

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

DOROTHY DIX SAYS—

Husbandless Future

Women Should Prepare For Spinsterhood In Scarcity of Men

The latest estimate of the Census Bureau is that there are 1,722,000 more women than men over 21 years of age in the United States.

This statement should give every female, from the bobby-soxer up to widowed Grandma, a jolt that would make her start to figure out what a poor girl can do if she is a leftover in a well-nigh Adam-less Eden. For, in plain English, it means that no matter how beautiful a woman may be, nor what charms and graces she may possess, she will have no surety of getting a husband, just because there will not be enough men to go around.

Heretofore, marriage has always been women's ace in the hole. Probably there never was any girl who didn't cherish the optimistic belief that some man would fall in love with her, marry her and support her. None of them has expected to be a spinster, and nothing has been more pathetic than the sad spectacle of old maids teasing themselves about non-existent boy-friends.

But now with the husband supply 1,722,000 short, and growing shorter all the time, women must scrap their romantic dreams of being wooed by great lovers and married in white satin and of having a husband to bring home the bacon while they play bridge. They have to face the cold fact that the scarcity of men puts husbands in the luxury class and that, likely as not, girls will have to be their own meal tickets.

PREPARE FOR FUTURE

Such being the case, I would urge the modern girl to be a wise virgin and lay in a supply of oil for her lamp and keep it trimmed and burning. She would prefer, of course, to have a good husband who was a provider, but as Fate did not hand her such a prize package, she should deliberately go about making a career of spinsterhood that will be so full of interests and freedom that it will make most of her married sisters green with envy.

Realizing that he is going to have to earn her own bread and butter, she should turn it into cakes and ale by doing the kind of work that rates a fat pay envelope. The reason women's work has been cheap work is because it is so often bad work. The average girl has not thought it worthwhile to make herself an expert at her job because she expected to marry and let George do it. But now when George having become a sort of will-o'-the-wisp, it is up to the individual girl to write her own price tag.

Nor need the girl who finds herself in the husbandless gap waste any pity on her lot. Let her contrast it with that of the vast number of married women she knows and she will find plenty of consolation. In these days of woman's emancipation, she can strike for herself and live her own life and not be the family drudge, or the wife's goat. She can set up her own little apartment and live like Mother's bossing and Father's quarrelling.

She can dress better than most of her married sisters who can have a 40-hour work day week instead of a seven-day slave week, as so many married women have. She can have time to improve her mind, indulge her hobbies and belong to clubs. And she will find herself a welcome guest wherever she goes because she has something to talk about besides her husband's faults and the baby's tooth.

After all is said, life is what we make it, and the 12,000 women whom there are no husbands to prepare themselves to live like it.

"LIFE BLACK SUIT" STILL TOPS
NEW YORK—Nothing has ever been found to replace a "little black" for usefulness. It has become a classic in the American woman's wardrobe as has the tailored suit. While each fills an entirely different need, the suits are equally versatile. They are suitable and treble for luncheons, teas, informal evenings and in-between affairs.

The suit of bengaline or faille needs neither introduction nor recommendation, but it is worth the time it takes to review new fashions in these suits, and to consider them from the standpoint of figure flattery.

Ellen's Diary

By an Island Farmer's Wife

Tonight as dark clouds gather threateningly, hiding stars and small new moon from sight, and while distant rolls of thunder and bright flashes of lightning occasionally, I hear a voice out of the past. One quite aside from the weather at hand or to come, but one, I may say which disturbs me when about my housework but only to spur me on to greater endeavours. "Ellen" I heard it say recently and so clearly that I smiled to myself at the time. I was scooping the very last measure of flour from our barrel to the pan, for the bread mixer, which comes before putting out the cat, to end our day. "And how does it happen Ellen that you must be mixing bread tonight of all nights?" it questioned. "You should have planned your work better than that. Now you know that I would never dream of baking bread in the middle of house cleaning the kitchen. You are certainly through — other with you work." I suppose, remembering like words out of childhood, I should not have chosen to hang the kitchen wallpaper in here today. I would not have done it not for that strange part of a person's makeup which fits so oddly at times. It is that vague factor which makes man's actions contradict his theories. It is made kings renounce thrones, and I believe, nations balk at the very gateway of peace. Human nature, it is, an unknown quantity, strange it can be, vacillating or steadfast and often admirable and wonderful. Dear me! that flash was most unsettling. I almost upset the ink pot; James moved the old armchair away from the incoming Radio wires and Mr. C. from the house on the hill, put down the pipe he has been smoking and drew his chair abreast of James' and for the moment all "shop talk" of potatoes and beef and farming has ceased.

(Continued on page 10)

How Can I!!!

