Censorship Made These Books Sell....

"I would sooner give my daughter a bottle of prussic acid than allow her to read this book!"

These words were written by the editor of one of Britain's widely read Sunday newspapers 20 years ago about a book he had read and of which he disapproved.

"This degrading novel, dealing as it does with a subject that decent people do not discuss, should be banned." wrote another self-appointed guardian of public morals. "It is incredible that this writer of so many distinguished novels should have descended so low. His book is a disgrace to English letters."

Each of the above damning comments about different books was written by distinguished men of wide education and considerable experience. All three are very much men of the world and far from being sheltered, over-sensitive prudes. Their violent attacks on the books, which I shall not name, could not have been the outcome of their personal revulsion to what they read since they know as much about the "facts of life" as the authors they castigated, writes Thomas Fairley, in "Answers."

Boosted the Sales!

When these critics expressed themselves so fiercely, the main effect of their denunciations was to send hundreds, if not thousands, of people to the bookshops and libraries in search of the book they were told not to read. In each case, the books in question, which might otherwise have had little or no attention, became best sellers.

One might have thought that in these days of broadmindedness, attacks on books that "ought to be banned" would have stopped. But no. A few weeks ago the editor of a famous newspaper printed a denunciation of a book that is, in fact, so dull that it could only be of interest to sociologists and other scientists who have a professional reason for taking an interest in the subject. And the subject is what soldiers talk about among themselves when they are separated for an unreasonably long time from their womenfolk

What is the reason for asking that any books be banned? The only important reason is that the book in question would cause public harm. And how can a printed book do harm? Only by putting vicious ideas (moral, political, religious or otherwise) into minds where no vicious thoughts existed before; or by encouraging people of lax morality to feel that their leanings are generally condoned or even justified. The other reason is, of course, curiosity. Have the writers of "sexy," "hot" or "blue" books something to tell us that we don't know? The answer is almost always "No." The truth is that they seldom tell us anything interesting and certainly nothing new.

Even Shakespeare "Erred"

Even Shakespeare has not been exempt from attentiion on the grounds of morals. At the end of the eighteenth century, a physician named Thomas Bowdler objected to certain passages in the works of the Bard so he produced his own edition under the title of The Family Shakespeare with all references to sex omitted, thereby adding the word "bowdlerised" to the English language.

As far as I know, no one has ever had the temerity to bowdlerise the Bible, but there was once a maiden aunt who sent her niece a Bible as a birthday present and in the accompanying letter, wrote: "I have underlined in red all the portions you are not to read."

You, too, have the power to ban books—by becoming what is called a common informer. The law in England on the subject is curious. It is forbidden to publish pornography, and publication in law consists of showing even one other person a written work or a picture or photograph which the magistrate considers lewd and indecent; but no action is taken unless that person complaims to the police. Such a complainant is known as a common informer.

A printed book may sell 100,000 copies before any action will be taken by the police unless a common informer makes a complaint. But if you think of appointing yourself a keeper of other people's morals, you must be careful, for if the magistrate considers your complaint frivolous, you may be had up yourself for wasting the time of the police and the court as a public nuisance!

The case of John Clelland is interesting. A man of good family, his father was a colonel in the regular army and he was educated at Westminster. He served for a while in the consular service and later he was in a merchant's office in India. But Clelland was not satisfied—he wanted to be a writer, so he came back to London full of confidence and ambition.

He wrote and wrote, but no one was interested and soon he began to suffer from the complaint which is almost an occupational disease among writers—he was very hard up. In fact, he was starving.

Pension, Not Prison

He went round all the publishers' offices offering his services as a hack writer at almost any price, and one day a none-to--scrupulous publisher persuaded him to write a pornographic work. Clelland hesitated at first, but with visions of being turned out of his lodgings and of starving in the gutter, he at last agreed.

His first novel was "The Memoirs of Fanny Hill," and no one could ever accuse him of not keeping his bargain—it was pornographic with a vengeance! There was scarcely a page without some incident calculated to scandalize even the toughest reader. It should have been printed on asbestos!

It sold like wildfire and in enormous quantities. The printers and the book sellers could not keep up with the demand. It was denounced in the daily press and in serious weekly journals, but nothing happened to curb the sale of Fanny Hill until, one day, a public-spirited individual made a complaint and the police took their usual action.

The printers were forbidden to produce any more copies and the book sellers were restrained from selling the book pending the decision of the court. Copies were sent to the magistrates for their inspection and decision, and they decided without much difficulty that "The Memoirs of Fanny Hill" was indeed an indecent work and a danger to public morals.

