



MRS. DONALD MacLEOD
Edith Robinson Photo

Perfect wedding ensured by attention to details

Weddings are among the most significant events in the history of mankind, and all sorts of traditional customs have become connected with them through the centuries. In your own lifetime, there will be no day more important, more memorable or more shining than the one on which you are married. It doesn't matter a jot whether you wear a crown or a tiara, or a crown it with pomp and circumstance, or with the simplest of services and celebration. What does matter is the attention, the love, the grace and beauty you put into every moment and every detail.

There are certain broad rules that it's wise to follow: there are other very personal touches that you'll want to add. Between the two, you will achieve a wedding that is as personal to you as your own handwriting.

If you are lucky, you will have a tradition wedding. If you are wise, you won't settle for less unless you have to. What girl hasn't dreamed for years of walking up the aisle following her maids, to meet and marry the man of her choice? What girl in her right mind would turn down the gaiety of a reception overflowing with laughter and champagne, toasts and music, confetti and rice?

Such a wedding need not be large; it need not be elaborate and it need not be expensive. But it takes planning and imposes certain rules that you should be prepared to accept.

INVITATIONS

The invitations for a formal wedding should be engraved, never printed, on white or ivory paper. A reputable stationer or jeweler, or the bridal consultant in your favorite store, will show you the correct forms, type of stationery and lettering. The invitations should be addressed by hand and mailed to both the bride's and groom's list at least four weeks ahead of the wedding date to allow time to receive all answers and plan accordingly.

The hour of the wedding service varies somewhat, depending on the part of the country where you live, your religion and your personal choice.

A church wedding is always the most spectacular, but a ceremony at home, in a club or hotel, may be just as dignified and inspiring. A church lends itself most easily to decoration, because the altar is already there and a concentration of candles and flowers is all that is needed.

In any room, regardless of the size, more planning is necessary. An altar must be improvised in the most likely setting. An archway may serve, or a fireplace, or a bay window of greenery, flowers, candles, perhaps, and a pair of decorated

chairs, can be arranged with distinction and beauty. After the service is such a setting, the receiving line usually assembles in the same place to greet family and guests. However, the receiving line formation remains the same whether the reception is at home, club or hotel.

ATTENDANTS VARY

The number of attendants at a formal wedding may vary from two to six or more, depending on the bride's wishes. However, there should never be less than one usher for every 50 guests. Experience has proven that this is a good rule of thumb, and common sense dictates that there should be at least as many ushers as bridesmaids to ensure a good time for everyone in the bridal party.

The husbands and wives of married members of the wedding party should be included in all pre-wedding festivities. However, they do not attend the rehearsal and they do not usually sit at the bridal table during the reception, though there is no rule about this. Bridesmaids have few duties, but they should attend the rehearsal.

They often entertain for the bride, either at a shower, luncheon or mixed party, and they are always expected to buy their own outfits. The maid of honor is the very personal attendant during the ceremony

Marriage vows sealed by kiss

One of the most touching moments of the wedding ceremony is when the groom kisses the bride. And it has special significance, too, for it seals the marriage vows.

The custom of kissing the bride has always enjoyed great popularity and still does. Happily, this pleasant act is not confined to the groom alone. However, he is the first to kiss his bride.

Sometime ago it was customary for the menfolk to hang "kissing knots", as they were called, above the bride's chair or in the reception room where she greeted the guests, after the ceremony.

These knots were made by entwining vines, and were much like our mistletoes of today.

As kissing the bride has always been a privilege, in some countries the male guests were required to pay for their kiss. Who got the money? The groom of course.

From this custom comes the saying "seal it with a kiss," which, as we mentioned before, symbolizes the sealing of the marriage vows.

Homemaker shares secret

By ROBERTA ROESCH
The way to get things done is to have too much to do.

That is the conclusion, one woman reached, after resolving a year ago to put herself under pressure and open a dressmaking business at home.

"Everyone was against it," she said, when I stopped in to see her. "I received all kinds of advice about waiting until the children grew up before I tied myself to work that would put me under pressure."

Made a Discovery
"But I closed my ears to those words," she said, "and hung out a 'Dressmaking' sign. And in the year that I have been 'under pressure,' I have

done more things for my family and myself than I ever have done before, simply because I have discovered that the way to accomplish things is to have too much to do."

Living this way is the reason for the growing success of the mother with the dressmaking business. "I get things done and meet deadlines," she said, "by reserving my actual working time for fittings and visits from customers and cutting and doing machine work. But I do all the hand-work I have to do while involved in other things, too."

"For example, I never go anywhere in the car without sewing, while my husband drives. No do I chauffeur my children to dancing school, music classes and all the places suburban children have to be taken to without having sufficient sewing work along to work on while I wait."

Most of the time, the big secret in learning to live with too much to do (and getting things done because of this) involves taking advantage of small snatches of time and doing more than one thing at once.

