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Dorothy Dix's Letter Box

Dorothy Dix Advises a Night Off for Married Couples — Shall This Wife Leave Husband She Does Not Love? What to Do With Sulky Husband

DEAR DOROTHY DIX—I agree with you that all married couples should have a night off now and then, but how often? And should they take as their companion one of their own sex or the opposite sex? And how would you suggest that they amuse themselves on the outings? B. W. R.

Answer: Of course, every question connected with the domestic problem becomes an individual one for each particular husband and wife, and no hard and fast rules can be laid down that will cover every situation.

I think the chief thing that is the matter with matrimony is monotony. It gets to be a deadly dull grind because it's the same thing year in and year out, and that is why it gets on people's nerves and makes them want to jump the bars. Therefore, I think that the wise thing is to use preventive measures, to break the routine and to introduce as much novelty and change as is consistent with the circumstances.

So I suggest the night off for husbands and wives. No human beings no matter how much they love each other, can be together continuously without tiring each other everything they know and think and feel until they run out of conversation. For proof of this you have only to watch a husband and wife in any place of amusement. At the restaurant they will be sitting up in silence with never a word to say to each other. At the theatre they will be reading the program from cover to cover, while all around them strangers will be gaily chatting.

And at home in the evenings there is a silence so dense you could cut with a knife until some guest drops in and starts the conversational ball rolling. This is not because husbands and wives are not fond of each other. It's just because they are fed up on each other's society. But let either one of them go away for a few days and when they are reunited they talk their heads off.

So I think that the main virtue in the husband and wife taking a night off separately would be that it would give each something fresh to talk about and make each one a more entertaining companion to the other.

But I certainly think that it would be a highly dangerous proceeding for either husband or wife to have a date with one of the opposite sex. Nor is this necessary. If you will eliminate the sex appeal, you will find that men prefer the society of men and women that of women.

No man really likes to play games with a woman, because he feels it ungentle to beat her and humiliating to be beaten by her. No man really wants to discuss sports or business or the stock market with women. And it's the same way with women. The topics that women have a real heart interest in bore men to tears, and so in every mixed crowd you will see the two sexes drawing into their own separate camps, unless they are flirtatiously minded.

The danger to the husband and wife with a member of the opposite sex would be that the "date" would come to represent the holiday, the treat, the joy time of the week when one slipped the yoke for a little while and drew a breath of freedom, as against the other six days and nights of work and worry and duty and matrimony.

And the "date" would offer the inevitable comparison of one who was always pleasant and agreeable and dressed up and powdered and perfumed and looking his or her best, with the companion of one's bosom who must show the toil and strain of the workaday world.

Husbands and wives need more liberty, but they have to be careful not to let it run into license. And more than any other people, they need to pray to be kept from temptation.

DOROTHY DIX.

DEAR MISS DIX—Do you think if a man and woman do not love each other that to live together is any less sin because of the children? Don't you think that in such a case it is better for the parents to part and that the children are better off with the mother, even though she has to leave them during the day to make a living for them, than for them to be reared in a cold home where the father and mother do not love each other?

At a young woman, not quite in her 30s, and have two children. I worked when I was living with their father and I work now and can give them every comfort. It is I who suffer in this case, because it is my nature to be home-loving. I crave to love and be loved in return, but I cannot make up my mind that it would be right for me to marry again. Doesn't it take a real mother to smile when she is with her children when she could weep her eyes out? A DESPERATE WIDOW.

Answer: I do not think that a couple have the right to break up a marriage and half-orphan their children merely because they have ceased to be sentimentally in love with each other. It's not a case of feeling but of duty. We can't control our emotions, but we can our actions.

No power of the will can force a woman to thrill at the touch of a man after she becomes disillusioned with him, nor to see the fairy price of her girl's dreams in a husband who proves to be a dull and commonplace individual, but she can still stand at her post and keep her home fires burning if he is good and honest and faithful and a loving father to his children.

But if the man fails as husband and father, and if after doing her best the woman finds it impossible to get along with him, and if the home atmosphere is one of strife, then certainly it is better for the children for her to take them and go where they can live in peace.

Certainly the life of the woman who has two little children dependent on her for support is hard enough, but you are wise not to marry again. For there are even fewer men who are good stepfathers than there are good husbands, and the woman who is torn between her husband and her children, who has to see them mistreated by a man who resents having to support them, drinks the last drop of gall in the bitterest cup that is ever pressed to a woman's lips.

DOROTHY DIX.

DEAR MISS DIX—I have been married a little more than a year and find that when my husband and I have a spat I have to do all the making up and apologize all over the place even when he is in fault. Otherwise he pouts and sulks. I am sick of always being the goat. What shall I do? MRS. T. J.

Answer: Well, the easiest way out is to keep on being the goat. It will save time and wear and tear on your temper and nerves just to kiss and make it up instead of fighting it out.

After all, what does it matter? Every woman has to keep the peace, if it's kept, in the home, and let her husband blame his faults on her and hold her responsible for his mistakes. The wise wife is she who lets him save his face that way, and who isn't too proud to say, "I'm sorry, let's make up and forget it."

DOROTHY DIX.

