
Still look for these and find them;
Fortresses invincible
With our God behind them!

—Dorothy D. Ross.

Australia claims the world egg-laying record; the prize hen laid 355 eggs in one full year following an official competition in 1943-44, when she laid 328 eggs in an 11-month period.

The speed of an automobile in feet per second is approximately 50 per cent. greater than the figure representing the speed in miles per hour as given on the speedometer; 20 miles an hour is close to 30 feet a second.

Unpollinated dates, largely a waste product in the past, can be ripened satisfactorily, it is now found, by keeping them for two to four days in "sweat rooms" in a highly humid atmosphere at about 130 degrees Fahrenheit.

When you make a meat or fruit pie, place it in a tin of boiling water in the oven and let it cook in this. Neither the gravy nor the fruit juice will soak into the crust or boil over if cooked this way.

### TAKE CARE OF HATS AND VEILS

A battered hat and an unpressed veil can spoil the whole effect of your costume. Hats need frequent brushing. Felt and velvet hats look better if they are steamed as they are brushed. Hold the hat over the spout of a steaming teakettle, and turn the hat as you brush. Too often hats are jammed together in a crowded hatbox. To preserve their shape, hats should be put on individual hat stands or stuffed with paper and set on their crowns.

Keep veils perky by placing a piece of waxed paper over them when you press them. This restores crispness and makes the veils last longer. Even rain-soaked veils look better after this treatment.

Gloves —Smooth gloves after each wearing, and keep them in a special place, so that they always are ready to be worn. Wash only gloves that are labeled "washable," and never wash a leather glove that has been dry-cleaned.

To wash leather gloves, Before attempting to wash leather gloves, be sure they are of the washable type. Wash all leather gloves—except doeskin and chamois—on the hands. Doeskin and chamois should be squeezed in suds, because they are soft and fragile. Work in a little extra soap on soiled fingertips and cuffs. When the gloves are clean, roll them off the hands, turning them inside out.

### HANDY GUIDE TO PROPORTIONS

Use 4 eggs yolks to 1 quart milk for boiled custards.

Use 1-2 cup cornstarch to 1 quart milk for blanc mange.

Use 3 tsps baking powder to 2 cups (1 pint) flour.

Use 1 tsps. vinegar to each cup milk to substitute for sour milk.

Use 1-2 cup uncooked rice to yield 2 cups cooked rice.

Use 1-2 cup flour to 1 quart liquid for white sauces, etc.

Use 1 tsp. salt to 1 quart water for boiling vegetables.

### GARDEN HINTS

For the best gladiolus, plant early when there is sufficient moisture in the ground and the soil is cool, so as to encourage a good strong root growth.

Between tulips whose blooms are gone set out or sow California poppies. Drummond's phlox and other annuals. Or tulips can be lifted and rested in a garden corner until foliage is entirely withered.

Vegetable gardeners should remember that nutrition experts report that green leaf lettuce has three times as much vitamine A as the white-headed kind. Black-seeded Simpson is a favorite variety, also Grand Rapids.

Bush fruits are helped by giving them a feeding of plant food in the spring. Place it in a circle about the shrubs, then work it into the soil. Do this before a rain or give an ample watering afterwards.

Give peonies hardwood ashes if available, and, if the season turns out to be a dry one, keep them well watered to produce good flowers. Stake them when the foliage is fully out.

Divide and replant Shasta daisies now. Give them plenty of room to develop, as these are apt to kill themselves with flowering; pinch off some of the buds the first year.

### To Keep in Mind For Spring

Successful painting results are achieved in a wide range of temperatures but the ideal for paint application is between 60 and 80 degrees Fahr. In the case of varnish authorities recommended that it should not be applied when the room temperature is lower than 70 degrees.

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Failure to paint the edges of window screens which do not show when the screen goes up in the spring can be a costly error. Lack of paint on the unseen edges allows the dampness to penetrate the wood, with resulting rotting and warping.

• • •

Before repainting over glossy enamel, it is as well to rub down the glossy surface with steel wool to remove the sheen and provide a better holding surface for the new coat of paint or enamel.

• • •

Brushes used in shellac or alcohol stain should be cleaned with alcohol. Brushes used in lacquer should be cleaned with lacquer thinner. Brushes used in water-thinned paint should be washed in water. Brushes used for regular oil paint can be cleaned in turpentine.

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Do the dormers in your house stick out too much? They can be made to look smaller by painting their faces the came color that is on the roof, so that they visually becme part of the roof, making the house appear lower. If you want to increase the visual height of the house, paint the dormers the color of the side walls.

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Long, narrow rooms can be made to look wider by painting the two end walls a darker color than the long side walls. Square rooms can be given the illusion of length by painting the end walls in a lighter shade of the same color that is used on the side wals.

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If a room is well proportioned and the windows and doors cut into its walls are well placed it is sound practice to paint the trim in a different color from the wall to give it emphasis. If the windows and doors are badly placed, the trim should be merged into the wall by painting it the same color as the wall.

• • •

It is a poor practice to apply putty to bare wood. A priming coat of paint applied to the wood first will make the putty adhere better and it is not necessary for the paint to be thoroughly dry before the putty is applied. Painting over the putty after the job is done will help the filler to "stay put."

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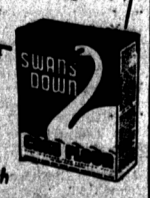


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