These other pointers help, too:

- 1) Think about your work and plan how you are going to do it while you dress, drive and engage in routine tasks.
- 2) Eliminate the unnecessary details and routine jobs of daily living.
- 3) Avoid as much as possible unnecessary interruptions and time-consuming phone calls.
- 4) Get an early start each day.
- 5) Work on each day's jobs in the order of their importance.
- 6) Set up your work the night before so you can start right in the morning without wasting time getting organized.
- 7) Work rapidly and efficiently and stick to what you start.
- 8) Give yourself deadlines and follow through on them.

Renaissance in art buying noted by gallery-owner

By MARILYN ARGUE
OTTAWA (CP) — Censorship has no place in the art world, says Mrs. J. K. B. Robertson, co-owner of an Ottawa art gallery.

Commenting on the Toronto exhibition Eros 65, which was closed after police judged some exhibits were obscene, she said it's up to the individual whether he wants to look at paintings on display in a private gallery.

"I might not be sophisticated enough not to be startled by some of the paintings in that exhibition, but it's not up to the police to tell me I can't look at them if I want to."

Mrs. Robertson, a small blue-eyed blonde with a dimpled smile, has operated her Ottawa gallery with her husband since 1953. Before that, she was a radio physics expert with the RCAF.

"I was studying fine arts at the University of Toronto when the war broke out and I decided I should do something useful. So I went into maths and physics. There were about four or five girls in the class of 17, and none of us got outside the university for the next eight months. We crammed a four-year course into that time."

HAS FLAIR FOR SCIENCE

During her career in ionospheric research, she and her two assistants had a paper accepted by the renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology. But she tends to play down her natural flair for science.

"One of my instructors once said teaching me radio physics was like trying to teach a cat to walk on its hind legs."

Her husband had always wanted a career connected with art, and after seven years as a

chartered accountant with the National Gallery, he decided to open his own gallery.

Mrs. Robertson says more Canadians than ever before are liking and buying art.

"It's a real renaissance," with the support coming from corporations and the government instead of the aristocracy."

The Robertsons travel all over the country looking for paintings. Mrs. Robertson's field is Eskimo art, and one of her favorite memories is an "absolutely fabulous" trip to Cape Dorset on Baffin Island in the summer of 1961.

"We flew right over the top of the North American continent. It's away above the tree line, and you could see the brown fingers of rock stretching out into the sea—it was more like being completely in another world than anywhere else I've ever been."

COLLECTS PRINTS

Her cupboard-sized office in the downtown gallery is lined with the prints she collects, from a black-and-white study of cats and kittens that covers a wall to a thumb-print-square picture of two birds, in a tree.

"I like prints because they are fairly inexpensive, though if you want a Picasso it will still cost you about \$900. Most of my prints are pictures of animals, just because I like them."

She's had "just about every kind of animal except cows and horses" to look after on the 20-acre farm the Robertsons own just outside Ottawa. Her four sons have acquired everything from ducks and chickens to pigs and goats.

The oldest boy, John, 19, is studying cybernetics, or com-

munication in animals, and electronic devices like calculators, at Carleton University. Alexander, 16, and Ian, 12, are in high school and Gordon, 8, is a public school student.

Mrs. Robertson says her Ottawa clients are about equally divided between those who want a "nice landscape" and those who are more interested in art and follow the latest trends.

"It's hard to say if there are a lot of art collectors in Ottawa, but you could say there are a lot of people who own more than two pictures."

The gallery stocks everything from old lithographs of local scenes to the wildest abstracts. "With those, you have to use your mind—the painting is sort of a jumping-off place for your own ideas. I find them a constant refreshment for the imagination."



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Fashions come to rescue

Creators of wedding fashions have come to the rescue of that sometimes desperate woman, the mother of bride or groom.

Destined, in years past to find nothing more interesting to wear at the wedding than ecru lace, she now can be seen in the forefront of fashion.

"Beige has been done to death," says one sympathetic designer, "though sometimes it can be combined with off-beat colors."

He has been busily creating long gowns for others very much in keeping with the bride's own gown. Fabrics may be identical, with mother wearing a light turquoise linen dress, and

daughter in the traditional white also linen.

Another designer, sympathetic to mothers and even grandmothers, has come up with a full line of long dresses. Some have boleros, or mock jackets. Fabrics are silk linen shantung, or silk and acetate blends. Colors may be springtime pastels, or strong shades.

For grandmother, he has designed long gowns of softly-draped chiffon. One style has a bolero jacket with attached back panel for softness. Cap sleeves prevail. Often beaded trim of pearl and crystal, dyed to match the gown, is used for a waistband and for neck ornamentation. Royal blue, purple and lavender are favorites for grandmother.

If a short dress is preferred, some designers offer a street-length gown with a simulated bolero, lifted above the dress' banded waistline. There's just the suggestion of a sleeve. Swiss embroidery on net or organza are favorites.

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