In Memoriam

FRANK READY

The death occurred in the Prince County Hospital on Saturday, Oct. 20th of Mr. Frank Ready of Burlington. Deceased has been in good health until a few weeks ago when he contracted pneumonia. He was taken to the hospital and everything possible done for him but the swift progress of the malady defeated all efforts to stay the hand of death and he passed away on the above mentioned date after receiving the last rites of the Holy Catholic Church of which he was a life-long member. Frank was the eldest son of the late Michael and Mrs. Ready of Burlington and was in his thirty-ninth year. At an early age he learned the carpenter trade which he worked in Boston for a number of years but the greater part of his life was spent in Burlington, where he was highly esteemed by young and old, and the news of his death, after such a short illness, was received with great regret by all his acquaintances. Of an exceedingly kind and cheerful disposition he was beloved by all, but it is in the home he will be most sorely missed, where he leaves to mourn a grief-stricken widow and four young children. His mother, one sister, Lillian and two brothers, Fred at home, and Will of DeBolis Brothers, Charlotlettown, also survive him. His funeral took place on Monday morning Oct. 22nd, from his home to St. Mary's Church, Indian River, and was largely attended. A high mass of requiem was celebrated by Rev. Mr. D. J. Gillis, who also conducted the funeral service at the grave. His remains were laid to rest beside those of his father and two brothers Henry and Bernard who predeceased him. R.I.P.—K

MRS. GEORGE ARSENAULT

A shadow of gloom was cast over Lower Freetown and vicinity on October 23rd when it was learned that the soul of Mrs. George Arsenault, (nee Angeline Arsenault) had taken its flight to its God after only a brief illness.

The late Mrs. Arsenault was 38 years of age and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Arsenault, Brae Harbor, formerly of Egmont Bay and was a lady of a quiet and amiable disposition.

Death under any circumstances is sad but the circumstances under which this death occurred make it particularly hard to bear as a sorrowing husband and a family of nine children are left to mourn. The children are Thomas, 15, Sylvie, 14, Edward, 13, Mabel, 12, Minnie, 11, Leo, 9, Raymond, 6, Nora, 5, and Francis, only 13 months.

Best of these there are two brothers and six sisters. On the afternoon of October 24th he remains were conveyed to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lambo Arsenault, Beaton Road, grandparents of the deceased. On the following afternoon the remains were conducted to the Immaculate Conception Church, Brae, where funeral service was held by the Pastor, Rev. Reginald F. MacDonald and all that was mortal of a loving wife and mother was interred in the adjoining cemetery.

A High Mass of Requiem was sung the following morning. The pall bearers were James McLaughlin, William Costello, Oswald Costello, Aisemen Gallant, Thomas Fulton and Frank Walsh. R. I. P.

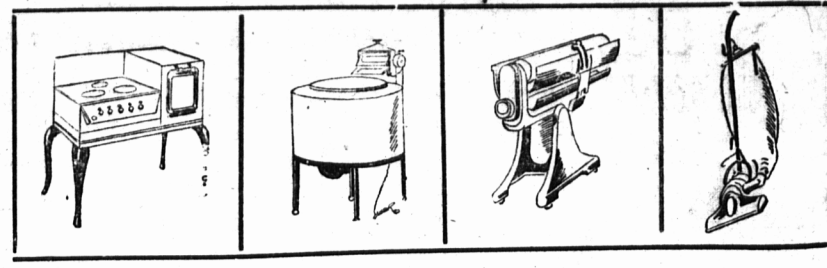
MARGARET HELEN GOODWIN

Margaret Helen Goodwin died at Charlottetown on October 13, 1928, having borne the burden of fatal disease for an extended period. She was born at Kensington on November 13, 1907, the daughter of Daniel Goodwin and Katherine Murphy, his wife. Here she spent her early years, attending the High school from which she graduated at the age of fifteen. She followed the course in Prince of Wales College and, at the age of sixteen secured a Second Class License. She at once engaged in the teaching profession on the staff of Kensington High School and was there engaged in her fifth year when she fell sick. Her disease defied the skillful medical science, and she succumbed to that grim destroyer, death. Her funeral was held on Sunday, October 21, was largely attended and her many friends who were composed of the many friends who admired her sterling qualities and her ambitious educational attainments. The pallbearers were Ray McArthur, Austin Hamble, Maurice Higgins, Leo McCarroll, Allan McNeill and Allan Murray.

The services in the church and at the grave were performed by the Pastor, Rev. Mr. D. J. Gillis assisted by Rev. William V. McDonald, P.P., Home River. Many were the expressions of sorrow that were manifested as her remains were committed to the earth. Her parents, family, and friends are assured that her parents are now enjoying eternal happiness that is merited by all truly Christian persons.

To mourn, she leaves her parents, already noted, and brother Robert at home, and Harold, a student at St. Dunstan's University. Her deceased members of the family are Agnes, who died, June, 1926, and Patrick, deceased 1925. Both these children were also teachers and all were endowed with exceptionally bright intellects. Throughout life they sustained pure, moral characters which commanded respect wherever they were known. It seems strange that children, so well endowed with exceptional ability, which had been carefully developed, should so early be removed from this world when, had they been spared, they could have effected so much good, yet we must bow to the supreme will of God who doth all things good and who has ordained a state of existence in the other life infinitely superior to any state that this world can conceive.

The intentions placed upon the remains were donated by her friends of the Sacred Heart Society, The



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U. S. CAR STARS IN POLAND

American enterprise gave this country more publicity at the recent International Fair at Poznan, Poland, than was received by others who had many times the number of exhibits. The distribution of an American automobile arranged a continuous run between Poznan and Warsaw under the auspices of the Polish Automobile Club, and that the car, a stock model, was able to cover 2,500 miles during the eight days without mechanical replacements of any kind, attracted much interest among the record crowds. Other American cars gave demonstrations of hill climbing, brake power and control. Among the more than 400 exhibits, 150 from France, 28 from Czechoslovakia and only 17 from the United States.