Clelland was summoned before the Privy Council and, in view of the questionable nature of his work, the only defence he could put forward was poverty.

Fortunately, the council was in a good humor that morning. The president, Earl Granville, spoke severely to the author in the dock about the seriousness of his offence, but instead of sentencing him to imprisonment, as one might expect, Lord Granville said that he would recommend Clelland for a pension from the state of £100 per annum on condition that he refrained from writing any more books of a like nature!

This happened in 1749—exactly 200 years ago. And I may add that "The Memoirs of Fanny Hill" have been out of print and unobtainable for at least a century.

Santa Had To Hurry—Christmas came a little early for two-year-old Tommy Pace because Tommy is suffering from the deadly blood disease, leukemia, and may not live until December 25. Merchants and local townspeople joined in to make it a real celebration for the plucky boy, seen admiring "Santa" and his presents along with his brother, Jimmie.

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM

by Gwendoline P. Clarke

I am going to ask you a question. It is this:

Do you, as an Institute or club worker, sufficiently appreciate those hard-working members of the various organizations to which you belong? If some of those same skilled workers who now do so much for your club should move away, have you any idea who would carry on the work that, up to the present, has been so willingly left to their capable brains and fingers? Could **you** do it?

Not only that, but does your organization as a whole ever make a point of showing appreciation for the capable help that has been given, from one year's end to another?

All persons are not good at the same thing—thus we have some who excel at baking; others at knitting and needlework; some in an organizing capacity, and still others at music or handicraft.

Whatever their talent, the organization may not have need of it all the time, but when the necessity arises for someone to take charge of a specialized job, what a comfort it is to know you have just the right person to handle it. Only we are rather inclined to take such help for granted, don't you think?

This fact was brought home to one Institute branch just recently when a lovely quilt top and lining was given to the branch to be quilted and sold—the proceeds to go to the branch. So here was a quilt top, beautifully made, but it had yet to be marked for quilting.

It was some years since this particular branch has done any work on a good quilt—that is, one requiring a definite pattern and fine quilting. In the meantime, the two artistic members who had always so obligingly done the marking job on any special quilt, had moved away. Immediately the question arose, "Who will mark the quilt?"

A committee was appointed for the job—and that committee soon knew only too well, if it didn't before—just how much time and wok had gone into all the previous quilt markings that had been done so willingly for the branch by the two members who were now too far away to give any assistance.

The committee finally got the quilt marked and into the frames, but would the other members who came to quilt and followed the intricate pattern that had been designed for them—would they realize the work that marking a quilt may involve? No doubt it will all be taken for granted, as it generally is. Very few of us realize the detail of any job until we have to do it ourselves. Then how can such a situation be avoided?

Well, here is a suggestion—in so far as quilts are concerned. Most W.I. branches put on demonstrations of one kind or another during the year—then why not a demonstration on quilt marking? In nearly every district there can be found artistic persons who are known to be good at this very exacting job, and even though they may not be members of the W.I., I am sure any one of them could be persuaded to give a demonstration. Talented people are like that—nearly always generous in trying to pass on a little of their specialized skill to others less fortunate. Perhaps by a demonstration of that kind, other members might be found to have just such a talent, hitherto lying dormant and unsuspected. In any case, all members would at least find out for themselves the work entailed in marking a quilt and thus have a better appreciation of the work done by others.

What applies to quilts is true of other club activities. A refreshment convener might outline her work in that direction, telling her fellow members how she arranges afternoon tea for each meeting and what preparations are made for a banquet.

A program convener could give a good outline of the work necessary to arrange programs for the year, and the finance convener might give her end of the story. Not the final result — everyone eventually knows that — but the spade work that is necessary before any result can be achieved. In other words, an education in committee activities should help a lot to replace members whose help is no longer available. And it would certainly lead to a much better appreciation of the work done by our leaders and conveners.

Separately

The sergeant was taking particulars from a new recruit.

"Are you married?"

"Yes, sir."

"Any children?"

"Yes, sir. Five girls and four boys."

"Nine altogether."

"No, sir—one at a time!"

NEW and USEFUL TOO

Play Table

New playroom accessory designed for pre-school children is being manufactured in Canada. Described as a "miniature kindergarten," it is a table which combines features of a play desk, blackboard, flannel board and storage unit—all in one. Table has folding legs for easy storage.

