

# Woman's Realm -:- Social and Personal -:- Fashions -:- Literature



## Dorothy Dix Letter Box

### Penny-Pinching Wife Who Can't Learn to Enjoy Prosperity—Is a Girl of 19 Old Enough to Care for Her Infant Sister? Discarded Wife

Dear Miss Dix—My wife and I were married when we were young and poor. We both worked very hard and saved, looking forward to the time when we would have plenty. That time has arrived. I am wealthy and ready to enjoy life. I want to travel, to entertain, to belong to a nice social group, but my wife refuses. She has grown economical to the point of stinginess and is not willing to spend a penny that can do avoided. I had even to buy a home secretly without telling her until all the papers were signed, because she would never have agreed to an expensive house. Now we have the lovely home but my wife will never go out with me because she is busy with the house and the children, although I beg her to hire servants. I give her more money than she knows what to do with, but she banks it all. Is there any possible way to make her spend enough money on servants and clothes so that she will enjoy life and entertain and have friends?



Answer:

Perhaps if you will make your wife understand that you are going to get some good out of your money by traveling and entertaining and you tell her that she must either keep up with you or be left behind, she will loosen her grip on her pocketbook. Possibly she may love you more than she does money, but I doubt it, for the passion of the miser for his horde transcends all human affections.

JACK.

I know of a case in which a father worth millions let his only son die for want of the medical attention that would in all probability have saved him and who let his only daughter, who was married to a fine but poor man, literally perish for want of the ordinary comforts of life.

Women run to extremes, and when they are stingy they are incredibly tightfisted. They get a mania for saving and pinch every nickel until the buffalo howls in agony. The highest joy that existence offers them is the entry in their bankbook and to see this get bigger and bigger they are willing to sacrifice themselves and their families.

Evidently your wife belongs to this group of feminine tightwads, and the hope of ever changing her is slight, because spending has become a pain to her. She cannot endure to part with a dollar. You will never be able to make her realize that preserving intact the bond between husband and wife is more important than buying another Government bond nor that giving her children the right sort of environment and social contacts will be worth more to them than any inheritance she can leave them nor that preferred friends are better than preferred stocks. She is like a dead woman with her eyelids weighted down by dollars.

It is one of life's little ironies that we can turn good into evil if we overdo it and that often our virtues develop into vices, and this is never more vividly illustrated than when we let thrift grow into miserliness. This is the easiest thing in the world to do.

It is obviously the duty of us all to live well within our incomes and to lay up something for the rainy day and the old age that are bound to come to us all if we live. In order to do this it is often necessary for us to deny ourselves many pleasures and luxuries and indulgences that we crave. But we should not push this too far. Doing without things gets to be a habit just as spending does. We can do without the things we want until we atrophy our desires and we come to the place where we no longer want anything.

So there should be moderation in saving even as in spending. It is folly to put off all enjoyment until some distant future because we may never reach it at all. Nothing is truer than the old proverb about getting nuts to eat after we have no teeth to crack them. Of what use to sit down to a feast when you have neither appetite nor digestion for it and the only food that agrees with you is crackers and milk? Of what avail to buy a ticket around the world when your poor old rheumatic bones cry out for the home radiator and you are miserable away from your familiar surroundings?

It is just as much a duty for the rich to spend as it is for the poor to save, and no money is better invested than that which is spent on making a beautiful and comfortable home, in giving children advantages, in the broadening of view that travel gives, in hospitality, in giving to those less fortunate than oneself and in generally making life soft and gracious.

Avarice is a vice that grows on one as insidiously as the dope habit. It is a vice to which age is particularly addicted, and it is well for prosperous men and women who have acquired the saving habit in their youth not to let it grow upon them and turn them into mere money-grabbers.

DOROTHY DIX.

Dear Dorothy Dix—I am a girl just 19. I have a sister of 7 and a brother of 4. A few weeks ago my mother died, leaving a new-born baby girl. I want to keep the baby and raise it, but my father thinks I am too young and that it would be best to board it out for at least two years. If I were married and had a baby of my own I would have to rear it and I would be thought old enough to do it. Do you think I am too young to mother my motherless sisters and brothers? My father makes good money and says he will not marry again. We have agreed to abide by your decision in this matter.

HELEN.

Answer:

I think you are a very fine and unselfish girl, Helen, to desire to burden yourself at your age with your baby sister. It is a lot of care and worry and calls for a lot of work and self-sacrifice to rear a baby, and you will have to give up many of the good times that belong to your time of life to walk the colic and tell bedtime stories and run after restless little feet. But if you are willing to make the sacrifice there is no reason why you should not do it and make the best possible substitute to the baby for the mother she has lost.

As you say, if the baby were your own nobody would question your ability to take proper care of her. There are plenty of 19-year-old mothers whose youngsters take prizes in better-baby shows. Indeed, the modern young mothers' babies are generally more scientifically reared than those of the older mothers because the young mothers pin their faith to some baby doctor's book as if it were the Bible and go by it.

