

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

Dorothy Dix' Letter Box

Big Sister in Most Families Forced to be the Goat—Shall Wife Accept Job Which Will Separate Her From Child?—Man Fools Himself Who Thinks He Can Philander Without Scandal

Dear Miss Dix—When I finished high school I stayed at home to help with the work there is in the average household where there are younger children. But after a few years when sister Mary finished high school, was I released from my post so that I might go out to do the things I wished to do and for which I had a talent? No. I had to continue as big sister so that Mary could have advantages. Later still, when Esther finished school, she also had to go on having advantages, leaving me still to wash, iron, mend, cook and keep the house neat for their guests. Now in all justice, why should not Mary and Esther have taken their turn in being big sister and given me my show in life? Why should I have been made the household drudge? If I had seen this years ago as I see it now, I would have asserted myself and my whole life would have been started. Let my experience be a lesson to all those girls who are just chafing out as big sisters.

ANSWER: It is always the oldest children who are sacrificed to their parents' oldest in a poor family, for thereby it almost invariably becomes the family goat.

It is always the oldest children who are sacrificed to their parents' criminal mania for having more offspring than they can support. It is always big sister and big brother who have to stop school and go to work at the earliest possible moment to help feed and educate and give advantages to little Sally and Mamie and Johnny and Freddie and Bobby, and on whose tender shoulders are laid burdens that the younger children are never asked to bear.

In the beginning nature and circumstances are to blame for the difference that parents make between their children and the partiality they show the younger ones. You can hardly blame a poor, overworked father and mother with babies arriving on each other's heels for grabbing at any prop that is within their reach and drafting the poor, oldest child into service. Father needs the few pennies that George can make by selling papers or running errands, so George gets some sort of poor job at unskilled labor and father takes as his right his thin little pay envelope to help support the family. Mother needs somebody to mind the baby and help with the housework, so Mary becomes a little mother while she is still a child herself and never knows any playtime either as child or girl.

All perhaps necessary at the time, but the trouble is that when the younger children grow up they are never expected to take their turn at helping the family as the older ones have done. Big sister and big brother are never emancipated. They are expected to go on continuing to sacrifice themselves for the younger ones, and to toil and do without the things they want in order that the younger ones may go to college and have advantages that they never had.

Nobody ever heard of parents who said to their older children: "You have done your duty nobly by us and by your younger brothers and sisters. Now they must stand on their own feet and try to repay you. You are free to go and live your own lives."

No, indeed, father and mother continue to grab big sister's and big brother's earnings out of their hands and lavish them on the younger children. John is so talented and must study some profession that big sister and big brother will have to slave for ten years to pay for. Sally is so pretty and must have fine clothes, even if big sister has to wear her last year's hat. Gertrude is so much in love that, of course, she must marry and have her happiness, though nobody remembers that big sister and big brother turned their backs on love and happiness, because the family needed their services and all the money they could make.

Just why parents should be so partial to their younger children, no one knows. It is just one of the facts of life. It is always the Benjamins that are the favorite sons. It was not the oldest son who stayed at home and worked and served, but the prodigal son to whom the father's heart went out, as is related in that great manual of psychology the Bible.

So there is no hope for big sister and big brother unless they have the wisdom and the courage to refuse to wear the martyr's crown any longer than is absolutely necessary, and when the younger children get 15 or 16, force them to take their turn at being the family victims.

Dear Dorothy Dix—I have been happily married for ten years. I have always worked and helped my husband earn what we have saved, but have been able to be with my 8-year-old child after her school hours on weekdays. Now I have an opportunity to make more money, but the work would take most of my time and energy. And the question is: Should I neglect my child by leaving her in another's care? She could be with me, but my mind would be on my business. My husband is a good business man and I have all I need, as my needs are small, for I have been brought up in the thrifty middle class of Americans. It is a serious

permit you for one instant to give up college and work! He—"My father told me he wasn't going to back me financially any more," Joe interrupted hotly. "Meanwhile, I'm done with college and I'm working, and he can make what he likes of it!" "Why, he'll not endure it one instant!" the woman said. "Meanwhile aren't you going to the Russells? It's Millicent's coming-out party—she'll certainly expect you!" "I think I'll let Millicent cry herself to sleep, to-night," the boy said lazily. "My job has sapped my energies—what with cologne and post-cards and tinsel and vegetable knives."