* * *

Easier Dialing

"Dialaid," which slips over dial of telephone, permits easier dialing from any position, maker states. Device duplicates the regular dial, but has larger figures and symbols. Won't interfere with operation of phone, it is stated.

* * *

Manual Addresser

Portable addresser makes it possible to print addresses simply by rolling the device over envelopes and postal cards by hand. Printing stencil is a roll on which about 250 addresses can be typed Roll is loaded into machine in same manner as film loaded into a camera. Printing fluid is stored in an easy-to-fill cartridge wick that stays wet for a full run, maker states. Each address said to stand up under 100 or more impressions.

* * *

Drain Spoon

Drain spoon is new in design, made of stainless steel with handle of ivory-colored plastic fastened with nickel-silver rivets. Spoon is made with a flat on each lip for getting the last particles of food from a pan or other container. Slots in bowl of spoon are so designed that food will not stick in them, it is said.

* * *

Low-Cost Altimeter

Aluminum, pocket-size, hand instrument for measuring heights of trees, poles, wire clearances, buildings, elevations or vertical or horizontal angles. Measures above or below eye level and with any length base, according to Canadian maker. It is also a range finder. Said to be simple to operate, requires no trigonometry, only simple arithmetic. Accuracy claimed to be within about 1%.

* * *

Auto Tire

Automobile tire said to give greater traction and safety than any previously evolved tire has been announced. Features a "scuff-proof" white sidewall and a special tread that virtually eliminates need for chains in most kinds of winter driving, cite makers. Exceptional traction attributed to an exclusive tread pattern consisting of countless flexibel tread blocks which grip the road for greater straight-line stopping power and added safety.

* * *

Plastic Flower Pots

Colored plastic flower pots are said to be scientifically planned to improve plant growth. Made of non-porous plastic which prevents rapid evaproation of moisture maker states. Inside surface serrated to provide air circulation. No opening in bottom for water or dirt to seep through. Circular design, 4½ in. and 5 in. high. Light in weight, practically unbreakable, it is said. Available in bright red, kelly green, ivory, pearl white.

* * *

Plastic Shades

Plastic film specifically formulated for the window-shade market is said to combine qualities of toughness and durablity with smooth and lustrous finish. The finished window shades can be cleaned with soap and a damp cloth, maker states. Material is unaffected by moisture, mildew or insects, will not tear or puncture in noraml use and does not support flame; is resistant to fading, cracking, shrinking and staining, does not ravel and has no filling to break or fall out, cite makers. Shades come in ivory, white, green and tan.

Free Book on Arthritis And Rheumatism

Excelsior Springs, Mo., Dec. 5—So successful has a specialized system proven for treating rheumatism and arthritis that an amazing new book will be sent free to any reader of this paper who will write for it.

The book entitled, "Rheumatism," fully explains why drugs and medicines give only temporary relief and fail to remove the causes of the trouble; explains how you may obtain relief from rheumatism and arthritis.

You incur no obligation in sending for this instructive book. It may be the means of saving you years of untold misery. For writing promptly, the Clinic will send their newly enlarged book entitled, "Rheumatism." Address your letter to The Ball Clinic, Dept. 5243, Excelsior Springs, Missiouri, but be sure to write today.

ANNE HIRST
Your Family Counselor

"Dear Anne Hirst: I wish I knew what to do! I've been working every since I married three years ago, and I help buy things for our home.

"We built a house. My husband has all his insurance (also the house) in his father's name. If anything should happen to him, I'd be left out in the cold.

"I have five rooms to take care of, and I work eight hours, too. He doesn't even help me with the dishes. I've had two operations since I married, but, sick or well, I have to do everything. He tells me to quit my job; I said I would if he would buy the things we need. He says all he has to buy is food!

"When he goes out, he doesn't take me with him. Yet if I see my mother, he gets mad. He thinks I should stay home all the time.

"He is always arguing about something. If it isn't my family, it's something else. It keeps me very upset, and always makes me cry. He treats me like a piece of furniture.

"And now he says he doesn't care whether I stay or not, that he doesn't love me any more. Whatever shall I do? G.M.S."

* Your husband seems to have a strange conception of his responsibilities. The house should belong to you both, and his insurance should be in your name. He must know that no woman can live by food alone, and that it is his duty to provide the other necessities as his income allows.