And you will be able to give your baby sister something that not the highest-priced baby specialist can give it. That is love and, queerly enough, it seems that babies cannot live without love. They have to be petted and kissed and cuddled into taking hold of life, and that is why they often live and thrive in dirt and squalor if they have some woman to cuddle them and hold them warm on her breast while they die like flies in the most sterilized and antiseptic and scientifically run asylums.

At any rate, if you are ever to have the baby keep it from the first. Don't let some one else have it for two years and then bring it back to you. It will be much easier for you to develop it from the first than it will be for you to take it after its habits are formed.

DOROTHY DIX.

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## What the Fashionable are Wearing

### Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern

By Annebelle Worthington

The modishly cut gored skirt makes this model distinctly unusual. Incidentally the tapering movement of the upper edge of the gores in rounded outline is very blimming. It features the becoming cowl neckline that also minimizes the breadth through the bodice. The sleeve frills are pretty.

The original model in dark green crepe woolen with novel ring dots is perfectly stunning and wearable too. Style No. 2842 may be had in sizes 16, 18 years, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust.

Black canton crepe with white accents in the sleeve frills and in the gardenia at the left shoulder is chic. Transparent velvet and crepe marocain are charming for this model.

Size 36 requires 4 1/2 yards 39-inch. Our large Fashion Book shows how to dress up to the minute at very little expense. It contains most attractive Paris designs for adults and children, embroidery, Xmas suggestions, etc.

Be sure to fill in the size of the

pattern. Send stamps or coin (coin preferred.) Price of book 10 cents. Price of pattern 15 cents.

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City ..... State .....

### A Morning Smile

Church was over and the congregation formed itself into little groups in the churchyard. Presently the vicar appeared and joined a select little party. He introduced a sea captain to a wealthy and generous parishioner.

"You have seen each other in church today," said the beaming parson.

"Sure," said the old sailor. "He was sleeping in the next bunk to me."



Can't PLAY  
Can't REST  
—child needs Castoria

WHEN a child is fretful and irritable, seems distressed and uncomfortable, can't play, can't sleep, it is a pretty sure sign that something is wrong. Right here is where Castoria fits into a child's scheme—the very purpose for which it was formulated years ago! A few drops and the condition which caused the trouble is righted; comfort quickly brings restful sleep.

Nothing can take the place of Castoria for children; it's perfectly harmless, yet always effective. For the protection of your wee one—for your own peace of mind—keep this old reliable preparation always on hand. But don't keep it just for emergencies; let it be an every-day aid. Its gentle action will ease and soothe the infant who cannot sleep. In more liberal doses it will

effectively help to regulate sluggish bowels in an older child. All druggists have Castoria; it's genuine if you see Chas. H. Fletcher's signature and this name-plate.



## To Build Up Young Mothers

"I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for a rundown condition before my baby was born. I saw it advertised in a booklet and a friend told me about it too. It certainly helped me for my nerves are better, I am in good spirits and feel well. You may use my letter and I will write to women who are interested in the Compound."—Mrs. John W. Schellenberger, R.R. #5, Stratford, Ontario.



## For The Cook

### BEEF HEART WITH CURRY

One beef heart, 1 tablespoon curry powder, 2 tablespoons fat, 2 tablespoons flour, salt, pepper, 2 small onions, 2 cups boiling water. Pour boiling water over heart and let stand about 15 minutes, then cut away fat and arteries and cut heart up in small pieces. Fry out enough of the fat to make 2 tablespoons. Chop the onion, place fat and onion in pan and simmer a few minutes. Roll the pieces of heart in flour and brown in the fat and onions. Add the water and cook gently until meat is tender. Add more water if necessary during cooking. When done add curry powder and salt and pepper mixed with cold water and let boil up. If necessary, thicken gravy.

## Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. How much should the tip be to a maid who has looked after one's room when staying only a short while?

A. One dollar.

Q. Is bread ever cut at the table?

A. Never; always break it into small pieces and lift it to the mouth with the fingers.

Q. How does an opera party differ from a theatre party?

A. It is obligatory to wear full evening dress at an opera.

A Bank of England director says that nowadays people have given up saving money. They have also given up wagging their tails, and for the same reason.

The unfortunate shoppers are those who get caught in the rush of shoppers shopping early to avoid the rush.



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MARY BRIAN  
Paramount star, says: "Lux Toilet Soap keeps the close-up complexion perfect."



MARION DAVIES  
Metro-Goldwyn-Meyer star, says: "Lux Toilet Soap leaves the skin so smooth."



JOAN CRAWFORD  
M. G. M. star: "It gives my skin the flawless smoothness the close-ups demand."



(Left) ANITA PAGE  
adored M. G. M. star: "I always use Lux Toilet Soap for my skin."



Lovely skin is irresistible, says Hollywood! Do you face your close-up test as confidently as the stars face theirs?

Is yours, too, a skin lovely in the most pitiless light?

HOW people love the close-up! How irresistibly they are drawn by the loveliness revealed in a flood of light near to them.

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(Right) EVELYN BRENT, alluring Columbia star, says: "Almost every girl I know in Hollywood uses it."

(Left) CONSTANCE BENNETT  
Pathé star, faces the close-up fearlessly and says: "It's a wonderful soap."



## LUX Toilet Soap 10¢

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