"What are you talking about?" "Nothing. Nothing. But I'm a working-man now, no time for frivolities. Leave me be, Mother. I'm dead."

There was a silence. The woman sat puzzled and disapproving, thinking. "Listen, Joe. You do like Millicent, don't you? She's such a dear little thing," his mother presently began sentimentally, "and she likes you so much!

white teeth... sparkling in firm gums



Don't forget the FIRM gums if you want to keep those teeth

It certainly is pleasant to show the friends and neighbors a display of white teeth—when you talk and smile and laugh. But—if you want to keep your teeth, watch out for your gums. Everyone has heard about pyorrhea. But people are often inclined to regard it as a distant danger—something that may happen to others but not likely to touch themselves. The infection begins at the gum line and eats its way downward to the tooth sockets. The disease may be under way for several years before it takes a single tooth, but half the adult teeth lost are due to pyorrhea.

Take these two precautions now against "lost teeth." First, be sure not to forget the address of your dentist. Visit him twice a year,

decision I must make because it will mean years of work if I succeed. What shall I do? A FRIEND.

ANSWER: Inasmuch as you have a comfortable living as you are, I should earnestly advise you to be content with that instead of going into an occupation that will force you to neglect your child. Your personal care and companionship are worth far more to your little girl than any advantages that the money you might earn could give her.

In these days of lax standards and loose morals it is no easy thing to rear a girl with the right principles and make her into a fine, clean woman. To do this takes all of the tact, all of the close association, all of the skillful molding of character which a mother can give her child, even when she can keep her under her eye in her own home.

What chance, then, has the little girl to grow up right if she is left to the care of hirelings who seldom have the wisdom or the interest or the patience to guide the stumbling little feet into the safe path? How can you keep a little girl from temptation if when she comes home from school there is no mother waiting for her, no mother to even know whether she comes on time or not, no mother to know where or with whom she spends her afternoons?

Of course, if a woman is driven by dire poverty to working outside of her own home and to giving the best of herself, her thoughts and her interests to some job that pays money that is required for the support of the family, that is one thing. "Needs must when the devil drives," as the old proverb has it, and she should be honored for doing the best she can under the circumstances.

But being a wife and a mother is all the work that any one woman can do properly. It takes all of the strength and brains she has, and she makes a mistake when she superimposes another job on that unless, as I said, it is starvation if she doesn't.

Dear Miss Dix—What do you think of a married man who plays around with single girls, takes them out to parties and dances and stays out all hours at night, leaving his wife and children at home? My husband says there is no harm in it and that no one thinks anything about it. Is that true? ANXIOUS WIFE.

ANSWER: No. Every one thinks the worst of it. They think the man is a philanderer and the girls no better than they should be, and they have contempt for both.

DEVELOPING INTO WOMANHOOD

The young woman who suffers from monthly pains, or weakening drains and nervousness, or the woman of middle age who is distressed with heart flashes, should take Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Mrs. H. Sargent of Steele St., St. Thomas, Ont., says: "When I was a young girl developing into womanhood I was run down, and awfully nervous, I had no appetite and lost several pounds in weight. Frequent headaches also made me miserable. I used about three bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and it strengthened my entire system. I gained weight, my headaches disappeared, my appetite returned."

Little Cohen was very slow at arithmetic, and the mistress had particular difficulty in making him learn to subtract. "Look here," she said patiently, "if you have eight pennies, Cohen, and lose three, how many would you have left?" Cohen thought for a minute. "But for vy?" she was puzzled reply, "should I lose three pennies?"

GARDENING

THE PROTECTION OF GLADIOLUS FROM THRIP INJURY

The gladiolus is a favourite garden flower and widely grown in New Brunswick. Until 1932 it was almost free from insect injury. In August, gladiolus thrip appeared in the province for the first time and caused serious injury to bloom in gardens located in Moncton, St. Andrews, Fredericton and Woodstock. It is probable that the injury will occur again in 1933 if precautions are not taken to prevent the insect from developing in numbers.