By Anne Ashley

Q. How can I secure the best results from using soap flakes?
A. Fewer flakes will be required, and the result will be better suds. If the flakes are beaten into a foam with the egg beater.
Q. How can I prevent rubbers from slipping off at the heels?
A. Cut two strips of chamois and glue them inside, up the backs of the heels.
Q. How can I remove the shine from a suit of clothes?
A. Try rubbing the material gently with a piece of very fine black emery paper.

Living & Leisure

—THE WOMAN'S REALM—

FORBEARANCE

Just thou named all the birds without a gun?
Loved the wood-rose, and left it on its stalk?
At rich men's tables eaten bread and pulse?
Unarmed, faced danger with a heart of trust?
And loved so well a high behavior, In man or maid, that thou from speech refrained,
Nobility more nobly to repay?
Oh, to be my friend, and teach me to be thine!
—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Hints on Etiquette

At a small, intimate dance the hostess should see that all invited guests are introduced to one another. At a large dance, the hostess may not be able to do this, and guests should introduce themselves, taking it for granted that as all are invited guests of the host and hostess, they are all friends.

VARIETY OF LINES IN SPRING SUITS

NEW YORK—Suit lines are in great variety, from the short jacket suit with full skirt, flared or pleated, to the tubular suit with slim skirt and equally slim jacket, straight or fitted like an overhouse. Boxy flared jackets, tunics and cut-away peplums give a broken silhouette to others. Many are in two fabrics or two colors, black or navy skirt with cinnamon or gray jacket, for instance.
Fine detailing distinguishes these suits, though trimming is usually held to a minimum. Scalloped edges, interesting cut to fit the waistline or the shoulders, little rounded collar or none at all, and the use of pretty and decorative buttons are among the designer devices to keep them individual.

To make good crumbs for the dry type of poultry stuffing use medium-dry bread, two or three days old.

"SIDE-SADDLE SKIRT" IS LATEST

NEW YORK—The paradoxical silhouette for which fashion has been looking this spring—a slim, straight skirt that still can move with grace—is found today in a beautiful custom order collection.
The designer calls it the "side saddle skirt." It's wrapped to the back with a free, fluid panel ending at the left back hip.
It is not the only achievement of a notable collection, which also presents a well-proportioned long silhouette. Hems are several inches longer than last year. Some reach to mid-calf. Afternoon dresses are occasionally shown only a few inches above the ankle. Waistlines are nipped at their naturally slimmest point, but seaming is deferred to the line above the hipbone. Hip curves are accentuated in many costumes with beams, padding and drapery.
Bust-length boleros, tiny doorman jackets and hug-tight capes are used frequently to transform simple summer silks into still cool costumes for the street, to change gala evening dresses into modest dinner gowns, and to ring several changes on a simple strap-shouldered street dress.

In Dinner Suit

The side-saddle skirt is most strikingly used in a natural shantung, full-length dinner suit.
The back-wrapped dress is shantung from hem to bustline and black chiffon and bare above. A tailored shantung jacket comes with it.
The back wrap is accentuated in an afternoon dress with a double

THE STARS SAY—

By GENEVIEVE KEMBLE

For Wednesday, April:

A PROMISING state of affairs, or a progressive or well-launched situation of importance, may become involved in difficulty or disillusion, judging by the ruling astral aspects. False hopes or inflated ideas and ideals may be dashed to defeat, mainly by rash promises, over-stepping in the matter of investment or funds, or possibly through foolish or erratic reasoning, inspired by show, vanity or other resort to personal weakness or idiosyncrasy. Credit rather than extravagant use of resources needs bolstering.

If It Is Your Birthday

Those whose birthday it is are advised to carefully and shrewdly consider all manner of investments, outlay on personal extravagances or lavish expenditures during the year. Finances are in critical condition, with credit unstable and the menace of jeopardizing established ventures of importance by false fronts or promises, with regrettable reactions on prestige and popularity both in business and personal life. All productive steps should be submitted to keen analysis as to sound and lasting security. "Flash in the pan" tactics are ruinous.
A child born on this day may have some efficiency and skill with laudable ambitions, but these may be offset by innate lavish, excessive and over-indulgent ideas.

loop of material which forms a modest one-sided bustle.

Equally interesting side back treatment appears in a midnight blue chiffon evening gown which trails a length of material from one side of the back hem. The extra length may be draped over the arm, wrapped around the body and tucked into the waist, or lifted as a scarf over head or shoulders.
Chiffon is predominant for the very young lady in Castillo's glamorous evening costumes. Many come worked over square and triangular crinolines and have strapless tops under brief shoulderackets.

