

# Casual life is necessity as student-wife holds job

Life for newly-weds Wendy and George Cross is a whirl between work (his job and college hers) and housekeeping (both).

With them a casual life is a must, because Wendy holds down a full-time job at the Falk Clinic, where she works as a laboratory clerk, and in addition takes three courses at night at the University of Pittsburgh.

School nights George is on his own as cook for Wendy says downing her dinner, shared with a text-book, and goes directly to classes. She takes elementary education, psychology and geography, as preparation for a teaching career.

George's work schedule varies too, for he is a production trainee for a local steel company and rotates among different departments.

Finding time for study and sleep are Wendy's prime concerns. "I sandwich the studying in at odd moments," she says. "George drops me early for work, and I read while I have a cup of coffee at the drug store. Most of the work, though, has to be done on weekends. Six or seven hours sleep is the most I ever get."

This grinding schedule will end, the couple hopes, in August, when extra cash in the bank will permit Wendy to be a full-time student.

Somewhat, the two find time for a little social life, usually dinner and bridge on Saturday nights with other couples. And George's favorite pastime, the guitar, provides background music for Wendy's studying.

The couple met while Wendy was a sophomore at Connecticut College in New London, and George a senior at Yale University. Wendy audibly chose marriage and her present rushed life to join George on his new job here.



STUDENT-WIFE HAS BUSY LIFE

# Wedding guest is lost in big, swirling crowd

Gay crowds swirled around me. Walters with bottles of champagne dashed about on their mission. The dance band was playing "Mack the Knife" and the bride was whirling about with her father.

But in the midst of this gaiety, I was a sad, lost soul.

My high heels were sinking into the carpet. The only people I could identify were my children. And I don't like champagne.

It was a wedding I had looked forward to with enthusiasm. My favorite niece was to be joined in union with an ex-jet pilot. The clan was gathering, and we had flown earlier to be a part of this happy throng.

First off, no hotel reservations. The rooms had been ordered for weeks, but so many more determined customers had snatched them up. Back in the taxi, and to another hotel, which didn't serve meals. The only convenient restaurant specialized in hot Italian cookery, but food we must be.

**WHAT NEXT?**

All went well at the church where we were led with honor to the second pew. But our real problems began after the ceremony. How did we get to the bride's home? How long were we supposed to stay. (It was then 4 p.m.) Where did we eat dinner if at all? And who were all these people?

As we milled around outside the church, I tried to resolve the relationship of my second cousin's daughter to my son, and my wondering why people I couldn't recognize were calling me "Aunt."

A good Samaritan offered his car, and we went through a police barricade to the reception. Next planning on the part of my sister-in-law, who is the executive vice president of the chain of marquees, into the house, out again, and to a waiting car with a trayful of champagne glasses.

I peered through the hordes of people looking hopefully for some other liquid. Nothing in view. It didn't seem socially correct to insist on a drink, but the lasagna was giving me a mighty thirst.

Tables which could accommodate about one-tenth of the guests were clustered around a dance floor. The aged, in a burst of strength, had preempted them, and being only middle-aged, stood.

My sons, conditioned by deb parties, had discovered the bridemaids and were in safe hands. My husband, who is a duplicate of his brother, was receiving all kinds of good wishes, and occasionally digging up his lost friend of his own. I was just lost.

Two hours later, I slunk into the house, past the back door, and persuaded a sympathetic waitress to find me a libation. A lobster and other seafood delicacies bring livid veils to my face and torture to my ponytail.

I look to scrounging for myself, and came upon a slice of Canadian bacon, which would have made a neat sandwich if there had been any bread. So I dined on wedding cake and coffee.

The festivities went on till past 11. As close relatives, we were there till the end. Eventually we drifted inside, took off our shoes and sat amidst the debris of rice and confetti. It was the perfect time for a family chat, but we were too groggy.

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# Mother-in-law gives advice

"The next nicest thing to having children is getting rid of them."

New York writer, Mrs. Cassie Fischer, has said this in so many thrilling ways that she has become known lovingly as the professional mother-in-law.

After at least 20 years of feeding, laundering for, and nursing wounds physical and emotional, it is a delicious relief to turn them over to somebody else, says this mother of two married sons.

"Of course, we are better cooks, housekeepers, shoppers, and mothers," Mrs. Fischer says. "But once you get rid of the chores of son-care it's time to keep your mouth shut. There are a bride's years in which to learn by doing things the hard way."