The insect spends the winter upon the corns in storage and to plant infected corns in the garden is to aid the development of the pest in that garden and its spread to others. Garden owners should take the precaution of treating all corns before planting in order to prevent the increase and spread of the insect as much as is possible. Two methods may be used: Ten minutes soaking in hot water at 120 degrees Fah, or three hours soaking in corrosive sublimate solution made up of one-half ounce of the commercial crystals to three gallons of warm water. Either treatment will destroy all stages of the insect on the corns. The loose skins on the outside of the corns should be peeled off before using either treatment. These skins should be burned.

Precautions should be taken in the use of either treatment. In using hot water, rely upon a thermometer and take care that the temperature is maintained as near 120 degrees as possible for the full ten minutes by adding small quantities of hot water from time to time. Also, be sure that the temperature of the bath does not exceed 120 degrees. Corrosive sublimate should only be used in glass or wooden vessels. The crystals dissolve slowly in cold

THE COOK'S CORNER

VEGETABLE CHOWDER

6 slices bacon 3 small chopped onions 3 medium raw potatoes, cubed 1 teaspoon salt 1 can corn 1/2 can string beans 3 cups milk Cook bacon until crisp, drain well and break into small pieces. Pour off half the fat from the pan, and saute the onions until golden brown. Cover the raw potatoes with boiling water. Add the onions, bacon, salt and cook until the potatoes are tender.

Add the corn and pepper to taste, add the string beans into small pieces, add the milk, add more seasonings if required, bring to boiling point and serve very hot. More milk may be added if a thinner chowder is preferred.

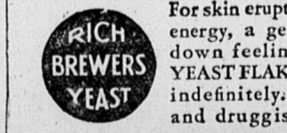
water. They may be dissolved quickly in hot water and the solution diluted to the required strength. The bath should be used at a temperature of 70 degrees Fah. Special care should be taken in every stage connected with the use of this very deadly poison. All papers in contact with the poison should be burned, all vessels very carefully washed after use, and treated corns planted at once or stored where no children or domestic animals can have access to them. R. P. Gorham, Assistant Entomologist, Division of Field Crop and Garden Insects, Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Fredericton, N. B.

A little girl, returning from a visit to the barber's, and alluding to his use of the electric clippers on her, remarked to her mother: "I know my neck was dirty, 'cause he used the vacuum cleaner on it."



TO CLEAR UP BOILS AND PIMPLES

NB YEAST FLAKES helps clear up boils, pimples and other skin troubles, because it is the world's richest form of yeast—pure, brewers' yeast. It supplies the body with vitamins necessary to health, and it acts as a natural laxative that promotes the regular elimination of wastes from the body, and so clears and purifies the blood.



For skin eruptions, lack of energy, a generally rundown feeling, try NB YEAST FLAKES. It keeps indefinitely. At grocers' and druggists'.

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FOR THE WOMAN READER

MAN

Man is his own star; and the soul that can Render an honest and a perfect man Commands all light, all influence, all fate. Nothing to him falls early, or too late. Our acts our angels are, or good or ill, Our fatal shadows that walk by us still. —John Fletcher

A LOVING HEART Of all earthly music that which reaches farthest into heaven is the beating of a loving heart.

FRESHENING SUEDE A soiled suede coat or handbag can be greatly freshened by rubbing the surface lightly with powdered pumice stone. Apply with a soft flannel and use a circular movement. The pumice will absorb the grease and restore the slight surface roughness. Brush well afterwards, and if any specially greasy or flattened places still show rub these gently with a piece of fine emery paper.

Two C's, two I's, an L and an E Put them together and then you will see A thing that comes in ten days, But yet in summer never stays. What is it? Answer: Ice-ice.

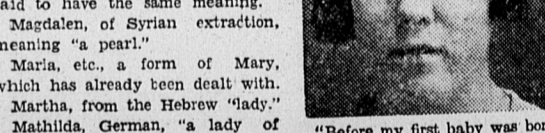
THE MEANING OF NAMES Mary has been looked upon as the most charming of all Christian names in almost every country every since the time of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, although the first woman to bear the name was the sister of Moses.