New Bareness

Most startling of the evening gowns introduces a new kind of bareness. A strapless black taffeta with cuffed neckline, it is freed from armhole to hip on each side.
Detailing on all types of costume is superb. The favorite rounded-square neckline comes collared and draped with new detail in each appearance. Interesting, seemingly casual, use is made of pockets—five on one suit jacket, for instance, matching ones on each hip, a smaller one at one side of the waist, a slightly larger one again at the breast on the same side. Stripes are worked basketweave fashion to look like sack weaving at the hips of a pleated skirt.

FABRIC BAGS GAY

NEW YORK—Gay printed bags of various fabrics to wear with our resort clothes go well with our plain-color dress, and a few are custom-made of the same print as your dress or suit lining.

Morning Smile

"Well," said the insurance agent to the newly-wed Angus, "now that you're married I'm sure you'll want to insure your life."
"Awa' wi' ye," said Angus. "She's no' that dangerous."

THE LIMIT

His mother-in-law had written to say that she was on the way to live with them for the duration of the year. As she approached the house she saw a large crowd. Pushing her way to the front she gasped when she saw what damage a midnight fire had done—at the heap of bricks and charred furniture.
"Dear me," she said, her face livid. "I didn't think he'd go as far as that."

HOT CROSS BUNS A TRADITION

Breakfast on Good Friday would not be complete if we did not have "One a penny, two a penny—hot cross buns." Some tell us the sign of the Cross on the buns proclaims them as Christian cakes, while others claim that the ancient housewife originally put the sign there to prevent the evil spirit from interfering with her good baking.
Other popular symbols associated with the Easter festival are chocolate rabbits, hens, down chicks, and of course, Easter eggs, both dyed and the candy variety.
"Best of wishes for a happy Easter!"

WRAP-OVER HOBBLE

NEW YORK—A wrap-over hobble skirt is draped up to the left hip and secured with a large bow in which nestled a bouquet of pink roses.

WAIST LOOKS SMALLER

NEW YORK—Huge bows on hiplines make the waist look smaller and balance the wide shoulders of dresses. These are frequently the finish to hip drapery.



Cousin of King George and great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria, Lady Iris Mountbatten, seen here, has been hired to help Don Pallini, owner of a New York dance studio chain, run his business. Salary is reported well up in five-figure bracket.

Cook's Corner

GRAHAM MUFFINS

1 cup graham flour
1 cup white flour
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup milk
5 tablespoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons melted butter
1 egg
Sift flour, sugar, baking powder and salt together. Do not sift the graham flour. Add graham flour to white flour mixture, add milk, well-beaten egg and melted fat. Bake in a moderate oven 20 minutes in greased gem pans. Makes 1 dozen gems.

BETTER ENGLISH

D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He went in the house."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "piccolo"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Preperatory, prerequisite, prerogative.
4. What does the word "contravertial" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with fra that means "disconnected; not complete?"

ANSWERS

1. Say, "He went into the house" to denote direction. "He is now in the house" expresses position. 2. Pronounce pik-o-lo, i as in pick, both o's as in no, accept first syllable. 3. Peremptory. 4. Subject to controversy; inclined to dispute. "No controversial questions will be answered." 5. Fragmentary.

HE DIGS IN

If cornered, a badger digs itself underground with lightning-like rapidity.

Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Leo

Q. To whom should reservations for a hotel room be addressed?

A. To the room clerk, either by telegram, telephone, or mail. State the date of arrival, number of rooms needed, number of persons in the party, and the probable length of the stay.

Q. Should the water glasses be filled before the formal dinner is announced?

A. Yes, and they should be kept filled throughout the meal.

Q. Is it a woman's place to take the hat and coat of a man friend who has called to see her husband?

A. No; this is the duty of her husband.

Household Scrapbook

By Roberta Leo

Use of Bluing

If you have difficulty bluing your clothes and they are inclined to streak each time, first dissolve the bluing thoroughly in a small quantity of boiling water, stir and add this to the rinsing water.

Cooking Odors

A piece of orange skin placed on the top of the range will take away heavy cooking odors and give a pleasing fragrance throughout the house or apartment.

Wax High Chairs

Use wax on baby's high-chair, crib, bath table, carriage and play-room furniture to protect it against scratching.

adds flavour to every dish it touches



Needlecrafts

—FOR THE HOME—

ADAPTABLE TWO-PIECE

Very definitely in the fashion picture, this two piece with the slightly flared peplum and style that's beautifully adapted to various fabrics. You can make it with the open neckline shown or with the notched collar that also comes in the pattern.

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THE REGAL FLOUR
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Ms. Marjorie Klopfer of Lynbrook, N. Y., has reason to be proud of her four-year-old daughter, Dorothy. The child saved her life when she became overcome by gas. Dorothy telephoned the police for help, then turned off the gas jets on the kitchen stove and rolled her mother into a gas-free room. Police said Mrs. Klopfer had left a suicide note blaming ill-health for her action.