Don't you think that taking care of your home and a job, too, are too much for one in your state of health? Why not try giving up your position for six months, perhaps, and see how things go? If you are afraid to take that step, then I suggest you live with your mother for a little while, and let your husband fend for himself. (He can have his meals with his mother). He will soon find out how empty the house is without you, and a month or so of being alone should clear his mind as to what affection he feels for you.

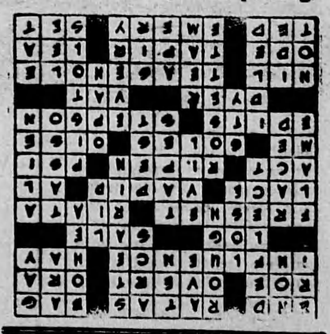
When two people reach the sad stage which you and your husband are experiencing, a short separation can work wonders. It has for other couples, and it would seem a good idea for you to think over.

A wife who has a job, too, needs recreation regularly. Your husband should see that you get it, and with him. When you two get along better together, that will come about naturally.

* * *

Don't let a husband's hasty words upset you too much. An angry man often says things he does not mean, and is too stubborn to take them back. Marriage is for keeps. Write Anne Hirst about your problems, and let her help you keep your marriage fine. Address her at Box 1, 123 Eighteenth Street, New Toronto, Ont.

Upside down to prevent peeking.



COME OUT FROM UNDER THE SHADOW OF PAIN

Try DOLCIN Tablets for prompt relief from ARTHRITIC and RHEUMATIC pain ... get a bottle of 100 or 500 tablets from your druggist TODAY and join the thousands of relieved sufferers who by taking DOLCIN have come out from under the shadow of pain... Most druggists carry DOLCIN... 100 tablets $2.39; economy-size bottle of 500 tablets $10.00. If your druggist does not have DOLCIN, write direct to DOLCIN LIMITED, Toronto 10, Canada.

DOLCIN
TABLETS

Patented 1949, DOLCIN is the registered trade-mark of this product.

926

Laura Wheeler

You'll enjoy every minute of this handiwork! You'll also appreciate the beauty these exquisite linens bring to your home!

Rewarding needlework! Pattern 926 has transfer of 6 motifs about 7x12 inches; crotchet directions.

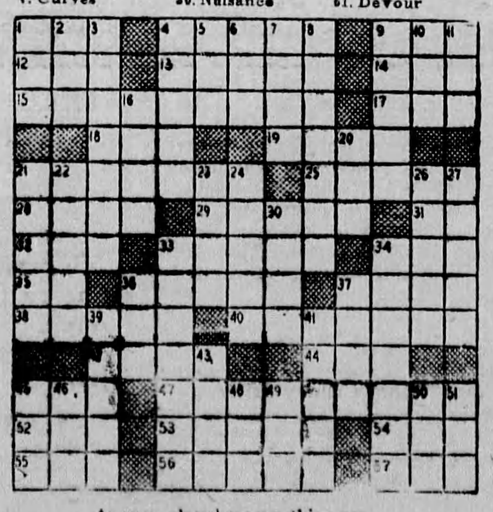
Send **TWENTY-FIVE CENTS** in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this pattern to Box 1, 123 Eighteenth St., New Toronto, Ont.

Print plainly **PATTERN NUMBER**, your **NAME** and **ADDRESS**.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Finish
4. New Zealand trees
9. Sack
12. Fish eggs
13. Open
14. Mouths
15. Affect
17. Dry grass
18. Record
19. Auction
21. Flood
25. Lasso
28. Trimming
29. Stale
31. Indian mulberry
32. Behave
33. Mature
34. Greek letter
35. Myself
36. Foot bottoms
37. European river
38. Redacts
40. Legal son but no kin
42. Stainer
44. Tub
46. Nothing
47. Opening for stoking a glass furnace
49. Lyric
51. Roofed animal
54. Meadow
55. Spread
56. Abrasive
57. Harden

DOWN
1. Silkworm
2. Negative particle
3. Turn aside
4. Uneven
5. Hail
6. Numeral
7. Curves
8. Solid part of fat
9. Kind of tea
10. Constellation
11. Merry
16. Be defeated
20. Cover
21. Blaze
22. Hurried
23. Vice
24. Binding fabrics
26. Italian poet
27. Foreign
30. Nuisance
33. Ribbon ornament
34. Light arms
36. Pigpen
37. Bright-colored fish
39. Loafed
41. Each
43. Paper measure
45. Negative
46. Fish
48. Monkey
49. Title
50. Shelter
51. Devour



Answer elsewhere on this page.