If all mothers severed the silver cord with such delightful enthusiasm, there would be no need to hint as we are doing now that brides clip the first paragraphs and drop them casually within eye shot of a too-sober, too-efficient mother-in-law.

However, a wise bride soon learns that she would be a fool to let her mother-in-law get too far away. Eventually, she makes the most dependable, most loving babysitter at the cheapest rate.

What if it is usually best to inhabit the honeymoon cottage in two's, bringing mama along is sometimes an economic or dutiful necessity that otherwise might delay or prohibit the marriage.

Even under such circumstances it is possible to develop a much richer relationship between mates and among the in-laws if the ground rules are laid first and observed always.

A family welfare counselor throughout the nation agrees that:

1. Both generations have a right to privacy and to a separate social life.

A mother-in-law's bedroom should be furnished as a sitting room as her own retreat, and preferably with some of her own belongings to give her roots in her children's home.

She must not expect to accompany the young people on most social occasions. At the same time, they must respect her need to entertain friends inside and outside the home.

2. Financial arrangements and household duties should be outlined frankly. If the house is the parents', newweds should in the beginning agree on the amount which is their fair share of household expenses and how to allocate them.

If an in-law living with her children is not expected to contribute financially her value in services should be emphasized and re-emphasized to keep her assured that she is wanted.

3. Mothers-in-law must appreciate the fact that divergent backgrounds of the men or women her children married are bound to cause strong differences in opinions, even values.

# 'Buy best' is good idea in equipping kitchen

A bride's best friend may be her can opener. But that's only the beginning of her kitchen trousseau.

Some girls go overboard in the housewares department, buying enough gleaming pots and pans to equip a topflight restaurant.

Others acquire a skillet here, a reaster there and get by with an assortment of mismatched articles that make for a wasted cooking time and irritating storage problems.

It's wise to look for basic needs before venturing into the dazzling array of materials, designs and colors offered by kitchen manufacturers. Make a list of what you need to keep your kitchen well organized.

Considering the wear and tear they take, buy the best.

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For cleanup chores: dishwasher; rubber sink mat; sponge and chore balls; steel wool or abrasive sifed sponge.

Long handled spoon, rotary beater; pancake turner; flexible spatula; kitchen scissors; polder or padded mitts — and one (or two) durable can openers.

Stainless steel is durable and good looking; a colander; flour sifter; chopping board; rolling pin; pastry cloth; grater, three sizes of stainless steel knives with sharp blades.

Dutch oven — One, for use on top of stove or in oven; may be used as large casserole, covered roaster and chicken fryer. Open roaster — One, with rack.

Baking pans — One 8 x 1 1/2-inch glass pie pan with slightly flared sides, for pies, cake or bread; two six-cup 3 x 1-inch muffin pans for individual pastries, shells, cupcakes, etc.; two 9 x 1 1/2-inch round cake pans for layer cakes; one 10 x 6 x 4-inch pan for meat loaf, hot cakes or baked dishes; one 12 x 10 x 1 1/2-inch cake pan for cake, also for roasting; one baked dish.

Coffee makers — One one-quart; one two 1 1/2 x 10 inches. Coffee maker — One, drip or percolator, preferably glass because it is easy to clean. The new cook will also need: One set of measuring cups and spoon, glass or metal (not plastic); set of mixing bowls.

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# Space savers said money savers, too

Newlyweds' choice for their first furniture usually ranges between simple, lightly scaled modern or simple, lightly scaled early American.

Whichever way their tastes lead them they will likely be operating on a hold-to-be-line budget, and will look for versatile space-saving pieces at modern prices. This means they can afford now, and which will fit into a small home or apartment, but which can be moved later into other rooms or areas as family home and income increase.

In most cases they will be hoping to find things they can combine with the finer furniture they plan to have some day. In other words, they don't want to start with just "make do" pieces that they will have to discard as their fortunes improve.

Manufacturers who have been at work on this problem have come up with some answers in furniture that is compact, flexible, and has many dual purposes. It's done, whether their modern or provincial, is simple, functional and basic enough to combine with other furniture of similar mood. Later, it will go well in guest rooms, family rooms, dens or bedrooms.



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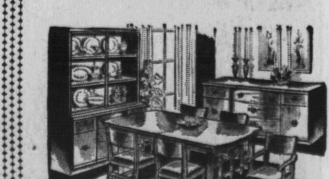
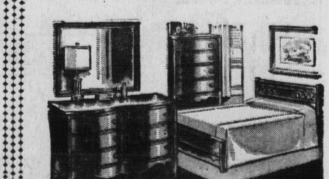
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