There have been several theories as to its exact meaning. It is said by some people to mean stubbornness, but others declare it to mean rebellion, while yet another section say it comes from the same source as the word myrrh, a bitter gum of the desert, and therefore means bitterness. Miriam, Mariam and Marianne are variations of the same name and were frequently to be found among the Jews, while the name Mary was borne by several women mentioned in the gospels. Here are the brief meanings, with the derivations, of some other well-known names in this section. Mabel, from the Latin, "lovely, lovable." Madeline, a form of Magdalene. Madge, which is a short form of Margaret, and therefore can be said to have the same meaning. Magdalen, of Syrian extraction, meaning "a pearl." Maria, etc., a form of Mary, which has already been dealt with. Martha, from the Hebrew "lady." Mathilda, German, "a lady of honour." Maud, also German, and a form of Matilda. May, Latin, "Month of May" and a dim. of Mary. Melissa, Greek, "a honey bee." Mildred, Saxon, "speaking mild." Millicent, Latin, "a sweet singer." Minnie, dim. of Margaret.

Practical Sportswear Designers this year have had their eyes on the practical side of life. Sports clothes are made to live in, to be comfortable in, and to be easily kept smart and fresh. There are countless tennis frocks in both cottons and silk, that may be tubbed as easily as a handkerchief. Some of the cottons in matelasse effect require no ironing which will be a big point in their favor with vacationists in summer. They are simply laundered and stretched into shape.

THE HAPPINESS OF MOTHERHOOD

It Depends Upon Health—Take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound



"Before my first baby was born I was very ill and dizzy. My husband went to the drug store and bought a bottle of your Vegetable Compound and made me take it according to directions. It certainly built me up. My baby weighed eight pounds and we were both healthy. I have three children now and I am as young looking as the day I was married. It has helped my 17-year old sister, too."—Mrs. P. MERRILL, 405 Eleanor St., Montreal, Quebec.

My Best Girl By KATHLEEN NORRIS CHAPTER IV. "What—With Uncle Tom?" "With Uncle Nobody! It's a sort of—of underworld investigation. I got it on my own hook." "Well, but that's nonsense," the woman said after a pause, somewhat at a loss. "Your father won't permit you for one instant to give up college and work! He—" "My father told me he wasn't going to back me financially any more," Joe interrupted hotly. "Meanwhile, I'm done with college and I'm working, and he can make what he likes of it!" "Why, he'll not endure it one instant!" the woman said. "Meanwhile aren't you going to the Russells? It's Millicent's coming-out party—she'll certainly expect you!" "I think I'll let Millicent cry herself to sleep, to-night," the boy said lazily. "My job has sapped my energies—what with cologne and post-cards and tinsel and vegetable knives."

"Give her my love and tell her I'm trying to get together enough money for our little nest," said Joe. "I'll see her at the club to-morrow, anyway—she always plays golf Sunday mornings." "I don't understand you, Joe," his mother said in cold disapproval. "You went out of the house yesterday morning wild because your father had said he'd take you out of college if this spending of money went on. Now you say you've got a job and don't want to go!" "I'm reformed!" Joe said jocosely. "The old man called me names this morning." "It's just possible—it's just possible that some day I'll have the laugh on the old man!" "I wish you'd stop talking nonsense, and follow me over to the Russells," his mother said impatiently. "I don't know what they'll think if you don't come." "Tell them I've had a change of heart—I've got religion," Joe said indifferently. "Tell them that the way to begin living the ideal life is to begin."

"To begin what?" sharply asked Lillian Spencer Merrill, wife of the owner of the Mack Merrill Chain Stores. "Just that, darling. The way to begin living the ideal life is—to begin," said Joseph Grant Mackenzie Merrill mildly. Mrs. Johnson, born Petheridge, cherished in herself, and planted in of righteous pride. The Johnsons her daughters, an unbounded sense

IT'S A WEDDING SHOWER NOW!

A SHOWER OF TEARS -AND NOW I WANT TO HEAR ALL ABOUT YOUR NEW BOY FRIEND. YOU SOUNDED SERIOUS IN YOUR LETTER. WHY, DARLING, YOU AREN'T CRYING? "I don't understand you, Joe," his mother said in cold disapproval. "You went out of the house yesterday morning wild because your father had said he'd take you out of college if this spending of money went on. Now you say you've got a job and don't want to go!" "I'm reformed!" Joe said jocosely. "The old man called me names this morning." "It's just possible—it's just possible that some day I'll have the laugh on the old man!" "I wish you'd stop talking nonsense, and follow me over to the Russells," his mother said impatiently. "I don't know what they'll think if you don't come." "Tell them I've had a change of heart—I've got religion," Joe said indifferently. "Tell them that the way to begin living the ideal life is to begin."